

**SPM3204 – ETHICAL ISSUES IN SPORT**  
University of Florida  
Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management  
Spring 2023

**Course Information:**

Sections: Z1LT  
Credits: 3  
Dates: Entire semester  
Location: Web Based (<http://elearning.ufl.edu>)

**Contact Information:**

Name: Lindsey Thomas  
Office: Ben Hill Griffin Stadium 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Email: [LindseyT@gators.ufl.edu](mailto:LindseyT@gators.ufl.edu)  
Phone: 352-375-4683 ext. 6043  
Office Hours: Per appointment

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**Course Overview:**

This course will utilize weekly lectures to explore ethical issues in sport and prepare students for the challenges they will face in their personal and professional careers. We will discuss current events (some may be controversial), describe the components of an argument and recognize a problem and how to analyze it. Students will learn to make decisions regarding moral and ethical issues and defend their position.

**3 things to know:**

1. **Read the "To do well in this course" section on page 3 of this syllabus**
2. **You have 3 days after a grade is posted to contact me with issues or questions**
3. **Yellowdig is required weekly; points cannot be made up**

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to define morals and ethics and explain why they are important in athletics. Students should be able to discuss varying positions of an argument and ethical issues. Additionally, be able to identify and evaluate current ethical issues in the sport industry. Students will focus on properly articulating, arguing and providing cohesive information to support opinions on a wide range of ethical issues and demonstrate effective written communication including proper grammar and spelling, logical thinking and decision-making skills.

**Learning Objectives:**

After completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Analyze and differentiate the importance of morals and ethics importance in athletics
2. Analyze the pros and cons of current ethical issues in the sports industry
3. Investigate and analyze various opinions on ethical issues in sport and their impact on sport today
4. Research ethical issues currently spotlighted in the news and social media and how social media's impact has highlighted these ethical issues
5. Examine the consequences of unethical and ethical business decisions
6. Engage in discussions with classmates WEEKLY via Yellowdig

## COURSE INFORMATION AND POLICIES

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### Course Textbook and Materials

All course materials will be posted on: <http://elearning.ufl.edu>

The online learning platform varies from the traditional classroom experience and can present unique challenges. Unlike traditional classroom settings, the online setting is available 24 hours a day and gives you the opportunity to tailor class time to your schedule. Please be sure to take note of all due dates and deadlines of all assignments. All due dates and related details can be found on Canvas. I will also post weekly video course updates under the *Announcements* tab on Canvas. Please make sure you watch these brief videos as they will contain current and relevant information. Information from these videos can be presented on assignments including quizzes and exams.

If personal circumstances arise that interfere with your ability to meet a deadline, please let me know as soon as possible. Only university accepted excuses will be accepted and documentation must be provided with 72 hours of missing the deadline. Requirements for make-up work are consistent with [university policies](#). To help ensure unplanned events do not prevent you from meeting a deadline, assignment submission windows are often available over several days allowing you to submit early.

Your feedback on the quality of instruction in this course is appreciated by completing [online evaluations](#). Evaluations will be open the last few weeks of the semester. Summary results of assessments are available at the [GatorRator](#) website.

### University Policy on Accommodating Students with Special Needs

The [Disability Resource Center](#) in the Dean of Students Office provides students and faculty with information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office at the Disability Resource Center website: [DRC-How to Get Started](#).

### Academic Integrity

Any individual who becomes aware of an honor code violation is committed to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code. Please refer to the [University of Florida Honor Code](#) for a complete explanation of the UF Academic Honesty policy.

**Honor Code Policy:** "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

### Grade Appeal Policy

You have up to three (3) days after the deadline of an assignment or quiz to contact me with any issues or concerns, or submit to me your university accepted excuse, after which the grade is final. If you want to contend a quiz question, please make sure you provide supporting evidence from the book or lectures. If late assignments/quizzes are accepted, please know there will be a substantial grade penalty.

### Communication

I can best be reached via my work email ([LindseyT@gators.ufl.edu](mailto:LindseyT@gators.ufl.edu)). Please be sure to word emails professionally. If the answer to your question is on Canvas or the course syllabus, please know I will simply direct you there so please check these sources first.

### **To Do Well in This Course:**

1. Watch the Introduction and Syllabus Review video
2. Communicate with me and your peers!
3. Give your best effort. If you give B level effort, you'll likely end up with a B as your final grade.
4. Visit the course page regularly for updates and watch the weekly video announcements
5. Complete and submit all assignments by the due dates
6. For all assignments (written and video) please be professional. This includes dressing appropriately (no hats, workout/athletic wear, etc) and ensure that your video is of good quality
7. Participate in the Yellowdig discussions WEEKLY
8. You will have a few partner assignments. You must connect with your partner by the date listed in the assignment details.

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## **ASSIGNMENTS**

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### **Yellowdig Discussions: (up to 11 points per week; missed weekly points CANNOT be made up)**

In lieu of a traditional discussion board, we will utilize Yellowdig. We are using Yellowdig for two purposes: as a way to create a community outside of our classroom (since we are never together in person), and as a forum for having discussions about course content and reflecting on your thoughts and understanding of ethics within sport. To do this, you will need to post items of interest relating to sport ethics (articles, videos, websites, etc) on Yellowdig each week. You can also post and comment with your own personal experiences.

Yellowdig will help you learn and prepare for other parts of the class, so your Yellowdig participation will be counted as part of your grade. To earn full credit for that part of the class grade, you can earn up to 110 points for the semester by adding Pins and by Commenting on and earning likes from your peers.

\*\*\*NOTE: this is an assignment that updates weekly; you can earn up to 11 points per week with a max of 110 points for the semester. If you do not post one week, you will not be able to make these points up later.

### **Assignments:**

There will be several assignments during the semester; one of which is the final project. Each assignment is designed to foster analysis of the course content up to that point and apply ethical considerations to relevant aspects of the sport industry. Several assignments require more time commitments than others so I recommend looking them over several weeks in advance so as to properly schedule the time needed for their successful completion.

### **Quizzes:**

Students will be required to take a quiz to help ensure understanding and comprehension of the material from the lecture(s). Quizzes will consist of five to ten (5-10) questions and students will have 10 - 20 minutes to complete them. Quizzes will be available via Canvas for 2 days only during the days on which they are offered. Students will have one opportunity to complete each quiz; all quizzes are open notes. We are not responsible for computer or connection errors, so students must make sure the computer used is reliable and has a secure connection. I recommend taking quizzes earlier in the day to leave time to work through any potential issues. Should there be computer issues, please contact Learning Support Services and email me immediately detailing the issue. Be sure to include the LSS Request #.

### **Exams:**

There will be three (3) exams during the semester. Each exam will follow its module and will focus only on that material. Each exam will have 40 questions and students will have 1 ½ hours to complete them.

## GRADING

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### Grading Scale (No Rounding):

Yellowdig	10 x 11 pts <b>weekly</b> posts	110 points
Exams	3 x 40 points each	120 points
Assignments	varies	200 points
Quizzes	varies	70 points

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**Total** **500 points**

### Grade Values:

<i>Letter Grade</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Grade Points</i>
A	=	94-100%	4.00
A-	=	90-93.99%	3.67
B+	=	86-89.99%	3.33
B	=	83-85.99%	3.00
B-	=	80-82.99%	2.67
C+	=	76-79.99%	2.33
C	=	73-75.99%	2.00
C-	=	70-72.99%	1.67
D+	=	66-69.99%	1.33
D	=	63-65.99%	1.00
D-	=	60-62.99%	0.67
E	=	59.99% or less	0.00

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\*For more on grading please visit:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

### U Matter, We Care

U Matter, We Care is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look after 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](mailto: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.

### Copyright Statement:

The materials used in this course are copyrighted. The content presented is the property of UF and may not be duplicated in any format without permission from the College of Health and Human Performance and UF, and may not be used for any commercial purposes. Content includes but is not limited to syllabi, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless permission is expressly granted. Students violating this policy may be subject to disciplinary action under the UF Conduct Code.

*The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus and outline as the class progresses and circumstances arise. Students will be given ample notice of any changes.*

<u>Week # &amp; Topic</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
<b>MODULE 1</b>			
1; Welcome	Syllabus Quiz	1/15/23	10
	Student Video Profile	1/20/23	5
2; Introduction to Ethics	Initial self assessment	1/20/23	10
	Ethical dilemma overview	1/21/23	20
3; Organizational Ethics	Quiz: Intro to Ethics & Organizational Ethics *YELLOWDIG starts!*	1/29/23	10
4; Ethical Theories	<b>Reminder:</b> check your Yellowdig participation!	weekly; can earn up to 11 points per week!	110
5; Moral Reasoning & Development	Ethical Decision Making Process Assignment	2/4/23	20
	Quiz: Ethical Theories; Moral Reasoning & Development	2/12/23	10
6; Values	Interview Assignment Introduction	2/15/23	10
	Quiz: Values	2/19/23	10
	Module 1 Exam	2/22/23	40

<b>MODULE 2</b>			
7; Sport Managers	Clarify Your Values Assignment	2/25/23	20
8; Athletes & Athletic Injuries	Quiz: Sport Managers; Athletes & Athletic Injuries	3/5/22	10
	Corporate Code of Ethics Assignment	3/8/23	20
9; Media & Fan Behavior	Step 2 - Final Interview Assignment <b>Reminder:</b> check your Yellowdig participation!	3/10/23	10
10; Sports Agents & Gambling	Quiz: Media & Fan Behavior; Agents & Gambling	3/26/23	10
	Module 2 Exam	3/29/23	40

<b>MODULE 3</b>			
11; Arguments	Assignment: PTI	4/2/23	20
12; Race	Quiz: Arguments & Race <b>Reminder:</b> last few chances for Yellowdig points! **Closes 4/9/23**	4/9/23	10
13; Gender	Assignment: Podcast	4/16/23	20
14; Morals & Principles	Quiz: Gender and Morals & Principles	4/23/23	10
Final Assignments	Assignment: Field Interviews	4/23/23	35
	Module 3 Exam	4/26/23	40
		<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>500</b>