

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
Sport and Recreation Studies
SRST 796.DL1 – Seminar in Sport and Recreation Studies
1 Credit, Spring 2021
Distance Learning

MEETING DATES:
WEDNESDAY 1/27- 12:00pm
WEDNESDAY 2/24- 12:00pm
WEDNESDAY 3/31- 12:00pm

Faculty

Name: Dr. Robert E. Baker
Office Hours: By Appointment
Office Location: Krug Hall 213H Fairfax Campus
Office Phone: 703-993-3727
Email Address: rbaker2@gmu.edu

Prerequisites

Graduate Standing. All coursework with the exception of concurrent capstone.

University Catalog Course Description

Scholarly forum for the presentation and discussion of contemporary topics in sport and recreation studies. Graduate students, faculty, and visiting scholars/practitioners share ongoing research and practical applications. Offered by the School of Sport, Rec, and Tourism Mgmt. May not be repeated for credit.

Course Overview

The Seminar in Sport and Recreation Studies provides a forum for graduate students to present topics of their choice to other graduate students, faculty, and visiting scholars/practitioners. In most cases, research and practical applications will be based on student thesis, project, or internship efforts, and prospective outcomes. Since the same work may not be assigned credit in different academic courses of the graduate program, presentations and discussion in this graduate seminar should not consist of exactly the same work as that presented in previous courses. All presenters will be asked to submit an abstract or executive summary of their work; for students, these must be approved in advance by their capstone supervisor. Attendance at the Seminar is a required component of the graduate program. All students will be required to present at least once. Please see Graduate Student Handbook for further information. All graduate students in the program will be encouraged to participate in Seminar meetings as a means for interacting with students and faculty in a scholarly community.

Course Delivery Method

This course will be delivered using a seminar format online (76% or more) using a synchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on January 25, 2021.

Under no circumstances, may candidates/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 course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see:

https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers

To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see:

https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems

- 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 will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool.
- 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:
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - Windows Media Player: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
 - Apple Quick Time Player: www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

Expectations

- Course Week: Our course week will begin on the day that our synchronous meetings take place as indicated on the Schedule of Classes.
- 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 at least 2 times per week. In addition, students must log-in for all scheduled online synchronous meetings.
- 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. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. 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.

Learner Outcomes and Objectives

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

1. Critically consider the broad range of topics in sport and recreation studies and allied fields, from theoretical, methodological, and professional practice perspectives.
2. Develop and deliver a scholarly presentation and lead an informed discussion based on research or practice.
3. Engage in opportunities to enhance professional development

Professional Standards [Commission of Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA)]

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards:

Courses offered in the Sport and Recreation Studies (SRST) graduate program are guided by the principles of COSMA, which (2016, 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. (2016, May). *Accreditation principles manual & guidelines for self-study preparation*. Retrieved November 30, 2016 from <http://www.cosmaweb.org/accreditation-manuals.html>

Required Texts

None

Course Performance Evaluation

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

Grades will be assigned on the basis of participation and activities (25%); abstract/executive summary (25%); and scholarly presentation and response discussion based on research, thesis, project, internship or practice (50%).

Other Requirements

Regular attendance is required. A note must be submitted for all absences. An unexcused absence results in a failing grade. Active participation in the discussion, typically at the end of a talk, will enhance the experience for speaker and audience.

Grading

Since the Seminar in Sport and Recreation Studies is designed to provide a guided learning experience, grades will be assigned on an S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory) basis.

On this graduate scale, S is equivalent to a B or better, and U is equivalent to a B- or lower.

An overall indication of “competence” as assessed by the matrix will satisfy satisfactory completion of the course.

Note that failure to do any assignment or if you have an unexcused absence, you will fail the course. Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

Video Presentation (10-15 minutes) summarizing your Capstone, how it has been informed by your program, and how it relates to your professional aspirations.

Executive Summary or Abstract that reflects your Capstone experience.

Response/Feedback to others’ capstone videos via format provided by instructor.

- **Other Requirements**

Class attendance on January 27, February 24 and March 31.

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/>.

Professional Dispositions

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

Tentative Class Schedule

Date		Topic/Learning Experiences
W	1-27	Introduction to the course Professional Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know your audience • tell a story • create a persuasive message Writing an abstract Writing an executive summary
W	2-24	Q & A Your Capstone Story
W	3-31	Using your work/expertise to build a network: Life is a Contact Sport
W		Student Presentations VIDEO Student Review and Response

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 <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://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 <https://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 <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- 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.

Safe Return to Campus and Remote Learning Guidance for Students Enrolled in CEHD Courses:

Students must be fully familiar with the document, “Safe Return to Campus and Remote Learning Guidance for Students Enrolled in CEHD Courses,” which is posted as an addendum under the “Syllabus” tab of the course Blackboard site.

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