



**SUL ROSS**  
KINESIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

**KINE 4340-001**  
**Legal and Ethical Issues**  
**Summer I 2026: Online**

**Ms. Mary Powers**  
**Instructor - Kinesiology**

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**Office Hours:** **By appointment (email to set an appointment)**  
**Meeting:** Web-Delivered Course via Blackboard and Navigate  
**Required Text:** Inclusive Access: Legal Aspects of Sports 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.  
**Author:** Miller and Schoepfer  
**Publisher:** Jones & Bartlett Learning

This class requires **Navigate** textbook access –  
**You do NOT need to purchase the book or Navigate;** this class is a part of Inclusive Access. Inclusive Access is a course material affordability program, designed by institutions and guided by the Department of Education to deliver digital learning resources to students, at a significantly reduced cost. The materials will be automatically provided to you digitally on or before the first day of class. All students should be sent instructions on how to access the material the day before the first day of class via email. The link is [Vitalsource.com](https://vitalsource.com).

If you have any issues, you can connect with the [Learner Experience](#) team and submit emails or call the Sul Ross helpline at: **800-758-0592**. [Video: Student Registration for Blackboard with Inclusive Access](#)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Given an increasingly litigious sports landscape, it's vital that future sports managers fully understand the impact of the legal aspects of sports and the strategies that may be used to manage them. *Legal Aspects of Sports, Second Edition* provides an accessible introduction to the legal aspects of sports relevant to future sports managers and coaches, streamlined in such a way that emphasizes content most relevant to sport management.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. This course provides an extensive overview of legal principles and ethical issues in sports.
2. This course introduces the different fields of law and issues (Federal Amendment, torts, contracts, labor relations) as they relate to sport.
3. This course examines the basic philosophical issues concerning ethics and moral reasoning and how these issues relate to sports.
4. This course is designed to help future sports administrators develop an ethical decision-making process.

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

- **Collaboration – students will interact with one another through a multitude of class discussions.**
- **Creativity -**
- **Communication – students will orally present research to the class.**
- **Critical Thinking – students will be asked to critically decipher a multitude of real-world scenarios**
- **Career Readiness – students will develop the skills necessary to thrive in a management roll in their chosen profession**

### **PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The learning activities, assignments, and exams in this course are constructed to assess each student's mastery of the following learning outcomes:

1. Be able to use ethical and legal literature for case law, statutes, periodicals, and texts.
2. Know the steps in a lawsuit and the responsibilities and obligations of the parties: plaintiffs, defendants, judges, and others.
3. Know tort law, including negligence, intentional torts, products and strict liability.
4. Understand Constitutional laws (Amendments, Gender Equity, and ADA) and the legal analyses used by the courts in civil rights decisions.
5. Apply theories of ethics to sport-specific situations.
6. Understand the rights and responsibilities of sport administration professionals in relation to professional ethics.
7. Develop personal and administrative values in sport settings.
8. Identify potential ethical dilemmas facing sport participants and sport administrators.

**Be sure to complete all assignments by the due date. Depending on the assignment, late assignments may not be accepted or may be accepted but will have points deducted!**

### **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 16 at 11:59 p.m.* 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 the above policy.

### **LATE WORK POLICY**

All coursework must be submitted by the provided due dates in Blackboard or Navigate.

Navigate readings must be completed by the due date for credit – **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR CHAPTER READINGS.** All other work: **case studies, discussions, and tests carry a 30% deduction for 1-7 days late.** For consideration to turn in work passed 1 week late, must be approved by the professor for grading consideration. If approved by the professor, assignments turned in over 1 week late will carry a minimum 50% deduction.

## **BLACKBOARD LEARNER SUPPORT**

Our 24/7 Blackboard online support desk and toll-free hotline are made available to SRSU faculty and students to begin using immediately for any Blackboard technical support issues. SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Technical Support Online Support Desk Contact Info: Toll-Free: 888.837.6055 Email: [blackboardsupport@sulross.edu](mailto:blackboardsupport@sulross.edu)

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid engaging in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students should also avoid using open AI sources unless permission is expressly given for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

As an SRSU student, it is your responsibility to read and understand the university's expectations about academic integrity. All violations will be taken seriously and handled through the appropriate university process. The policy can be found at:

<https://www.sulross.edu/about/administration/university-policies/>

In addition, please note that plagiarism detection software will be used in this class for written assignments.

### **SRSU AI Policy**

The University does not recommend or endorse any specific AI tools or resources. Students should be aware that many generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot) store user input and may use this data to train future models. For this reason, students should never upload or share personal, confidential, or identifiable information—such as names, ID numbers, health data, or assignment submissions containing such details—into any generative AI platform. When using AI tools, students should verify whether the tool complies with student privacy standards as indicated by the University. Faculty may recommend specific tools that better align with institutional data privacy policies, but ultimate responsibility for data protection rests with users. Students are encouraged to use faculty-recommended platforms when engaging in coursework involving generative AI. The University is not liable for any adverse experience or impact when students interact with these tools.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA Statement)**

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities.

It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [mary.schwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mary.schwartz@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

## **Classroom Climate of Respect**

Big Three:

- Show up on time.
- Be present for the 50 minutes we are together.
- Be respectful to other classmates.

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another based on race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

## **Counseling**

Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free online counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/356 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](https://www.timelycare.com/sulross). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

## **SRSU Library Services**

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](https://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting [library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/](https://library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/) or ask a librarian by emailing [srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu).

## **Supportive Statement**

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports various perspectives and experiences. I understand that the recent pandemic, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events may impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create a supportive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

## **Technical Support**

The Support Desk is where you can direct your more technical questions. For example, the Support Desk can help you if you are having issues submitting a document, getting videos to play, or using BlackBoard. The support desk is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week for your convenience.

You can reach the support desk:

- By calling 888.837.6055
- Via email [blackboardsupport@sulross.edu](mailto:blackboardsupport@sulross.edu)
- Using resources from the Technology Support tab within blackboard
- Clicking the Support Desk graphic on the course homepage

### ***Tutoring:***

- a) Tutoring and Learning Center located in the library (call 432-837-8982 for a reservation with a tutor)
- b) Tutor.com (online tutoring services available on BlackBoard) – be sure to allow 48 hours turnaround time for a writing assignment.

## **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.

## **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 to injury or illness to the instructor immediately. Any expense incurred due to injury or illness will be the student's responsibility.

## **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.