

Issues in Sport Law
SPM 6726, Section 04B5
Online
Spring 2019

Instructor: Dr. Cyntrice Thomas **Email:** cthomas10@ufl.edu
Office: 186A FLG **Phone:** 352-294-1669
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesday 9:30am-11:30am; by appointment

Course Objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to the legal structures, statutes, case law, and standards that establish legal responsibilities, rights, privileges, and controls related to the field of sport management. The objectives include:

- Understanding the U.S. legal system
- Conducting and using methods of legal research
- Analyzing the role of law in sport and other physical activity programs
- Assessing and evaluating specific standards, legislation, case law, governing bodies, and legal issues related to the sport industry
- Developing a legal argument based on legal research and case analysis

Required Textbook

Wolohan, J. and Cotten, D. (2013). *Law for Recreation and Sport Managers*, 6th Ed. Kendall Hunt Publishing: Dubuque, IA.
ISBN: 978-1-4652-1054-8

Additional readings and cases will be provided by the instructor.

Course Policies

This course is primarily done in a combination of a lecture format and case study exercises that examine the application of relevant laws to issues in sports. Opinions held by other students should be respected in the discussion posts. Students are expected to watch the videos and complete readings and assignments for each module. Students are informed of the due dates for projects and assignment well in advance. Therefore, extensions will not be given for assignments and late assignments will not be accepted. Make-up quizzes will not be offered. Exceptions are excused absences consistent with the university policies (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and at the discretion of the instructor. Appropriate documentation is required. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to make up assignments.

Course Grading

The final grade for this course is based on several categories of assignments each weighted differently and listed below.

Discussions

Because this is online course, we can't engage in traditional classroom discussions, so discussion questions are a way to provide a classroom experience online. Each student is required to make **at least** 3 posts for each discussion. An initial discussion post in response to the discussion question must be made by the Thursday in the first week of each module (exact dates will be provided). The remaining to discussion posts should be in response to other students' initial discussion post. Those responses should be substantive and provide additional analysis and/or raise additional questions. Each post should be between 150-200 words.

Case Briefs*

You will have **four** cases to briefs throughout the semester. During the first week of class, I will teach you how to brief a case. The purpose of the case briefs is to help students pull out the key components of a judicial decision and understand how courts interpret the law and arrive at their decisions. The due dates for each case brief are included on the schedule and are also listed below.

Brief #1: *Allen v. Dover Co-rec. Softball League*, 807 A.D. 1274 (N.H. 2002) due **Sunday, February 3rd**

Brief #2: *Faragher v. City of Boca Raton*, 524 U.S. 775 (1998) due **Sunday, February 17th**

Brief #3: *Ross v. Creighton University*, 957 F.2d 410 (7th Cir. 1992) due **Sunday, March 24th**

Brief #4: *Smith v. Pro Football*, 593 F.2d 1173 (D.C. Cir. 1978) due **Sunday, April 21st**

Quizzes

In lieu of a final and midterm exam, timed quizzes will be given for each Module based on the assigned readings and lectures. The quizzes will consist of 10 questions and you will have 12 minutes to complete. You will only have one opportunity to take each quiz so make sure that your internet connection is stable and dependable. The lowest quiz grade will be excluded from your final grade calculation.

Final Paper*

As a part of this course you will be required to pick a topic in sport law to write a research paper on. In an effort to reduce the desire to procrastinate (and also to help provide guidance along the way), the final paper is broken up into three parts to be completed throughout the semester. Instructions for the final paper and each of its parts can be found on Canvas

Part I: Topic Submission, due **Sunday, February 3rd**

Part II: Case briefs of 3 cases relevant to your topic, due **Sunday, March 3rd**
 Part III: Article summaries of 3 law review articles, due **Sunday, April 7th**
 Part IV: Paper, due **Monday, April 29th**

****Briefs and other writing assignments should be submitted in Turnitin via Canvas, unless otherwise instructed. If a student is deemed to have plagiarized, he or she will be given a zero for the assignment. Please be sure to properly cite all sources directly quoted and paraphrased in each assignment using the APA style. Citation style guides can be found on the library's website. If you are unsure about how or whether to cite something, please ask the instructor for guidance.***

Course Grading

Assignment		Total Points
Discussions (6) x 25pts each		125
Quizzes (6) x 50pts each		300
Case Briefs (4) x 50 pts each		200
Final Paper	Part I 25pts Part II 75pts Part III 75pts Part IV 200pts	375
Total		1000

Grading Scale

Total Points	Percent	Grade	Grade Points
935-1000	93.5-100	A	4.0
895-934	93.4-89.5	A-	3.67
865-894	86.5-89.4	B+	3.33
835-864	83.5-86.4	B	3.0
795-834	79.5-83.4	B-	2.67
765-794	76.5-79.4	C+	2.33
735-764	73.5-76.4	C	2.0
695-734	69.5-73.4	C-	1.67
665-694	66.5-69.4	D+	1.33
635-664	63.5-66.4	D	1.0
595-634	59.5-63.4	D-	.67
0-594	0-59.4	E	0

***Do not ask the instructor questions regarding your grade. Rounding up is completely under the discretion of the instructor. If you want to challenge a grade, please come to the**

professor with evidence from the textbook or case materials to justify you grade change request.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Counseling and Wellness

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

U Matter, We Care

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter,

We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Course Schedule

This schedule is a tentative outline of the reading, projects and assignments that will be covered throughout the semester. If there are changes or amendments to this schedule, you will be told well in advance of any assignments that may be due.

Date	Readings	Assignment
Module 1 Jan. 7 – Jan. 20	Chapter 1 (pp. 1-29) Videos: Intro Lectures 1 and 2 <i>Knight v. Jewett</i>	Discussion 1 (Video) Quiz 1
Module 2 Jan. 21 – Feb. 3	Chapter 2 (pp. 42-140 and 191-201) and Chapter 3 Videos: Torts Lectures 1 and 2 <i>Bearman v. Notre Dame</i> <i>Chuy v. Philadelphia Eagles Football Club</i>	Case Brief 1 Final Paper Part I Due Quiz 2
Module 3 Feb. 4 – Feb. 17	Chapter 7 (pp. 526-590) Video: Gender Equity Lecture <i>Cohen v. Brown University</i> <i>Jackson v. Birmingham School District</i> <i>Simpson v. University of Colorado</i>	Module 3 Discussion Case Brief 2 Quiz 3
Module 4 Feb. 18 – March 3	Chapter 7 (pp. 591-625) Video: Intellectual Property Lectures 1 and 2 <i>Harjo v. Pro Football</i> <i>Keller v. EA Sports</i> <i>NBA v. Motorola</i>	Final Paper Part II Due Quiz 4
March 4 – March 10	Spring Break	
Module 5 March 11 – March 24	Chapter 5 Video: Contracts Lecture <i>DiNardo v. Vanderbilt</i> <i>Taylor v. Wake Forest</i> <i>O'Brien v. Ohio State Univ.</i>	Module 5 Discussion Case Brief 3 Quiz 5
Module 6 March 25 – April 7	Chapter 6 Video: Con Law Lectures 1 and 2 <i>NCAA v. Tarkanian</i> <i>Vernonia School District v. Acton</i> <i>Ludtke v. Kuhn</i>	Final Paper Part III Due Module 6 Discussion Quiz 6
Module 7 April 8 – April 21	Module 7 Handout Video: Antitrust Lectures 1 and 2 <i>Federal Baseball Club v. Nat'l League</i> <i>Flood v. Kuhn</i> <i>Fraser v. MLS</i>	Module 7 Discussion Quiz 7 Case Brief 4

Module 8 April 22 —April 26	Module 8 Video: Antitrust Lecture 3 <i>NCAA v. Board of Regents</i> <i>NCAA v. O'Bannon</i>	Final Paper Part IV Due 4/29
--------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------