



**SUL ROSS**  
KINESIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

**KINE 5307**  
**Group Dynamics**  
**Summer 2024**

**Dr. Billy Jack Ray**  
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**Office Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 3 pm  
**By appointment (email to set an appointment)**  
**Meeting:** via Blackboard  
**Required Text:** Sports in Society: Issues and Controversies 13<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN: 9781260240665

**For this course you will be required to purchase McGraw-Hill Education Connect® access for the required textbook**

You are not required to have a print text in addition to Connect access, so please be aware that if you purchase a used textbook you will still need to purchase Connect access.

A print-upgrade option is available via Connect if you find yourself wanting a print companion at some point during the semester. This will be a full color binder-ready version of the text and can be mailed directly to you for an additional \$25.00 (including shipping and handling). Please note that Connect works best on Google Chrome or Firefox.

**You will also need to access the SRSU Library to locate and download peer-review, scholarly articles. For assistance you may Ask the Library or contact the Graduate Student Center for help.**

**Finally, you will need the following link to Sports Shorts, a great resource for the intersection between law and sports, for your first assignment: <https://www.sports.legal/>.**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

We live in an increasingly litigious society and have seen a dramatic increase in the number of lawsuits in the field of KINE. This trend is also evident within the realm of sport and physical activity. You, as future professionals in sport and exercise, will gain general understanding of the law as it pertains to this area, be able to prevent and forestall litigation against your organization, and identify when it is necessary to retain the services of an attorney.

## **EXPECTATION OF STUDENTS**

Students are responsible for keeping up with the reading and are expected to read the assigned chapters and/or other posted readings prior to class in order to contribute to online discussion. Handouts distributed through Blackboard should be kept in a notebook in order to be referred to as necessary.

### **Marketable Skills – The following marketable skills are met in this course:**

- **Communication** – Through your discussion posts, you will learn to communicate what you have learned with your peers, and how to reply and respond to your peers.
- **Critical Thinking** – Through your Case Brief assignment and Risk Management Manual Term Project, you will be challenged and learn how to think critically and outside your comfort zone.
- **Career Management** – The entire course is designed to give you a practical understanding of how sport and law intersect, and how you will encounter this throughout your career as a sport professional.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- A. Understand fundamental legal concepts relevant to tort law, contract law, and constitutional law.
- B. Have identified potential liability situations in the supervision, management and conduct of sport, recreation and physical activity, and therefore, be able to design and develop strategies for limiting liability.
- C. Have analyzed a tort law scenario, constructed basic court cases based on the scenario, and predicted the outcome of a hypothetical court case.
- D. Have used the basic elements of contract law to construct a contract and waiver for a sport and physical activity situation. In addition, critiqued an existing contract and determined whether it meets legal standards.
- E. Have identified situations regarding discrimination in terms of race, sex, and disability as it pertains to sport and physical activity. Analyzed constitutional law scenarios, constructed basic court cases based on the scenarios, and predicted the outcome.
- F. Have communicated in writing a court case, its ramifications to the sport management profession, and debated the merits of the court's ruling.

### **Netiquette**

When posting or emailing, please remember that professionalism is not only encouraged, but expected. You are practicing your written and electronic communication skills and want to form good habits before you go out in the work force.

On that note, when posting on the Discussion Board, please keep in mind the following:

- Please be courteous. Don't flame (i.e., post insults, invective, or other personally disrespectful comments) or post flame bait (i.e., deliberately provocative, or manipulative material intended or likely to elicit flames).
- Please be careful in the use of sarcasm and irony. Online communication lacks the subtle nonverbal

cues that help us interpret such rhetorical flourishes in face-to-face settings, so that it is easy to miss the point or misunderstand. More importantly, it is easy to give or take offense where none is intended. Accordingly, give people the benefit of the doubt, and if you are misunderstood, don't get defensive.

- Avoid typing in all capital letters, as this is considered to be shouting and is considered rude.
- Limit the use of emoticons (emotion icons) to introductions and less formal communication.
- Use proper grammar and spelling. Avoid abbreviations and informal language. Text messaging abbreviations are not appropriate.
- Be tolerant of those who are still learning how to use this forum (e.g., people who accidentally send multiple copies of the same message, PEOPLE WHO FORGET AND LEAVE THEIR CAPS LOCK KEY ON WHEN TYPING).
- Don't post excessively or monopolize the conversation. Remember that multiple shoot- from-the-hip posts are much less effective than fewer carefully-thought-out ones, and that patience in responding will encourage more contributors with a wider variety of ideas and perspectives to participate.

In addition to the above, please keep in mind the following:

- A professional and respectful tone is expected for all course communication.
- Respect the privacy of your classmates and what they share.
- Understand that we may disagree and that exposure to other opinions is part of the learning experience.
- Be respectful of the views and opinions of others. We are in this together. Before posting a comment, ask whether you would be willing to make the same comment face-to-face.
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source.
- Be careful with acronyms. If you use an acronym, it is best to spell it out first, then put the acronym in parentheses afterward. For example: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## **Methods of Evaluation:**

Outcome Measure	Points per unit	Available Points	Percentage of Grade
Connect SmartBook Chapter Readings	4 @ 75	300	30%
Discussions	4 @ 50	200	20%
Assignments	3 @ 100	300	30%
Final Project	1 @ 200	200	20%
Total/Final Grade*	--	1000	100%

\*Letter Grading as per SRSU policy will be used in this course.

Note: Satisfactory progress in the HHP program means a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all core classes (e.g. everything leading up to the final practicum course). In most cases, this means a 'B' or better in each class is considered satisfactory progress.

## **LATE WORK POLICY**

All coursework must be submitted by the provided due dates in Blackboard or Connect. Late work will be subject to the following deductions: Discussions/Responses/Assignments/ Quizzes/Final Projects carry a 5% deduction per day late; up to 30% maximum deduction. LearnSmart readings must be completed by the due date for credit.

## TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>SmartBook Chapters</u>	<u>Assessments</u>
<u>1</u>	May 29 – June 4, 2024	SmartBook Chapters 1-4	<b>DUE:</b> Discussion 1 <b>DUE:</b> SmartBook Chapters 1-4 questions <b>ASSIGNED:</b> Assignment 1
<u>2</u>	June 5 - 11, 2024	SmartBook Chapters 5-8	<b>DUE:</b> Discussion 2 <b>DUE:</b> SmartBook Chapters 5-8 questions <b>DUE:</b> Assignment 1 <b>ASSIGNED:</b> Assignment 2 <b>ASSIGNED:</b> Term Project
<u>3</u>	June 12 – 18, 2024	SmartBook Chapters 9-12	<b>DUE:</b> SmartBook Chapters 9-12 questions <b>DUE:</b> Discussion 3 <b>DUE:</b> Assignment 2 <b>ASSIGNED:</b> Assignment 3
<u>4</u>	June 19 - 25, 2024	SmartBook Chapters 13-16	<b>DUE:</b> SmartBook Chapters 13-16 questions <b>DUE:</b> Assignment 3 <b>DUE:</b> Discussion 4
<u>5</u>	June 26 – July 2, 2024		<b>DUE: TERM PROJECT DUE BY 12:00 PM (NOON) CST ON TUESDAY, JULY 2</b>

**\*\*\*Recommend copy/save all discussions from yourself and others, and all submitted work so you can have this material for your COMP exam at the end of the program.**

### **ALL COURSE REQUIREMENTS DEADLINE**

Due to the time requirement for grading purposes, all course requirements must be submitted/completed by the 'Course Requirements Deadline' of *Wednesday of Week 8 at 11:59pm* to be counted for credit towards the final letter grade in this course. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Late deductions will apply as per above policy.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### Connect SmartBook

-300 points total; 75 points per assignment

SmartBook is an interactive reading program provided through McGraw-Hill Connect. These modules will guide you through each individual chapter asking questions to assess your knowledge along the way. These assignments will cover information that will be on each of the chapter quizzes, as well as, information contained within your labs.

### Discussions – 200pts total

-50 points each; 40 points for post / 10 points for ‘response’

There will be a set of discussion prompts to choose from within the week in which an assignment is due. To create a thread, you click on the hyperlink to the discussion and then click on create new thread. Put a short title and the week number in the subject line (e.g. Macronutrient aspects to sports nutrition-Week 3). Please only respond directly in the message area, no attachments unless requested.

### ‘Response’ = “Applied”

Under each discussion post you must read and respond to one of your classmate’s original discussion post. Each response is worth up to 10 points. Responses are due 48hrs after the original discussion due date.

The response must be at least 100 words and more than “good job”, “I like what you said”, etc., it must be a substantial response that would be as if you were having a discussion on the topic in class.

Specifically, an “applied” response would discuss the content in a new way – including but not limited to: adding to the discussion with further information you find (cite your source), describing application to sports, health or performance, as well as providing constructive criticism / a different viewpoint. Responses should be professional/academic responses and not chat room or informal language. To respond to another’s post, click on their post and then choose reply. Title the subject of your response with your “Last name” and “response to Authors Last Name Week 3 post” (eg. Herrera’s response to Henderson’s Week 3 post).

### Assignments - 300 points total; 100 points per assignment

The assignments assigned will provide a real-world / practical application of the course content. There will be assignments throughout the semester that will focus on specific topics covered in the text. Assignments will be provided through the McGraw Hill Connect platform.

### Final Project

-200 points total

This Final Project will require in depth application of knowledge gained throughout the course in relation to the Student Learn Outcomes stated previously in the syllabus. For detailed instructions on this assignment refer to Week 5 in Blackboard.

## **Distance Education Statement**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university’s academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to

verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Each student is expected to do his or her own work. Suspected cheating will be given the rightful due process, but will be subjected to an "F" given for the assignment/exam. Plagiarized work will receive an "F" for that assignment. All written work is subject to inspection for plagiarism. The university's academic honesty policy is published in the graduate catalog.

### **Accidents & Injuries**

In the case of bodily or personal property damage, the Kinesiology Department will not be held responsible. The student must report any field experience related injury or illness to the Instructor immediately. Any expense incurred due to injury or illness will be the student's responsibility.

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

Academic integrity represents the choice to uphold ethical responsibility for one's learning within the academic community, regardless of audience or situation.

### **Academic Civility Statement**

Students are expected to interact with professors and peers in a respectful manner that enhances the learning environment. Professors may require a student who deviates from this expectation to leave the face-to-face (or virtual) classroom learning environment for that particular class session (and potentially subsequent class sessions) for a specific amount of time. In addition, the professor might consider the university disciplinary process (for Academic Affairs/Student Life) for egregious or continued disruptive behavior.

### **Academic Affairs Service Statement**

Sul Ross faculty, staff, and students are expected to model responsible citizenship through service activities that promote personal and academic growth while enhancing the university, local, regional, national, and global communities. These activities will foster a culture of academic/public engagement that contributes to the achievement of the university's mission and core values.

### **Academic Excellence Statement**

Sul Ross holds high expectations for students to assume responsibility for their own individual learning. Students are also expected to achieve academic excellence by:

- Honoring the core values of Sul Ross.
- Upholding high standards of habit and behavior.
- Maintaining excellence through class attendance and punctuality.
- Preparing for active participation in all learning experiences.
- Putting forth their best individual effort.
- Continually improving as independent learners.
- Engaging in extracurricular opportunities that encourage personal and academic growth.

- Reflecting critically upon feedback and applying these lessons to meet future challenges.

## **ADA Statement**

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) .