

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

SPMT 455 Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations

DAY/TIME:	Tu/Tr 10:30-11:45am	LOCATION:	Sci and Tech I Room 126
PROFESSOR:	Craig Esherrick	EMAIL:	cesheric@gmu.edu
OFFICE:	Bull Run Hall 218	PHONE:	703 993 9922
OFFICE HOURS:	By Appointment (Wed.)	FAX:	703 993 2025
CREDITS:	3 hours		

PREREQUISITES: SPMT 201, 60 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an examination of sport organizations focused on both professional and amateur governance structures and processes. The study of policy in educational, non-profit, professional and international sport venues will also be addressed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to:

1. Identify governing bodies in professional and amateur sport
2. Recognize policy components and processes in major sport governing bodies
3. Recognize the influence of governmental bodies and commissions on sports
4. Identify the organizational structure of various sport governing bodies
5. Assess the authority and functions of various sport governing bodies
6. Identify the membership requirements of various sport governing bodies
7. Identify the sanctions and appeal processes utilized by sport governing bodies
8. Understand American sport policy and governance in comparative and international context
9. Understand different forms of sport policy and governance internationally

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The learning experiences in this course are afforded through assignments, class participation, lecture, notes, discussion, group activities, technology, assisted activities. Course content includes, but is not limited to, the following: Sport in education (intercollegiate, recreation, interscholastic, international); Professionalization of sport; Organizational communication; Management Theories; Present status of the sports industry - collegiate, professional, private, manufacturers; governing bodies in professional and amateur sport; Organizational structure of a variety of sport governing bodies; Authority and functions of various sport governing bodies; Requirements for membership in sport governing bodies; Sanctions and appeal processes utilized by sport governing bodies; Influence of governmental bodies and sports commissions on sport governing bodies; sport policy and governance in international sport.

HONOR CODE:

George Mason shares in the tradition of an honor system that has existed in Virginia since 1842. The Honor Code is an integral part of university life. On the application for admission, students sign a statement agreeing to conform to and uphold the Honor Code. Students are responsible, therefore, for understanding the code's provisions. In the spirit of the code, a student's word is a declaration of good faith acceptable as truth in all academic matters. Cheating and attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing of academic work and related materials constitute Honor Code violations. To maintain an academic community according to these standards, students and faculty must report all alleged violations

to the Honor Committee. Any student who has knowledge of, but does not report, a violation may be accused of lying under the Honor Code. With this in mind, all students in this course are held to the strictest standards of the George Mason University Honor Code.

STUDENT SUPPORT:

Any eligible student with an exceptionality documented through George Mason University's Disability Resource Center must notify the instructor so that suitable accommodations can be implemented. The notification should take place during the **first week** of classes.

Expectations:

1. All assigned reading for each class is to be completed prior to coming to class.
2. All written assignments must be typed (computer word processing is recommended).
3. Regular attendance and participation is expected. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain class materials from sources other than the instructor.
4. Students must abide by the Honor Code, guided by the spirit of academic integrity.

Class Attendance:

It enhances your academic success to be in class; therefore, you should attend **ALL** scheduled class meetings in accordance with George Mason policy. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. We will have fun if everyone is engaged. To be engaged you have to keep up with the reading and be **refreshed** when you attend class. Class participation and unannounced and/or announced quizzes and assignments form **30%** of your grade for this class.

All cell phones, blackberries, and other electronic devices not being used for note taking must be turned off and put away prior and during class. Texting in class is **NOT** acceptable behavior; neither is falling asleep.

Alternative Work:

There is NO make-up work and late assignments will not be accepted. Absences supported by documentation may be excused (e.g. a physician's note for an illness). Alternative work due to intercollegiate athletic competitions or other legitimate university activity must be arranged **PRIOR** to due date. **There will be NO extra credit.**

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Mary A. Hums & Joanne C. MacLean (2004,2009). *Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations* (Scottsdale: Holcomb Hathaway).
- Nils Asle Bergsgard, Barrie Houlihan, Per Mangset, Svein Ingve Nødland & Hilmar Rommetvedt (2007). *Sport Policy: A Comparative Analysis of Stability and Change* (Burlington, MA: Butterworth-Heinemann).

ASSESSMENT:

Class Assignments, Participation, and Quizzes:	30%
Comparative Sport Policy Research Project:	35%
Exam:	35%

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Jan 19	Course Introduction/Overview/Intro to Sport Governance Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 1
Jan 21	Intro to Sport Governance/Cont'd Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 1
Jan 26	Managerial Activities and Planning Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 2
Jan 28	In Class Assignment
Feb 2	Strategic Management and Policy Development Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 3
Feb 4	Ethics in Sport Organizations Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 4
Feb 9	Quiz (Chap 1-4)
Feb 11	Scholastic Sport Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 5
Feb 13	Amateur Sport in the Community Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 6
Feb 18	Campus Recreation Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 7
Feb 20	Intercollegiate Athletics Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 8
Feb 25	Major Games in Amateur Sport Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 9
Mar 2	Quiz (Chap 5-9)
Mar 4	Olympic Sport Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 10
Mar 16	Guest Speaker: Sports Governance in Africa
Mar 18	Paralympic Sport Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 11
Mar 23	North American Professional Sport Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 12
Mar 25	International Professional Sport Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 13
Mar 30	The Future of Sports Governance Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 14
Apr 1	Quiz (Chap 11-14 and Guest Speaker lecture)
Apr 6	Introduction to Policy Discussion Bergsgard: Chapter 1
Apr 8	Comparing Sports Policy in Economically Developed Countries Bergsgard: Chapter 2
Apr 13	Policy in Political and Historical Context

Apr 15	Bergsgard: Chapter 3 Structure of Sport/Voluntary Sector
Apr 20	Bergsgard: Chapter 4 Govt structures and values in policy
Apr 22	Bergsgard: Chapter 5 High Performance Sport
Apr 27	Bergsgard:Chapter 6 NGO Presentations Begin Sport for All
Apr 29	Bergsgard: Chapter 7 NGO presentations
May 6	NGO presentations Final Exam (10:30-1:15pm)