



HC 497 – INTERSECTION OF SPORTS AND CULTURE
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Tim McMurray, Director of Athletics / Adjunct Professor

Office Location: Field House – Athletics Administration Suite

Office Hours: By appointment

Office Phone: (903) 886-5558

University Email Address: timm@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Readings and Supplementary Readings

Class Discussions and Research

Course Description

An integrated study of the intersection between sports and culture. Historical moments that brought us the good, the bad, the sad, and the inspirational moments of sports. We will discuss and examine how these moments affected popular culture and how the media's coverage shaped and influence societal perceptions of the specific events. We will work hard, work together, and enjoy deep-diving into the society of sports.

Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

- 1) Be able to critically assess how major moments in sports can influence cultural perceptions and norms
- 2) Identify and analyze how leaders in professional and amateur sports make decisions
- 3) Identify principles of effective administration, decision-making and communication in sports
- 4) Identify common best practices and missteps in historical sports moments
- 5) Discuss goal-setting, vision statements, purpose statements, and program evaluation
- 6) Identify legal and practical aspects of sports and its influence on society
- 7) Provide creative and effective solutions to administrative issues with practical learning
- 8) Work independently on a variety of projects, gather information, and formulate ideas

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Use of the learning management system, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint

Instructional Methods

In Class

Our class will be a hybrid mix of in-class discussions, research on historical sports topics by segment, group projects, and a final presentation in this course. At the end of each section, you will be directed to do research and complete a reflection or group assignment.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- Providing outside resources in the form of articles, blogs, or quotes that are relevant to the discussions/assignments are encouraged.
- Add to the value of the discussions and projects. Merely agreeing or disagreeing with something is not valuable, students are encouraged to extend the discussion.
- Questioning your peers. Respectful questioning of peers (and responses to questions posed by others) will also advance the discussion.
- **Remember grammar and spelling matter.**
- Respect the privacy, beliefs, and opinions of your classmates.
- Read first, write later. Please read all materials before posting.
- Stick to the discussion topic at hand for each thread.
- No inappropriate comments or objectionable, sexist, or racist language will be tolerated.

NETIQUETTE

Netiquette is the set of rules and expectations governing online behavior and social interaction. Online discussion etiquette is important. Papers and emails are an integral part of learning online. However, students must be aware of the Do's and Don'ts of communication online. Please remember that you are in a classroom environment when writing papers, emailing the professor, and communicating with fellow students. If you wouldn't say it or do it in a classroom, please don't write it or do it in this online course.

GRADING

The following is a summary of the points assigned for the grading scale for this course:

(Each module will play off The Big Board in D2L)

Group Module 1:	The Good	60
Group Module 2:	The Bad	60
Group Module 3:	The Sad	60
Group Module 4:	The Powerful	60
Class Participation		60
Final – Arbitration Project		100
Total:		400

Grade Scale

A = 360-400 points B = 320-359 C = 280-319 D = 240-279 F= 0-239

Assignments/posts not submitted by the due date will receive a grade of zero. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your work. The total point value for each section accounts for the following portion of the final grade. Assignments will be graded on the following criteria:

- Completeness of response to the assignment
- Organization and coherence
- Proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Use of disciplinary format and citation style (paper displays correct use of student's disciplinary format and citation style (APA, 6th Edition) for papers submitted for presentation or publication. Non-cited statements within a paper will result in a loss of points in accordance with the 5% earned for APA format and citation

Assessments

WEBINARS

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

There may be online recorded webinars and possible live Zooms offered in this course. Participation in the YOUSEEU sessions is a required component of the course. The sessions are an opportunity to discuss course material with your professor and classmates in a facilitated real time audio/techno learning environment.

CHALLENGE GRADING

Students should strive to provide comprehensive responses, with APA formatted citations, that incorporate as much course content as possible. Comments on assignments will be provided as needed for each assignment. Occasionally, group emails will also be sent by the instructor to highlight areas of strengths or weaknesses on specific assignments. Due dates for all Challenges are provided in the Course Schedule.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION POLICY:

Students are expected to complete all assignments and projects on time. All work must be the original work of the student for this course with references cited. Assignments are due by 10 p.m. on the day specified. Please contact your instructor in advance if there is an issue.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

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Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- **For YouSeeU Sync Meeting sessions 8 Mbps is required.** Additional system requirements found here: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.
JavaScript is enabled.
Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)

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- [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\)](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a friend's computer, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.



the **Live Chat** or

System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Email is the most effective way to communicate with me, and I will respond in no less than 24 hours. Please include HC 497 in the Subject line. We can also meet in person, if necessary during my office hours or by appointment.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Course Policies

1. Because this is an online course, you may never meet me or your other classmates face-to-face after the orientation. All written communication must be clear in all circumstances.

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2. While completing assignments within the online environment, be professional.
3. Write clearly with correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar.
4. Due dates listed for sections are the LAST chance to submit them – please submit early.
5. If you have a question or concern, please email me. Please include in the subject of the email (HHPK444) and the subject of the message. I will respond promptly.
6. You must check your Leo email regularly!

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about attendance, please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

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. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Gee Library- Room 162
Fax (903) 468-8148

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

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Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer. Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to University Police at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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