Issues in Sport Law SPM 6726, Course Number 20075 Time: Thursdays 1:55pm-4:55pm Location: FLG 225 Fall 2018

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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
- Demonstrating an understanding of legal issues and applicable law through case presentations

Required Textbook

Miller, J. and Schoepfer, K. (2018). *Legal Aspects of Sports, 2nd Ed.* Jones & Bartlett Learning: Burlington, MA. ISBN: 978128407247

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. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. The use of laptops and tablets are strictly prohibited during class. Any recording of class sessions (e.g. audio or video) is strictly prohibited without advance written permission of the instructor Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do

not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all. Students are expected to have readings (especially assigned cases) for each week done prior to class.

Class attendance is expected. Students will be informed of the due dates for projects and presentations well in advance. Therefore, no extensions will be given for projects and students are expected to make their presentations to the class during their designated class time. Makeup exams will not be offered. Exceptions are excused absence consistent with the university policies (<u>http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance</u>) and at the discretion of the instructor. Appropriate documentation is required. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for making up an exam.

Late assignments will not be accepted and in-class activities cannot be accepted unless the student has an excused absence pursuant to the university policy cited above.

Course Grading

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

Participation

A portion of your grade will be based on your participation in class discussions. Students are expected to have completed the assigned reading prior to each class. I also expect students to contribute to discussions about the readings and raise and answer questions about the assigned cases.

Case Presentations

One of the fundamental ways to understand law is to read and discuss cases that apply the different legal concepts we will discuss in the course. Each week students will work in groups or pairs to present the facts and court opinion for an assigned case. I expect **all** students to read the cases beforehand. Discussion of these cases is essential to learning and understanding different legal concepts covered in this course

Case Questions

A complementary aspect of the Case Presentations is Case Questions. With each assigned case, students NOT presenting that week are expected to submit <u>three</u> substantive questions about the case. You may or may not see a variation of these questions on an exam.

<u>Case Briefs*</u>

You will have <u>six</u> 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 Wednesday, August 29th

Brief #2: *Fleming v. Kent State University* 17 N.E.3d 620 (Ohio Ct. App. 2014) due **Wednesday,** September 12th

Brief #3: Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education 544 U.S. 167 (2005) due Wednesday, September 26th

Brief #4: University of Colorado v. Derdeyn 863 P.2d 929 (Colo. 1993) due Wednesday, October 10th

Brief #5: *Fraser v. Major League Soccer* 284 F.3d 47 (1st. Cir. 2002) due **Wednesday, October** 24th

Brief #6: Brown v. Pro Football 518 U.S. 231 (1996) due Wednesday, November 7th

<u>Exams</u>

There will be two exams for this course, a midterm and a final exam. The dates for each exam are listed on the course schedule. Exam content will reflect all assigned readings, handouts, class lectures and discussions. The format of the exam will be explained prior to the exam days.

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. To reduce the desire to procrastinate (and also to help provide guidance along the way), the final paper is broken up into four parts to be completed throughout the semester. Instructions for the final paper and each of its parts will be provided by the instructor.

Part I: Topic Submission, due Wednesday, September 5th

Part II: Case briefs of 3 cases relevant to your topic, due **Wednesday, October 17^{th th}** Part III:Article summaries of 3 law review articles, due **Wednesday, November 14th** Part IV:Paper, due **Wednesday, December 5th by Noon**

*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 first assignment. A second finding of plagiarism can result in a report to the Student Conduct Committee. 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 libraries website. If you are unsure about how or whether to cite something, please ask the instructor for guidance.

Course Grading

Assignment	Total Points	
Participation (10 classes) x 10pts each		100
Case Presentation 2 x 125pts		250
Case Questions (8) x 20pts each		160
Case Briefs (6) x 75 pts each		450
Exams (2) x 300		600
Final Paper	Part I 50pts	
	Part II 75pts	
	Part III 75pts	
	Part IV 300pts	500
Total		2060

Grading Scale

Total Points	Percent	Grade	Grade Points
1867-2000	93.4-100	A	4.0
1866-1799	93.3-90.0	A-	3.67
1734-1798	86.7-89.9	B+	3.33
1668-1733	83.4-86.6	В	3.0
1600-1667	80.0-83.3	В-	2.67
1534-1666	76.7-79.9	C+	2.33
1468-1533	73.4-76.6	С	2.0
1400-1467	70.0-73.3	C-	1.67
1334-1399	66.7-69.9	D+	1.33
1268-1333	63.4-66.6	D	1.0
1200-1267	60.0-63.3	D-	.67
0-1199	0-59.9	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, <u>http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/</u>)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 <u>https://evaluations.ufl.edu/</u>. 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 <u>https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/</u>

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

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
Week 1	Introduction	
August 23	Chapter 1	
Week 2	Chapters 2 and 4	Brief #1 Due 8/29
August 30	Nabozny v. Barnhill	
	Sanders v. Kuna Joint School District	
	Friedman v. Houston Sports Association	
Week 3	Chapters 3 and 5	Final Paper, Part I Due
September 6	Bearman v. Notre Dame	9/5
	Hackbart v. Cincinnati Bengals	
	Rodriquez v. L.A. Fitness	
Week 4	Chapter 8	Brief #2 Due 9/12
September 13	O'Brien v. The Ohio State University	
	Vanderbilt University v. DiNardo	
	Ross v. Creighton University	
Week 5	Chapter 11	
September 20	Argovitz v. Simms and Detroit Lions	
	Hilliard v. Black	
Week 6	Chapter 6	Brief #3 Due 9/26
September 27	Cohen v. Brown University	
	Simpson v University of Colorado	
	Martin v. PGA	
	Thomas v. NFLPA	
Week 7	Midterm	
October 4		
Week 8	Constitutional Law	Brief #4 Due 10/10
October 11	Tarkanian v. NCAA	
	Ludkte v. Kuhn	
	Vernonia v. Acton	
	Hill v. NCAA	
Week 9	Intellectual Property	Final Paper, Part II
October 18	Keller v. EA Sports	Due 10/17
	NBA v. Motorola	
Week 10	Antitrust Handout	Case Brief #5 Due
October 25	Federal Baseball Club of Baltimore v. NL	10/24
	Flood v. Kuhn	
	USFL v. NFL	

	L.A. Memorial Coliseum Comm. v. NFL	
Week 11	NCAA v. Board of Regents of Univ. of Okla.	
November 1	NCAA v. O'Bannon	
	Law v. NCAA	
Week 12	Handout	Case Brief #6 Due
November 8	Mackey v. NFL	11/7
	Brown v. Pro Football	
	Messersmith and McNally Arbitrations	
Week 13	Course Wrap-up	Final Paper Part III,
November 15	Exam Review	Due 11/14
Week 14	Thanksgiving	
November 22		
Week 15	Final Exam	
November 29		
Week 16	Final Paper Due	Final Paper, Part IV
December 5		Due 12/5