

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
School of Sport, Recreation, and Tourism Management

SPMT 201.001 – Introduction to Sport Management
3 Credits, Spring 2021
Mondays/Wednesdays 10:30 – 11:45am, Peterson Hall 1106 – Fairfax

Faculty

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Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

University Catalog Course Description

Introduces sport management profession. Primary focus is on sport industry, including professional sport entertainment, amateur sport entertainment, for-profit sport participation, nonprofit sport participation, sporting goods, and sport services.

Course Overview

This course offers students a look at the diverse expanding field of sport and recreation. The course is designed to provide a comprehensive look at the field of sport management and the basic organizational structures found in the sport industry. Students will examine applications of managerial concepts and processes, and they will examine the ways in which sport organizations interact with each other, and with corporations, the government and non-governmental organizations.

Course Delivery Method

This course will be delivered using a face-face, lecture format. **NOTE: Given the state of the Covid-19 pandemic, this course may move to a hybrid or fully online format at any point in the semester.**

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Differentiate between the various functional areas of sport management;
2. Describe the organizational and managerial foundations of sport management;
3. Identify the historical, sociological, cultural, and psychological foundations of sport management;
4. Identify current trends and issues in sport management;
5. Demonstrate an understanding of professional preparation in sport management.
6. Appreciate current research in sport management.

Professional Standards

Courses offered in the Sport Management (SPMT) undergraduate program are guided by the principles of the Commission of Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA). COSMA (2010, p. 1) “bases its accrediting process on principles, rather than standards.” The eight recommended principles are:

- outcomes assessment;
- strategic planning;
- curriculum;
- faculty;
- scholarly and professional activities;
- resources;
- internal and external relationships; and
- educational innovation.

For more information, please see:

Commission of Sport Management Accreditation. (2010, June). Accreditation principles and self study preparation. Retrieved August 18, 2014 from <http://cosmaweb.org/accredmanuals>

Required Texts

Masteralexis, L.P., Barr, C.A., & Hums, M. (2019) *Principles & Practice of Sport Management* (6th edition). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning. (ISBN#: 978-1-284-14213-6)

Other required readings may be distributed in class or on Blackboard.

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

Industry Interview – Students are required to develop an interview protocol and conduct a 30-45 minute interview with an individual employed in the sport industry. Students submit a paper with a title page, an introduction, a question and answer section, a summary, and a reflection section to satisfy the written portion of the assignment. Students also give an oral presentation (or submit a screencast of the presentation to Blackboard) of approximately 5-8 minutes describing who they interviewed and what they learned in the interview/interview process. This is worth 100 points total (80 written/20 presentation).

Job of the Day Presentation – Every class, one student will be randomly assigned to inform the rest of the class about a real job opening in the sport industry of interest that he/she has researched. You should be prepared to talk about the job requirements and duties, qualifications, and the organization. (You must **submit a link to the job announcement and a separate summary** via Blackboard.) There can be no duplicate announcements - each student’s job should be unique. This is worth 30 points.

Two Midterms and Final Exam – The exams will consist of matching, multiple-choice, true-false, and/or essay questions. The exams will be based on any material assigned or discussed in class/online, including readings, quizzes, discussion, guest speakers, etc. The midterm exams will each be worth 50 points and the final exam will be worth 100 points.

- **Other Requirements**

Participation/In-class assignments – Students must attend class (or virtual meetings) in order to participate in the discussions generated by the readings. Contribution will be evaluated based on number and quality of questions asked or answered and opinion provided when asked. If you miss more than two classes, points will be deducted. Attendance, participation and other in-class/online module activities will be worth 70 points.

- **Grading**

The final grade in percentage terms will be converted to a letter grade per the following scale:

A = 94% and above	B+ =88-89%	C+ =78-79%	D =60-69%
A- = 90-93%	B =84-87%	C =74-77%	
	B- =80-83%	C- =70-73%	F = <60%

Professional Dispositions

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/>

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

Class Policies & Expectations:

1. You are expected to attend all classes. Any work missed due to an absence **MAY NOT BE MADE UP**. The only exception to this policy is written documentation of a situation that prohibits you from attending class. 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 unexcused missed work. **All late assignments result in a 10%/day (not class day, every day) penalty**. If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain course materials from a source other than the instructor.
2. **You must be on time**, stay for the whole class, listen attentively while you are here, and show through your behavior that you respect the fact that others in the class are here to learn. Arriving late is unacceptable. **If you arrive late or leave early, you will be assessed a tardy**. With the accumulation of 3 tardies, you will be assessed a penalty equal to one full absence. With 2 absences, you will begin to lose points. Your presence is indicative of your professional attitude and is necessary to derive maximal benefit from the class. The intent of this class is to offer you a means for professional development and to assist you in obtaining your career objectives.
3. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE **FULLY PREPARED FOR CLASS AND FULLY ENGAGED WHILE IN CLASS**. I expect you to have read all assigned readings, taken notes as applicable, and to be prepared and willing to discuss all readings in detail and take part in group work to the fullest extent. **Turn cell phones (and any other sound making device) off and if you bring a computer, it must be used for class purposes only**. Any other use is a distraction and you risk not being allowed to use your computer in class at all.
4. Please do not hesitate to ask me for additional help if you need it. I am more than willing to provide such assistance. Remember, **you earn grades, I do not give them**.
5. **Per university policy, you must complete the daily health check (receiving a green email), wear a face covering (over mouth AND nose), and practice social distancing at all times when you are on campus**. If you do not do so, you will be asked to leave immediately.

Class Schedule

**This is a tentative schedule subject to modification at any time at the discretion of the professor.*

DATE	TOPICS	STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/ ASSIGNMENT DUE
Monday, Jan. 25	Introductions, syllabus, expectations What is sport management?	
Wednesday, Jan. 27	What is Sport Mgmt? Unique Aspects of Sport Mgmt	Ch. 1
Monday, Feb. 1	What is Sport Mgmt? Unique Aspects of Sport Mgmt	Ch. 1
Wednesday, Feb. 3	Developing a Career in Sport Management	Ch. 20
Monday, Feb. 8	Management Principles Applied to Sport Mgmt	Ch. 2
Wednesday, Feb. 10	Historical Aspects of the Sport Business Industry	Additional reading
Monday, Feb. 15	Historical Aspects of the Sport Business Industry	Additional reading JOTD presentations begin
Wednesday, Feb. 17	Historical Aspects of the Sport Business Industry	Additional reading
Monday, Feb. 22	Exam #1	
Wednesday, Feb. 24	Sociology of Sport	Additional readings Interview subject approval due
Monday, Mar. 1	Sociology of Sport	Additional readings
Wednesday, Mar. 3	High School & Youth Sport	Ch. 7
Monday, Mar. 8	Collegiate Sport	Ch. 8
Wednesday, Mar. 10	Collegiate Sport	Ch. 8
Monday, Mar. 15	Collegiate Sport	Ch. 8
Wednesday, Mar. 17	Professional Sport	Ch. 10
Monday, Mar. 22	Professional Sport	Ch. 10
Wednesday, Mar. 24	Professional Sport	Ch. 10
Monday, Mar. 29	Exam #2	
Wednesday, Mar. 31	International Sport	Ch. 9 & listen to podcast on Bb
Monday, Apr. 5	International Sport	Ch. 9

DATE	TOPICS	STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES/ ASSIGNMENT DUE
Wednesday, Apr. 7	Sport Marketing	Ch. 3
Monday, Apr. 12	Sport Marketing	Ch. 3
Wednesday, Apr. 14	Sponsorship & Sales	Ch. 14 & 15
Monday, Apr. 19	Sponsorship & Sales	Ch. 14 & 15
Wednesday, Apr. 21	Sponsorship & Sales	Ch. 14 & 15 Written interview projects due
Monday, Apr. 26	Sport Law	Ch. 5 Interview presentations due
Wednesday, Apr. 28	Sport Law	Ch. 5
Wednesday, May 5	Final exam 10:30am-1:15pm	

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

Gender identity and pronoun use: If you wish, please share your name and gender pronouns with me and how best to address you in class and via email. I use she/her/hers for myself and you may address me as “Dr./Prof. Aylsworth” or “Dr./Prof. A” in email and verbally. You may also update your name/pronouns through the registrar: <https://registrar.gmu.edu/updating-chosen-name-pronouns/>

Campus Closure: If the campus closes or class is canceled due to weather or other concern, students should check Blackboard for updates on how to continue learning and information about any changes to events or assignments.

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: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- 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://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices 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://coursesupport.gmu.edu/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

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

Make sure that you have read and understand all aspects of the Safe Return to Campus Document, which is a separate document attached to this syllabus. It includes:

Safe Return to Campus Statement (for students in courses with on-campus meetings):

- *All students taking courses with a face-to-face component are required to take Safe Return to Campus Training prior to visiting campus. Training is available in Blackboard (<https://mymason.gmu.edu>). Students are required to follow the university’s public health and safety precautions and procedures outlined on the university Safe Return to Campus webpage (www2.gmu.edu/safe-return-plan). Similarly, all students in face to face and hybrid courses must also complete the Mason COVID Health Check daily, seven days a week. The COVID Health Check system uses a color code system and students will receive either a Green, Yellow, or Red email response. **Only students who receive a “green” notification are permitted to attend courses with a face-to-face component.** If you suspect that you are sick or have been directed to self-isolate, please quarantine or get testing. Faculty are allowed to ask you to show them that you have received a Green email and are thereby permitted to be in class.*