

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
College of Education and Human Development
School of Sport, Recreation and Tourism Management
SPMT 455 Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations (3)
Spring 2019

DAY/TIME:	T 10:30-11:45am	LOCATION:	West 1007 and online
PROFESSOR:	Craig Esherick, J.D.	EMAIL:	cesheric@gmu.edu
OFFICE:	Thompson Hall Room 1802	PHONE:	703 993 9922
OFFICE HOURS:	By Appointment M/W 10- 2:30pm; TR 12:15-2:30pm	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 DELIVERY:

Face to face in the classroom and online; hybrid format

Under no circumstances, may students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

Technical Requirements:

To participate in this hybrid course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with a standard up-to-date browser, either Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox is required (note: Opera and Safari are not compatible with Blackboard).
- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
 Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 Windows Media Player:
<https://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/downloads/windows-media-player/>
 Apple Quick Time Player: www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

Expectations

- **Log-in Frequency:**
 Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials.
- **Participation:**
 Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.
- **Technical Competence:**
 Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.
- **Technical Issues:**
 Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.
- **Workload:**
 Please be aware that this course is not self-paced. Students are expected to meet specific deadlines and due dates listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.
- **Instructor Support:**
 Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.
- **Netiquette:**
 The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an

innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words. Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

- **Accommodations:**

Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The learning experiences in this course are afforded through assignments, class participation, lecture, notes, discussion, group activities and technology assisted activities and many online learning 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.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS:

1. All assigned reading for each class is to be completed prior to coming to each face to face and online opportunity.
2. All written assignments must be typed (computer word processing is recommended).

3. Regular attendance and participation, both in person and online, 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. This applies to activity online too.
5. We will refrain from the use of electronic devices in class during the lecture period, except to follow the power point presentation or take notes.

Class Attendance and Participation:

It enhances your academic success to be in class; therefore, you should attend **ALL** scheduled class meetings in accordance with George Mason University policy. In-class and online 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 participate in the class. Class participation, attendance, overall enthusiasm for learning and quizzes count for **35%** of your grade in this class. It is important that everyone arrive on time, in order to help you build good habits for the world of work. Late arrivals are also a distraction to the conduct of the class. Online participation must be timely as well.

Texting in class is **NOT** acceptable behavior; neither is falling asleep.

Alternative Work and absences/excused:

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 (2018). *Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations, Fourth Edition* (New York: Routledge).

ISBN 978-1-138-08634-0 (Print Book)

ISBN 978-1-315-11105-6 (E Book)

Matthew Nicholson, Russell Hoyer & Barrie Houlihan (Eds.) (2011) *Participation in Sport: International Policy Perspectives* (New York: Routledge)

ISBN 13: 978- (Paperback)

ISBN 13 978-0-203-87049-5 (E Book)

Assessment:

Class Attendance, Enthusiasm, Participation, Quizzes: Quizzes will include short answer questions, definitions, matching and essay with some knowledge of organization

abbreviations necessary; attendance includes arriving on time as well as participating in classroom and online discussions in a timely fashion, with consistency and enthusiasm: **35%**

Comparative Sport Policy Research Paper: Students will select a country and investigate sports governance/policy related information as well as research that country's sports history, economy, sports industry and form of government: **30%**

Final Exam: Exam questions will include essays, definitions, matching, multiple choice, true/false, short answer, abbreviations/identification of sports governance organizations; exam is cumulative: **35%**

GRADING SCALE:

A+= 98-100

A = 94-97

A- = 90-93

B+ = 88-89

B = 84-87

B- = 80-83

C+ = 78-79

C = 74-77

C- = 70-73

D = 60-69

F = 0-59

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:

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

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Jan 22	Course Introduction/Overview/Intro to Sport Governance Textbooks, evaluation, expectations, syllabus
24	Intro to Sport Governance Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 1
29	Managerial Activities and Planning Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 2
31	Strategic Management and Policy Development Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 3
5	Canada and US Sport Policy Reading: Nicholson Chapter 16 & 17
7	Ethics in Sport Organizations Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 4
12	Quiz (Chap 1-4; Canada and US)
14	Norway and Finland Sport Policy Reading: Nicholson Chapter 5 & 8
19	Corporate Governance; Case study of Under Armour Power point and other materials

- Bring laptop for lecture from librarian**
- 21 High School Sports
Reading: Hums/Maclean **Chapter 5**
- 26 *Country Project Discussion/Research*
- 28 Amateur Sports/Youth Sports
Reading: Hums/Maclean **Chapter 6**
- 5 *Guest Speaker*
- 7 Campus Recreation
Reading: Hums/Maclean **Chapter 7**
- 12/14** *Spring Break Read ahead and review*
- 18** **Career Social Hub 1 6:30-8:30pm**
- 19 Intercollegiate Sport
Reading: Hums/Maclean Chapter 8
- 21 Major Games
Reading: Hums & MacLean, **Chapter 9**
- 26 **Quiz #2 (Chapters 5-9; Norway/Finland)**
- 28 The Olympics
Reading: Hums & MacLean, **Chapter 10**
- Apr 2 Paralympic Sport
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 11
- 4 Professional Sport Leagues in North America
Reading: Hums & MacLean, **Chapter 12**
- 9 Professional Individual Sports
Reading: Hums & MacLean, Chapter 13
- 11 International Leagues
Reading: Hums & MacLean **Chapter 14**
- 16 Oral Presentations
- 18 Future of Sports Governance
Reading: Hums & MacLean **Chapter 15**
- 24 Oral Presentations
- 26 **Review paper Q and A online**
- May 1 Oral Presentations
- 3 **Review for the final exam Q and A online**
- 7/8 *Reading days-Paper due on May 3 at 11:59pm*
- May 15 **Final Exam 10:30am-1:15pm**

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason 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 with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ods.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>.

Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/>.

- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.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.

