



**HHPS 520 – Governance and Ethics in Sport
Department of Health & Human Performance**

Summer I 2015 – Online

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Gwendolyn M. Weatherford, Ph.D., CAPE
Office: Online
Office Hours: Online by appointment
Email: gwen.weatherford@tamuc.edu
Skype Name: gwendolyn.weatherford

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Various governing agencies in sport, including those at the high school, collegiate, professional, and international levels will be studied, emphasizing investigation of the organizational structure, authority, membership, and influence of these sport governing bodies. The course will also focus on ethical and social problems in the contemporary sport industry and theoretical models available for analyzing these problems.

COURSE MATERIALS

Textbook (required)

Hums, M. A., & MacLean, J. C. (2013). *Governance and Policy in Sport Organizations* (3rd ed.). Scottsdale, AZ: Holcomb Hathaway. ISBN: 978-1-934432-75-4

Textbook (recommended)

Eitzen, D. S. (2012). *Fair and foul: Beyond the myths and paradoxes of sport* (5th ed.). New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. ISBN: 978-1-4422-1233-6

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Discuss and understand governance issues facing the different levels of sport; including scholastic and intercollegiate athletics, international sport, and professional sport.
2. Understand and discuss sport governing bodies; such as the NCAA and IOC.
3. Understand and discuss ethical theories, and apply them to sport and recreation.
4. Identify and investigate ethical and social issues in sport and recreation.

COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

1. Attendance/participation is required. Since this is an online course, the majority of the work (class assignments and discussions) can be done at your own pace; however, this also means submitting assignments/discussion on time! There will be weekly due dates. You do not have to wait until the due date to submit assignments; **you may submit them at your own leisure ON OR BEFORE the due date**, as some students prefer to complete their tasks as soon as possible.
Be sure to read specific instructions beforehand (especially the major assignments).
2. **NO late assignments/discussions will be accepted, unless there is a prior arrangement between the student and instructor.**
3. All assignments should be submitted in the appropriate “Dropbox” and should be typed as a *Word.doc* document. No assignments will be accepted via email unless specifically stated by the instructor.
4. Students are expected to exhibit professionalism during all course communication (including email) and class discussions. All emails should include three parts: Salutation, Body, and Identification. Critical thinking and debate are encouraged, but students should be respectful of their fellow classmates. All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student Handbook)
5. Students should adhere to the university policies regarding academic misconduct (i.e. plagiarism, cheating, self-plagiarism, and other dishonest representations of academic work). Students will receive a zero for the assignment, and may also be dropped from the course. Students in violation of these policies will be subject to the university’s academic misconduct procedures.
6. **NO make-up exams or quizzes will be given unless there is a prior arrangement or because of an excused university absence.**
7. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Because I am not physically in Commerce, if you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to email or call me so that we can discuss any issues that you may have. I am more than willing to provide any additional assistance if I can help. Remember, students earn grades; I do not give them.

ADA STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Students requesting accommodations for disabilities should contact the Director of Disability Resources and Services, Gee Library, Room 132, 903-886-5835.

PLAGIARISM

As commonly defined, “plagiarism” consists of the passing off of one’s own, the ideas, words, writing, etc., which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the permission of that person. When using another person’s ideas, words, writing, etc., you should always cite that person, giving them credit for their work. If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the instructor or university handbook.

GRADING SCALE

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
0% - 59%	F

EVALUATION

Class Assignments (Choose two of four)	10 %
Class Discussion/Participation (four discussions)	10 %
Quizzes (Five quizzes)	20 %
Major Assignments (Choose two of three)	60 %
Governing Body Report	
Athletic Administrator Interview	
Ethics Essay	
Total	100%

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Students are responsible for obtaining all materials presented online and assigned readings. All assignments (discussion questions, class assignments/papers, quizzes) will be posted in eCollege. You are responsible for making sure that all assignments/discussions/quizzes are completed and submitted on time. For each course "Assignment", most questions will come directly from the textbook. Students are to type (Word, 12-pt. font) their response and submit it through the appropriate "Dropbox" basket (tab at top of course webpage) or the corresponding "Week". Please ATTACH all assignments to your Dropbox submission in **Word.docx** format. This is the only format accepted. If you do not have Word, you must purchase it or download the trial.

CLASS DISCUSSIONS

Students will be responsible for participating in weekly "online discussions". Although this is an online course, students are still required to interact with each other and this will be accomplished through class discussions. Interpersonal communication serves an important educational purpose. For each course "Discussion" there will be an open-ended question proposed to the class. Each student is responsible for answering the initial question AND posting their own related question and comments to their classmates. For each discussion, you will need to initially respond to the discussion question (using both personal opinion and outside resources) AND post a reply to at least one classmate. Your reply should be more than just "I agree" or "Great point!" It should be like you are having an actual conversation. Both your initial post to the discussion question AND your ability to reply to your classmates' questions will be taken into account when graded. See each "Discussion" for specific instructions. *You should post your initial response at least two days before the due date, so that your classmates have a chance to reply.*

All class assignments and discussion topics will be posted within their specific week (left-hand column) on eCollege.

QUIZZES

There will be five (5) multiple choice, true-false “style” quizzes throughout the course (one quiz per week). Questions will cover content directly from the lectures and textbook readings. Quizzes are open note, book, Internet, but not open friend. *Be sure to save and submit your answers when finished. Each quiz will have a time limit.*

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS (Select two)

1. ATHLETIC GOVERNING BODY REPORT

Each student will research two international-level sport governing bodies. You will find basic organizational information for each (e.g. mission statement, organizational structure, responsibilities and duties, constitution, etc.), and then compare and contrast the two organizations. Detailed instructions are posted in “Week 3”, and should be submitted to the appropriate “Dropbox”.

2. ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR INTERVIEW

Each student is to set up, and conduct, an interview with an athletic administrator (either high school or college). Try to set up a face-to-face interview, but if you are unable you may schedule a phone interview. Begin by explaining the purpose of the assignment and why you are interested in their organization. You may ask general questions about their job duties and responsibilities, BUT the majority of the interview should focus on questions related to the different governance and ethical issues that they face in their job/career. Be creative and ask questions that are related to course content, but that are of interest to you. A minimum of twelve questions related to “governance and ethics” should be asked, and the more thorough your interviewee’s answer are, the better! Please type your interview in “question/answer” format, rather than essay style (see instructions). Detailed instructions are posted in “Week 2”, and should be submitted to the appropriate “Dropbox”.

You must include the name, school/organization, position/title the person holds, and their contact information (phone and email).

Because you will need to get in-touch with someone from the industry, I would recommend reading the instructions and getting started as soon as possible.

3. ETHICS ESSAY

Students will be given three ethical dilemmas, in which they will respond to by presenting, and defending, their personal viewpoint on the situation. Students should incorporate ethical theories, research and statistics, personal experience, and other creative thinking to argue their viewpoint. The “correctness” of your argument is based on your understanding of the ethical theories, and your ability to apply them correctly and demonstrate your understanding of them to each situation. Arguments which rely too heavily on personal experience will be graded lower; therefore, you will need to do some research on the topic. Detailed instructions are posted in “Week 4”, and should be submitted to the appropriate “Dropbox”.

If you have questions about any of the assignments, please do not hesitate to contact me. The best, most reliable form of contact is email.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 6/8 – Introduction to Sport Governance

- What is Sport Governance? (Hums, ch. 1-2)
- Foundations of Sport Policy Development (Hums, ch. 3)

Week 1 Assignment, Discussion, Quiz – Due Monday, June 15 by 8:00am CST

Week 2 6/15 – Educational Institutions and Athletics

- Amateur and Scholastic Sport (Hums, ch. 5 & 6)
- Intercollegiate Athletics (Hums, ch. 8)

Week 2 Assignment, Discussion, Quiz – Due Monday, June 22 by 8:00am CST

Week 3 6/22 – Professional and International Sport

- International Sport and the Olympic Games (Hums, ch. 9-11)
- Professional Sport in North America and the World (Hums, ch. 12-13)

Week 3 Assignment, Discussion, Quiz – Due Monday, June 29 by 8:00am CST

Governing Body Report – Due Monday, June 29 by 8:00am CST

Week 4 6/29 – Ethics and Sport

- What are Ethics? Understanding Ethical Theories (Notes)
- Ethical Decision-Making (Hums, ch. 4)
- Ethical and Social Issues in Sport (Eitzen)

Week 4 Assignment, Discussion, Quiz – Due Monday, July 6 by 8:00am CST

Ethics Essay – Due Monday, July 6 by 8:00am CST

Week 5 7/6 – Final Week/Quiz

Week 5 Quiz – Due Thursday, July 9 by noon (12:00pm CST)

Athletic Administrator Interview – Due Thursday, July 9 by noon (12:00pm CST)

Course ends Thursday, July 9