

LSTD209

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : LSTD209 **Title :** Sports Law, Risk, and Regulation

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course is a broad study and analysis of sports law and regulation. This course is rooted in the conviction that sports law is an intricate blend of contracts, regulatory schemes (including antitrust law, risk and liability concerns), and torts. Additionally, bargaining issues including unions, contract negotiation, and collective bargaining will be covered. This course will also examine risk assumption and liability as they relate to sports law. This class will also discuss relevant sports organizations (NCAA, NFL, etc.); Title X; drug testing of athletes; the role of sports agents; intellectual property issues; broadcasting law; and rules of athlete eligibility and participation. This course exposes the student to legal cases from the individual perspective of the player, coach, fan, owner, agent, and medical staff, in addition to leagues and administrative bodies, dealing with captivating subjects as varied as drug testing, gender discrimination, player violence and criminal conduct, breach of contract, player eligibility, product liability, endorsement contracts, and television broadcasting.

Course Scope:

This course introduces the student to legal concepts in a sports context. Students will gain insight to the perspective of players, coaches, fans, owners, agents, and medical staff and glimpse into the structure and dynamics of leagues and administrative bodies. This course deals with captivating subjects such as drug testing, gender discrimination, player violence and criminal conduct, contracts, player eligibility, product liability, endorsement contracts, and television broadcasting.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate and explain the following learning objectives:

- Express the organizational structure of professional sports leagues, intercollegiate athletics, and high school sports;
- Cite examples of tort law, especially dealing with assumption of risk, assault and battery, and product liability;
- Identify the responsibilities of the key elements in sports--the coaches, medical staff, administrators, owners, players and fans;

- Differentiate the various athletic associations that govern sports;
 - Explain the myriad of rules dealing with athlete eligibility and participation;
 - Describe the legal foundation for drug testing of athletes, as well as the challenges to it, especially under the rule of constitutional law;
 - Identify the key parts of Title IX, and the history and current state of the law as it relates to gender discrimination;
 - Analyze the essential elements of sports contracts, as well as contracts for marketing, endorsement and sponsorship;
 - Explain how antitrust law is applied in the ownership, practice, and participation in professional sports;
 - Explain how labor law is applied to labor practices and collective bargaining in professional sports;
 - Discuss the duties and responsibilities of sports agents;
 - Appraise how the law of intellectual property is applied to copyrights, patents and trademarks of teams and players;
 - Compare and contrast the complex law of broadcasting rights, as well as the restrictions placed upon various broadcasting mediums;
 - Differentiate between those players who are employees and independent contractors on various teams;
 - Discuss the critical issues of gambling, disabilities, and violence in sports.
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Outline

Week 1:

Assigned Reading

Please read: Wong, Chapters 1-4 with emphasis on Chapter 4.

Review the following websites:

Sports Law Blog

<http://sports-law.blogspot.com/>

Sports Lawyers Association

<http://www.sportslaw.org/>

OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn the primary sources of law in the U.S. legal system
2. Understand the function and processes of the federal and state court systems
3. Identify the key types of law in the United States
4. Familiarize yourself with common legal resources
5. Learn the elements of negligence liability and how it applies to sport
6. Understand the defenses to negligence and the application to sport management
7. Distinguish intentional torts and their application in a sports setting
8. Gain an understanding of product liability and its application to sport management

Assignment

Post your autobiography in the Introduction forum.

Week one discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week one forum.

Week 2:

Assigned Reading

Please Read: Wong, Chapter 12

Review the following website:

NCAA Website

<http://www.ncaa.org>

OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand the foundations of risk management and key elements in decision-making processes
2. Identify components of emergency action, crisis management and lightning safety plans
3. Gain insight into management issues for sport facilities and disabled individuals
4. Understand agency relationships and agents' functions and authority
5. Grasp the duties of agents and principles within agency
6. Learn the varied ways agents are regulated

Assignment

Week two discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week two forum.

Week 3:

Assigned Reading

Please Read: Wong, Chapter 9

Review the following website:

Knight Commission

<http://www.knightcommission.org/>

OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn the elements of a valid contract
2. Learn contract provisions common in sports and the types of contracts found in sport
3. Understand issues arising from contractual breaches
4. Grasp key employment legal issues for sport managers
5. Learn the doctrine of employment at will
6. Learn legal issues relevant to sexual harassment
7. Learn the elements of federal employment legislation

Assignment

Week three discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week three forum.

Week 4:

Assigned Reading

MID-TERM EXAM WEEK Midterm will cover chapters 4, 12, 9, and 15

Please Review: Wong, Chapter 15

OBJECTIVES:

1. Grasp key employment legal issues for sport managers
2. Learn the doctrine of employment at will
3. Learn legal issues relevant to sexual harassment.
4. Learn the elements of federal employment legislation

Assignment

MIDTERM EXAM

Please take this exam by Sunday night at midnight EST.

Week 5:

Assigned Reading

Please Read: Wong, Chapters 6 and 7

Review the following website:

NFL Players Association

<https://www.nflpa.com/>

OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn how the U.S. Constitution applies to sport entities
2. Understand First Amendment protections
3. Limitations imposed by the First Amendment
4. Understand how substantive and procedural law apply to sports
5. Learn how the Equal Protection Clause affects sport-related affirmative action

Assignment

Week five discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week five forum.

Week 6:

Assigned Reading

Please read: Wong, Chapter 8

Review the following website:

MLB Draft

<http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/events/draft/y2007/index.jsp>

OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn the federal gender equity laws and their sport application
2. Learn about Title IX, its interpretation and application
3. Understand sexual harassment and regulation in sport
4. Learn types of employment discrimination laws

Assignment

Week six discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week six forum.

Week 7:

Assigned Reading

Please Read: Wong, Chapter 10

OBJECTIVES:

1. Learn Intellectual property laws as they apply to sport
2. Learn trademark in the sport industry
3. Understand protections against IP infringement
4. Learn athletes' ownership value in their own publicity

Assignment

Brief

University of Texas at Arlington v. Williams, 459 S.W. 3d 48 (Tex. 2015).

Please review the handouts posted in the Assignment Portal and the Announcement Section of the class for more information on how to brief a case.

Upload your case brief in the Assignments section and please make sure that you have not merely cut and pasted from the case

Week 8:

Assigned Reading

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will cover chapters 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, and 16 in Wong.

Please Read: Wong, 8, 13, and 16.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand federal antitrust laws and sport application
2. Grasp player restraints under antitrust laws
3. Learn antitrust law exemptions
4. The history of team movement and the ways antitrust laws affect movement in professional sport
5. Learn how antitrust laws are used to regulate college athletic

Assignment

FINAL EXAM

Please take this exam by Sunday night at midnight EST.

Week eight discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week eight forum.

Evaluation

PHONE CALLS/E-MAIL:

Please message your instructor using the messages tab in the classroom for all communication. If a phone call is necessary, you can arrange a time to speak with the professor.

ASSIGNMENTS

FORUM PARTICIPATION

An initial post is due by Wednesday evening at 11:55 pm ET. In order to earn maximum participation credit, you must respond to the forum questions for each week and respond to at least two of your classmates' postings for the topic of that week. The responses are due no later than 11:55 pm on Sunday evening.

CASE BRIEF

Each student will complete one case brief, which counts for 9% of your overall grade. More details about this case brief, which will be due during the 7th week of class, will be outlined in the class assignments area.

FINAL AND MIDTERM EXAMINATIONS:

The Professor will prepare a midterm and final examination. Both exams will be open book and will be posted in the electronic classroom under "Exams." These exams will be a mix of multiple choice, true/false and essays.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forum Assignments	34.00 %
Week One Forum	4.86 %
Week Two Forum	4.86 %
Week Three Forum	4.86 %
Week Four Forum	4.86 %
Week Five Forum	4.86 %
Week Six Forum	4.86 %
Week Eight Forum	4.86 %
Brief	15.00 %
Week Seven Assignment	15.00 %
Introduction	1.00 %
Introduction	1.00 %
Exams	50.00 %
Final Exam	25.00 %
Mid Term	25.00 %

Materials

Book Title: You must validate your cart to get access to your VitalSource e-book(s). If needed, instructions are available here - <http://apus.libguides.com/bookstore/undergraduate>

Author: N/A

Publication Info: N/A

ISBN: N/A

Wong, Glenn M, *Essentials of Sports Law, 4th Edition* (Santa Barbara, Calif: Praeger, 2010). This text is free to you and can be found, along with other mandatory readings, in the Lessons section under the Readings and resources tab.

Course Guidelines

Writing Expectations

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. It is recommended that students try to adhere to a consistent format, which is described below.

Citation and Reference Style

The central function of legal citation is to allow the reader to efficiently locate the cited source. All courses in the Legal Studies program require that any narrative essay or composition format follow the legal citation guidelines set forth in *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*. Do not purchase *The Bluebook*, as it is available at the APUS library. Use this link to access:

<http://ezproxy.apus.edu/login?url=https://www.legalbluebook.com>

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Deductions

Late forum posts, assignments, and exams may be penalized five (5) points per day.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), J

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](http://tutor.com) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOC1111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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