



KINE 5307 – Issues in Sports Law *Course Delivery - Online Anytime*

Dr. Chris Herrera, PhD, MBA | Associate Professor - Kinesiology

Office: VIRTUAL
Phone: 432-837-8120 department office
Email: Christopher.herrera@sulross.edu
Office Hours: virtual by appt (email to set an appointment)

Required Textbook

Title: Sports in Society: Issues and Controversies 13th ed.
Author: Coakley
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education
ISBN: 9781260984101

For this course, you will be required to use “Connect® access” which is an interactive digital version of the textbook. Students initially gain access via a link in the Blackboard course. Purchase for access are via online payment gateway through McGraw Hill or through the Sully Shelf Program. 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-reviewed, scholarly articles. For assistance, you may [Ask the Library](#) or contact the [Graduate Student Center](#)

Finally, you will need the following link to Sportico, a great resource for the intersection between law and sports, for your first assignment: <https://www.sportico.com/c/law/>

Syllabus Objective

The purpose of this syllabus is to outline the semester for you in a manner that is easy to read and understand. I will cover the course requirements, assignments, deadlines, grading scale, and any and all other expectations of this course. Remember that this syllabus is subject to change, but I will let you know if I will be making any changes.

Course Description

We live in an increasingly litigious society and have seen a dramatic increase in the number of lawsuits in the field. 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.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- 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.

Marketable Skills

The following marketable skills are met in this course:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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

Methods of Evaluation (See below 'Course Requirements' for more details)

Course Requirement	Points Possible	% of Total
Assignments	400 (4x100)	40%
Connect SmartBooks	200 (varied pts per chapter)	20%
Discussions	240 (4x60)	24%
Journals	60 (4x15)	6%
Project	100	10%
Total Points	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.

Tentative Course Calendar

Week	Readings	Assessments
1. Aug 26-Sep 1	Chapters 1 – 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 1 • SmartBook (chapters 1 – 2)
2. Sep 2 -8	Chapters 3 – 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 1 • Journal 1 • SmartBook (chapters 3 – 5)
3. Sep 9-15	Chapters 6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 2 • SmartBook (Chapters 6-7)
4. Sep 16-22	Chapters 8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 2 • Journal 2 • SmartBook (Chapters 8-10)
5. Sep 23-29	Chapters 11-12 Final Project Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 3 • SmartBook (Chapters 11-12)
6. Sep 30-Oct 6	Chapters 13-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 3 • Journal 3 • SmartBook (Chapters 13-15)
7. Oct 7 – 13	Chapter 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 4 • SmartBook (Chapter 16)
8. Oct 14 - 18	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Project Due

Course Assessment Descriptions

Assignments (400 points total (Three assignments at 100 points per assignment)

The assignments provide a real-world/practical application of the course content. There will be three assignments throughout the semester.

Connect SmartBook (300 points total (pts vary per chapter)

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.

Discussions (240 points total; Four discussions at 50 points for 'posts'; 10 points for 'responses')

'Posts'

Each post is worth 50 points. To create a thread, 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., Sports Shorts article – week 2). Please only respond directly in the message area, no attachments.

'Responses'

Each response (out of 2 required) is worth up to 5 (total of 10) points. Under each discussion post, you must read and respond to one of your classmate's original discussion posts. Responses are due 48hrs after the original discussion due date. The response must be more than "good job," "I like what you said," etc. It must be a substantial response, as if you were having a discussion on the topic in class. Specifically, a substantial response would include, but not be limited to adding to the discussion with further information you find (cite your source), asking relevant questions, 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" (e.g., Maestas' response to Henderson's Week 3 post).

Journals – Reflections (40points total; 10pts each)

Journals are unique student-centric activities that allow for private reflection and communication with the professor. Students answer prompts and follow the instructions that are given.

Final Project 100 points total

This Term Project will be a Risk Management manual, and will require you to read and understand the Risk Management and HR slides. Detailed instructions on this assignment are found in the Term Project Word document in Blackboard.

COURSE & UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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.

Being a successful student requires a balance in life. If you are dealing with an issue that affects your academic performance, please contact me so that we can figure out what you need to be successful in this class.

IMPORTANT: Please note that online courses require individual students' self-discipline to a significant degree. In many ways, taking online courses are more challenging than taking in-class courses! You need to be organized, motivated, and ready to self-teach and work. Only those who can manage these can be successful in this course.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY OR MISCONDUCT

Sul Ross State University is committed to the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. Participating in behavior that violates academic integrity (plagiarism, etc.) will result in disciplinary action and may include: receiving a failing grade for the assignment, failing the course, and suspension and/or dismissal from the University.

DROP POLICY

Students are responsible to register and withdrawal from courses themselves, either through Banner (LoboOnline) or by contacting the University Registrar by published deadlines. For information regarding enrollment/registration changes please review the website at: <http://www.sulross.edu/page/967/schedule-changes-withdrawals>

LATE WORK POLICY

All coursework must be submitted by the provided due dates in Blackboard or Connect. SmartBooks readings must be completed by the due date for credit – no late work will be accepted. Discussions/Responses/Assignments/Quizzes/Final Projects carry a 5% deduction per day late; up to 30% maximum deduction. If you have not turned in an assignment within 7 days of the due date, you must email the professor for grading consideration.

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 **Friday in 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.

SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as 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 a secure login. 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. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

LEARNER SUPPORT

SRSU GRADUATE CENTER

The Graduate Student Center, located in BAB 104, provides resources and services for all SRSU graduate students. There is a computer lab with desktop computers and a networked printer/copier/scanner; laptop computers which can be checked out; a projector and screen for rehearsing student presentations; and a conference room for group study. Both Alpine and distance education students can receive writing and other assistance by calling 432-837-8524.

BLACKBOARD

The SRSU Blackboard Online Support Desk is where you can direct all your Blackboard technical questions such as problems submitting a document to an assignment, trouble getting videos to play, or dealing with a technical error in your Blackboard course. The Blackboard technical support desk is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week for your convenience. To reach the support desk:

By calling **888.837.6055**

Via email blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

MCGRAW HILL CONNECT

If you have any technical issues or questions, please contact McGraw-Hill's Customer Experience Group at 1-800-331-5094.

SRSU DISABILITY SERVICES

The University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Disability Services Coordinator in Counseling and Student Support Services has the responsibility to ensure students with disabilities the opportunity for full participation in programs, services and activities. Students seeking disability services need to contact the Disability Services Coordinator located in the University Center Room 211. The mailing address is PO Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. The telephone is 432- 837-8178; fax is 432- 837-8724.