KIN 6331
Legal Aspects of Sport and Physical Activity
Summer 2017
Steven Robert Snowden, Ph.D, ATC, LAT

GENERAL INFORMATION
Class: KINE 6331  
Time: M-F 10-11:45AM  
Place: CHP 207  
Office: CHP 201A  
Office Hours: M-F 8:30-9:30 AM  
Phone: 942-2173

TEXT: Managing Risk in Sport and Recreation, 1st Ed. Nohr, K.M. Human Kinetics Champaign, IL

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A course that focuses on the legal elements and responsibilities found in sports and the entire realm of sport and recreation. The legal environment, legal duties and responsibilities, risk management, and participant rights will be addressed. Emphasis will be placed on developing proficiency in recognizing and solving issues in risk management.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES: The class activities, experiences and assignments will provide opportunities for class members to:
1. Acquire a basic understanding of various areas of law applicable to persons involved in risk management.
2. Exchange thoughts and opinions relating to the practical, intellectual, philosophical and moral issues involved in risk management.
3. Utilize legal research to understand legal issues and to improve writing and speaking skills.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. Readings assignments will be given out on a daily basis. Additional handouts will be distributed as needed throughout the semester.
2. Written Research Project
3. Oral Research Presentation
4. Class Discussion
5. Risk management Forms.
6. Portfolios

EVALUATION AND GRADING
Your oral presentation will count 30% of your grade. Your written research project will count 30% of your grade. Risk management forms will count 30% of your grade. Class discussion will count 5% of your grade. Portfolios will be 5% of your grade. However, your final grade will be computed as a percentage of the total semester points. Your percentage grade will be translated
to a letter grade based upon: 90% or above = A; 80% or above = B; 70% or above = C; 60% or above = D; 59% or below = F.

11% Rule: All graduate students in the CSRF Program are required to participate in one Professional Development event (this could be an online webinar, featured speaker, workshop, conference, or) symposium; and one Community Service Volunteer program each semester. This 11% of your overall final course evaluation for your grade is ALL or NOTHING. Failure to fulfill this requirement will result in the loss of one full letter in the course. Remember the CSRF Graduate Program is an Academic/ Professional designed degree program, and as a member you are responsible to participate and develop yourself to the fullest degree.

Research will be based upon the following criteria:
Creativity 10%
Quality of Research (thoroughness) 25%
Clarity of Thought and Expression 20%
Literary Style 25%
Oral Presentation 10%
Student Evaluations 10%

Research Assignment Criteria:

This is a graduate course; accordingly, it will include both lectures and individual, self-directed learning. This course has been designed for the student to learn in a manner similar to that used in law schools. Although the case study method will not be used, the student will engage in active learning - “learning by doing.” In the view of the professor, the student who earns a graduate degree becomes a “professional” As a professional, you are expected to think, write and speak clearly. You will also be required to utilize those traits to effectively identify and analyze problems, then produce creative solutions. The sport manager who can effectively meet these challenges will advance more quickly, and rise further, in his/her career.

Therefore, the structure of this course is designed to enhance your ability to think, write and speak clearly. It is not a course designed primarily for you to sit in lecture for 3 hours per week, then regurgitate the material on a series of exams. Rather, it is intended that the student will learn by being engaged in research, with some of the research being shared with the entire class.

Oral Research Presentation:

Each student will make an oral presentation to the class. This is an individual project, not a group project. The student will be allowed to choose any subject or issue involving any area of law related to sport and or recreation, subject to approval of the instructor by July 17, 2017. This will not be a case summary, but a comprehensive review of the subject matter. The following criteria shall be used for oral presentations:

1. Presentations will be a minimum of 30 minutes in length, with time for questions and answers after completion.
2. Presentations should be well organized, thorough and supported by your research.
3. Presentations should be in power point format.
4. Presentations should include proper references (citations) according to APA guidelines.
5. The presentations should not only be informative, but also be interesting enough to hold the audience’s attention.
6. All students will be required to complete peer evaluations of the presentations.

Written Research Project:

See the attached “Written Research Project”. Please notice that it has two parts. The following criteria shall be used in completing written research projects for this course:

1. All papers must be typed in 12-point font, double-spaced, fully justified, with one-inch margins, and on 8½ x 11 white paper.
2. Paper format shall be either Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th edition) or legal style footnotes.
3. All papers shall be accompanied by a reference list according to the APA guidelines. In addition, you should attach a bibliography at the end of the references that should include all articles read or reviewed, whether or not cited in the paper.
4. Papers are due at the beginning of class on the due date – **NO EXCEPTIONS**.
5. The primary research articles used by the student should be copied and provided to the professor. In the event that copying is impractical, the professor may waive this requirement upon request.

Written Research Project

Part 1.

The boss comes into your office and says that there has been talk of “risk management” among some of his business associates, all of whom have a “risk management” plan in place at their businesses. The boss knows nothing about “risk management”. Since you have a Master degree in SM, your boss naturally assumes you are an expert on the subject, and that you will have no problem completing this assigned task (in addition to your regular responsibilities) within two weeks.

He/she tells you that you are to prepare a report on “risk management”. You are to include the following items (at a minimum) as well as anything else that will be important in adopting a “risk management plan”:

1. Description of how your business operates, in other words- what it does. (Make this up or use an actual business with which you are familiar. The only restriction is that it must be recreation or sports related business.)
2. A description and detailed explanation of “risk management”.
3. Develop a proposed “risk management plan” for your business. (I do not expect a full plan, but I expect more than an outline, with descriptions of each segment.)
4. Propose at least 10 specific recommendations that you think the board of directors (or president) should consider adopting.

5. This is not a research project, it is for your boss, so references in the plan are not required. However, in order to provide a background for grading purposes, include a Reference List as an attachment.

Part 2. Prepare and submit a 2-3 page report containing at least one specific example of something you learned in this class that you will be able to apply during your professional career (including an example of how you will use this knowledge). This is due at the same time as part 1.

POLICIES
Attendance – Attendance is required for this class as stated by University policy. Additionally, it has been the experience of this instructor that in some cases, there appears to be a high positive correlation with attendance and the final corresponding grade of some students. If an absence is based upon a school-sponsored activity, please notify me in advance if possible. After three unexcused absences, you can expect that there will NOT be any upward curving of a grade based upon the normal “Snowden fudge factor”. At times it may be necessary for me to contact you via email I advised you to check it regularly.

Tardiness- 3 Tardies will count as one absence.

Cell phones – Turn them OFF or put on vibrate if there is pending family emergency. If I discover that you are texting during class you will be required to leave class for the day.

Person seeking accommodations.

"Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made."

Honor Code

"Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook."

Religious Holidays
Students should make faculty aware of their intention to be absent on these days in writing prior to its occurrence.