

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism

SPMT - 302 –Sport & Ethics (001)
Fall 2015

DAY/TIME:	F 10:30 - 1:10 PM	LOCATION:	Robinson A 412
INSTRUCTOR:	Ms. Lindsey Campbell	EMAIL ADDRESS:	<u>LCAMPBE1@GMU.EDU</u>
OFFICE LOCATION:	Field House Athletic Ticket Office	PHONE NUMBER:	703-993-4112
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment	FAX NUMBER:	703-993-8578

PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES:
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.

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY:

Face to face

REQUIRED READINGS:

Schneider, R. (2009). *Ethics of sport and athletics: Theory, issues, and application*. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

EVALUATION

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.

EVALUATION (cntd)

Midterm	20% - 100 points
Final Exam	20% - 100 points
Participation (attendance, pop quizzes, class participation, ad-hoc assignments, etc)	20% - 100 points
Group Ethical Current Event Presentation	20% - 100 points
Case Study Responses	20% - 100 points
TOTAL	100%

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 (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: Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

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.

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	

COURSE OUTLINE: (10:30-1:10 pm)

Day	Date	Tentative Topics Covered	Reading/ Assignments
FRI	9/4	Welcome to SPMT 302	
FRI	9/11	Moral Reasoning: An Introduction	Chapter 1
FRI	9/18	Ethical & Unethical Behavior	Chapter 2, <i>Gray Area Ethical</i>
FRI	9/25	Moral Education & Development	Chapter 3, <i>Sacking Social Media</i>
WED	10/2	Performance Enhancement	Chapter 4, <i>To Run or not to</i>
MON	10/9	Violence in Sport	Chapter 5, <i>Sports Blogs</i>
WED	10/16	MIDTERM EXAM	
MON	10/23	Ethical Issues - Film	
WED	10/30	Race Equity	Chapter 6, <i>Film Response</i>
MON	11/6	Gender Equity (TITLE IX)	Chapter 7, <i>BCS Conference</i>
WED	11/13	Ethical Issues in Intercollegiate	Chapter 8, <i>The Biggest Hire</i>
MON	11/20	Ethical Decision Making For Sport Managers	Chapter 9, <i>College Athletes</i>
WED	11/27	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
MON	12/4	Group Presentations	
WED	12/11	Final Exam	

- Syllabus subject to change.

Any circumstance arising that is not explicitly addressed in this syllabus or by George Mason University policy, is implicitly governed under the auspices of common sense and will be dealt with using the instructor's discretion.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS:

Case Study Responses 20%

Seven articles (and one film) listed in *italics* on course schedule are to be read and critically evaluated. Each article can be found on Blackboard and is due in class on the day it is listed. The student should read and respond to each question listed at the conclusion of the case study. If no questions are listed, please respond to the article in term of the impact of the concept in ethics and related the article to theories and concepts presented in class and/or your experiences. Each article is worth 10 points. **Please, do not e-mail me your assignments. Please print and turn in on assignment day (or before if you prefer).**

Group Ethical Current Event Presentation 20%

Find an issue relevant to a topic discussed that your group considers informative and insightful about sport ethics. Be prepared to present a summary of the issue, the group's stance on the issue, and how it relates to our studies on assigned presentation day. This presentation should be created via PowerPoint or another approved method (approx. 20 minutes). Be prepared for class questions following your presentation.

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
- 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.

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>].

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR: Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

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.