

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

SPMT 302-001 - Sport and Ethics (3)  
Spring 2013

<b>DAY/TIME:</b>	MW 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.	<b>LOCATION:</b>	FX – Enterprise Hall Room: 277
<b>PROFESSOR</b>	Dr. Christopher Atwater	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>	catwater@gmu.edu
<b>OFFICE LOCATION:</b>	PW – Bull Run Hall Room 223	<b>PHONE NUMBER:</b>	202-500-6279
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	TR 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>FAX NUMBER:</b>	703-993-2025

**PREREQUISITES**

None

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course investigates moral issues in sport, and judgments about right and wrong behavior among athletes, coaches, spectators, and others. The class format is primarily lectures and class discussions, supplemented by group work and discussions of assigned readings and current ethical issues in sports.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the moral basis of decision making in sport management
2. Develop a protocol for ethical decision-making within the organizations which govern sport programs
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the various issues and contemporary problems confronting sport managers and how ethical decision making can be applied
4. Critically analyze various decision-making approaches to resolving ethical issues in sports management
5. Demonstrate an understanding of a variety of ethical theories
6. Attain the knowledge to understand & refine a personal and professional code of ethics to guide decision making

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

*INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS:*

1. All assigned reading for each class is expected to be done prior to coming to class.
2. All written assignments must be typed in APA format (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. Attendance will be monitored and attendance is defined as arriving on time for class and remaining in class.
4. You will be expected to check Bb regularly as well as being alert to emails from the instructor. The instructor will email you using *Bb email*.

*CLASS ATTENDANCE:*

It enhances your academic success to be in class; therefore, you should attend ALL scheduled class meetings. Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register and attend those classes **on time**. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. Because class participation is a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Texting in class is **NOT** acceptable behavior; neither is falling asleep. It is assumed that laptops are being used to take notes or to follow Blackboard power points; other use is a distraction to me and your classmates.

*PARTICIPATION:*

Respect the free exchange of thought in an academic environment and the participants therein. For example: a) do not have any sound emitting devices turned on; b) wait until the teacher/guest speaker has finished prior to gathering your belongings; and c) do not smoke, chew tobacco, eat, sleep, disrupt others by inappropriate talking, or disrespect the class schedule by being tardy. You are encouraged to a) feel free to openly and respectfully contribute your thoughts; b) listen actively to the comments of others; c) be punctual; d) ask any and all appropriate questions that you have; and e) maintain civility in your interpersonal communications. Class discussions will be conducted in a civil, informed fashion wherein disruptive students will be asked to leave the class. Your contributions are not only welcomed, they are essential.

**ALTERNATIVE WORK:**

*There is NO make-up work.* Only those excused absences supported by documentation will be addressed at the instructor’s discretion on an individual basis (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. A grade of ‘0’ will be assigned to all missed work unless otherwise determined by the instructor. You are strongly encouraged to hand assignments in on time.

**GRADING: *There will be NO extra credit.***

The instructor is solely responsible for assigning grades. As such, the instructor reserves the right to assess student performance in each of the categories identified in the EVALUATION section of this syllabus. Student non-compliance with stated academic, honor, attendance, or participation expectations will result in a ‘0’ for the associated evaluation.

**NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY**

Face to face

**REQUIRED READINGS**

DeSensi, J. T., & Rosenberg, D. (2010). *Ethics and Morality in Sport Management (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)*. Morgantown, WV: Fitness Information Technology, Inc.  
 Malloy, D.C. (2003). *Sport Ethics: Concepts and Cases in Sport and Recreation (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)*. Scottsdale, AZ: Holcomb Hathaway.

**EVALUATION**

This course will be graded on a percentage system, with a total of 100% possible.

<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>% of Grade</b>
<i>Attendance and Participation</i>	20%
<i>Examination – Part I</i>	20%
<i>Examination – Part II</i>	20%
<i>Examination – Part III</i>	20%
<i>Examination – Part IV</i>	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

**GRADING SCALE**

A = 94 – 100	B+ = 88 – 89	C+ = 78 – 79	D = 60 – 69
A- = 90 – 93	B = 84 – 87	C = 74 – 77	F = 0 – 59
	B- = 80 – 83	C- = 70 – 73	

## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE		TOPIC	READINGS/ASSIGNMENT DUE	
<b>Part I – Sport Management and Ethical Theory</b>				
W	January	23	Introduction to class and Sport Ethics; expectations for semester, how you are evaluated	Syllabus
M		28	Recreation and Sport in the New Millennium	Chapter 2 (Malloy)
W		30	Foundation of Ethics	Chapter 3 (Malloy)
M	4			
W	February	6	Sources of Ethical Decision Making	Chapter 4 (Malloy)
M		11		
W		13		
<b>Part II – Ethical Decision Making Principles and Process</b>				
M	February	18	Moderators Influencing Ethical Decision Making	Chapter 5 (Malloy)
W		20		
M		25	The Process of Ethical Decision Making	Chapter 6 (Malloy)
W		27		
M	March	4	Ethical Principles for Sport and Recreation	Chapter 7 (Malloy)
W		6	Review of Materials – Study Guide Provided	N/A (Mandatory Attendance)
M		11	No Class – Spring Break	N/A
W		13	No Class – Spring Break	N/A
M		18	Examination – Part II – Ethical Decision Making Principles and Process (Malloy, Chapters 5-7)	N/A
<b>Part III – Sport Ethics Applied</b>				
W	March	20	Ethics and Sport Marketing	Chapter 10 (DeSensi)
M		25		
W		27	Ethics and Human Resource Management	Chapter 11 (DeSensi)
M	April	1	Governance and Legal Aspects of Sport	Chapter 12 (DeSensi)
W		3		
M		8		
W		10	Examination – Part III – Sport Ethics Applied – (DeSensi, Chapters 10-12)	N/A

<b>Part IV – What Lies Ahead</b>				
M	April	15	Sport Ethics and Concern for the Environment	Chapter 13 (DeSensi)
W		17		
M		22	The Challenges of Globalization	Chapter 14 (DeSensi)
W		24		
M		29	The Future of Ethics and Morality in Sport and Sport management	Chapter 15 (DeSensi)
W	1			
M	May	6	Examination – Part IV – What Lies Ahead – (DeSensi, Chapters 13-15)	N/A

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.*

### ***Student Expectations***

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://oai.gmu.edu/honor-code/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

### ***Campus Resources***

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism, please visit our website [See <http://rht.gmu.edu>].

**CORE VALUES COMMITMENT:** The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

