Issues in Sport Law

SPM 6726, Section 11D6

Time: Thursdays 3:00pm-6:00pm

Location: FLG 245
Spring 2020

Instructor:Dr. Cyntrice ThomasEmail:cthomas10@ufl.eduOffice:312 FLGPhone:352-294-1669

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00am-11:00am; also by appointment

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

Wolohan, J. and Cotten, D. (2017). *Law for Recreation and Sport Managers, 6th Ed.* Kendall Hunt Publishing: Dubuque, IA.

ISBN: 978-1-4652-1054-8

Additional readings and cases will be provided by the instructor and uploaded to Canvas.

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 of their due dates. Therefore, extensions will not be given for assignments and late assignments will only be accepted for 24 hours after the due date and will receive partial credit. Students are expected to make their presentations to the class during their designated class time. Make-up exams will not be offered and in-class activities, including quizzes, cannot be made up or taken early, unless the student has an excused absence pursuant to the university policy cited below. The only exception is an excused absence consistent with the university policies

http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance) and appropriate documentation is required. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to make up an exam or missed assignment.

Course Grading

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

Quizzes

Each week students will take a short open notebook quiz on the material assigned for that class. There will be 11 quizzes throughout the course, and I will drop your lowest quiz grade.

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 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 Briefs*

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: Shin v. Ahn, 165 P.3d 581 (Cal. 2007), due Wednesday, January 15th

Brief #2: *Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. v. McDavid*, 693 S.E.2d 873 (Ga. App. 2010), due **Wednesday, February 5**th

Brief #3: *Stanley v. University of Southern California*, 178 F.3d 1069 (9th Cir. 1999), due **Wednesday, February 19**th

Brief #4: *Pinard v. Clatskaine School District 6J*, 467 F.3d 755 (9th Cir. 2006), due **Wednesday**, **March 11**th

Brief #5: Fraser v. MLS, 284 F.3d 47 (1st Cir. 2002), due Wednesday, March 25th

Brief #6: Clarett v. NFL, 369 F.3d 124 (2nd Cir. 2004), due Wednesday, April 8th

Short Paper

In lieu of a midterm and final exam, students will be required to write two short papers (5 pages) based on research about a given topic covered in the course. Instructions to follow.

<u>Final Paper*</u>

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**, **January 22**nd

Part II: Case briefs of 3 cases relevant to your topic, due **Wednesday, February 12**th
Part III: Article summaries of 3 law review articles, due **Wednesday, March 18**th

Part IV: Paper Outline, due Wednesday, April 1st

Part V: Paper, due **Wednesday, April 22**nd

Course Grading

Assignment		Total Points
Quizzes (10) x 10		100
Case Presentation (2) x 100		200
Case Questions (5) x 20		100
Case Briefs (6) x 75 pts each		450
Short Paper (2) x 100		200
Final Paper	Part I 50pts	
	Part II 75pts	
	Part III 75pts	
	Part IV 50pts	
	Part V 300pts	550
Total		1600

^{*}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 can be given a zero for the assignment and can also 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 library's website. If you are unsure about how or whether to cite something, please ask the instructor for guidance.

Grading Scale

Total Points	Percent	Grade	Grade Points
1494-1600	93.4-100	А	4.0
1440-1493	93.3-90.0	A-	3.67
1387-1439	86.7-89.9	B+	3.33
1334-1386	83.4-86.6	В	3.0
1280-1333	80.0-83.3	B-	2.67
1227-1279	76.7-79.9	C+	2.33
1174-1226	73.4-76.6	С	2.0
1120-1173	70.0-73.3	C-	1.67
1067-1119	66.7-69.9	D+	1.33
1014-1066	63.4-66.6	D	1.0
960-1013	60.0-63.3	D-	.67
0-959	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 an assignment grade, please come to the professor with evidence from the textbook or case material to justify your grade change request.

Course Communication

All communication for the course will be disseminated either through Canvas Course messaging or through your University of Florida email address. Please make sure that when you email me, that you are professional and that use your school email address and include the following information:

Name

Course

Respectful salutation (greeting: ex. Hello, Dear) and valediction (closing: Sincerely, Best)

I will only email you at your university email address so you should be checking that regularly.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/) 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 in this class are participating in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF's

CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort.

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://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-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.

U Matter, We Care

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for 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 https://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.

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	
January 9	Chapter 1 (pp. 1-28)	
	Intro. To the Legal System Handout	
Week 2	Torts: Negligence	Case Brief #1 Due 1/15
January 16	Chapters 2 (40-148; 190-199)	
	Knight v. Jewett	
	Nabozny v. Barnhill	
Week 3	Torts: Intentional Torts	Final Paper, Part I (Paper
January 23	Chapter 3	Topic) Due 1/22
	Knoll v. Board of Regents of Univ. of Neb.	
Week 4	Risk Management	
January 30	Chapter 4	
	Flores v. 24 Hour Fitness	
	Friedman v. Houston Sports Association	
Week 5	Contracts	Case Brief #2 Due 2/5
February 6	Chapter 5	
	Yocca v. Pittsburgh Steelers	
	Fleming v. Kent State	
Week 6	Agency	Final Paper, Part II (Case
February 13	Chapter 7 (pp. 660-670)	Briefs) Due 2/12
	Handout	
	Hilliard v. Black	
	Argovitz and the Detroit Lions v. Simms	
Week 7	Employment Law/Gender Equity	Case Brief #3 Due 2/19
February 20	Chapter 7 (522-590)	
	Cohen v. Brown University	
	Faragher v. City of Boca Raton	
Week 8	Constitutional Law	Short Paper #1 Due 2/27
February 27	Chapter 6	
	NCAA v. Tarkanian	
	J.S. v. Blue Mtn. School District	
	Vernonia v. Acton	
Week 9	Spring Break	
March 5		
Week 10	Constitutional Law	Case Brief #4 Due 3/11
March 12	Chapter 6	
	Ludkte v. Kuhn	
	Palmer v. Thompson	

Week 11	Intellectual Property	Final Paper, Part III (Article
March 19	Chapter 8 (pp. 591-625)	Summaries) Due 3/18
	Baltimore Orioles v. MLBPA (in book)	
	Keller v. EA Sports	
Week 12	Antitrust Law Handout	Case Brief #5 Due 3/25
March 26	Flood v. Kuhn	
	USFL v. NFL	
	Mackey v. NFL	
Week 13	Antitrust Law	Final Paper, Part IV (Paper
April 2	NCAA v. Board of Regents	Outline) Due 4/1
	O'Bannon v. NCAA	
Week 14	Labor Law Handout	Case Brief #6 Due 4/8
April 9	Brown v. Pro Football	
	McNally-Messersmith Arbitration/	
	Kansas City Royals v. MLPBA	
Week 15	Course Wrap Up	Short Paper #2 Due
April 16		
Week 16	End of Semester	Final Paper Due 4/22
April 22		