

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS - SPORT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
Isenberg School of Management

SPORTMGT 635 – SPORT AND THE LAW
FALL 2006
ROOM: ISOM 27
CLASS MEETINGS: Tuesday & Thursday
11:15 to 12:30 p.m.
E-MAIL: gwong@sportmgt.umass.edu

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Glenn M. Wong
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MAILBOX: ISOM Building, Room 230
PHONE/VOICEMAIL: (413) 545-5053
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday
(Friday in weeks when Prof. Wong has conflicts)
2:30 – 4 p.m. or by appointment.

I. COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED

- G.M. Wong, *Essentials of Sports Law*, **Third Edition**, 2002 (Available at the Textbook Annex 413-545-3570, amazon.com, or bn.com). If buying a used book, please make sure you purchase the **third** edition
- Class web site-URL <http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~splaw635>

II. GOALS OF THE COURSE

The goals of the course are 1) to allow the student to better understand the law, in general (not limited to sports law), 2) to provide the student with a basic knowledge and understanding of the law as it applies to amateur and professional sports, 3) to enable the student to identify, analyze and understand legal issues, and to discuss the ramifications of those issues 4) to provide the student with a foundation of comprehensive information that is relevant to managers in the sports industry, and 5) to assist the student in learning where to go to find sports law information.

III. TOPICS & READINGS (Tentative)

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
1. Court and Legal System in the United States	Essentials, Ch. 2
2. Introduction to Sports Law and Sport Industry	Essentials, Ch. 1
3. Tort Liability	Essentials, Ch. 3 & 4
4. Antitrust Law	Essentials, Ch. 10
5. Labor Law	Essentials, Ch. 11
6. Contract Law	Essentials, Ch. 9
7. Athletic Associations	Essentials, Ch. 5
8. The Athlete and Constitutional Law	Essentials, Ch. 6
9. Gender Discrimination in Athletics	Essentials, Ch. 8
10. Drug Testing and Policies	Essentials, Ch. 7
11. Intellectual Property Law	Essentials, Ch.13

IV. GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

CLASS PREPARATION

The student will get the most out of class meetings by reading and understanding the assigned materials before class. The student may have to read the case decisions several times before understanding the case. Students should attempt to brief every case (a how-to guide for writing case briefs can be found on the final page of this syllabus). This will help in understanding the case, as well as providing a reference in studying for exams and in taking the exams. I also encourage you to form study groups to work on the briefs and case problems. It is important to note that study groups should focus on checking one's work and one's understanding of the cases, and that study groups are not a substitute for reading the cases and briefing the cases.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class participation is encouraged in every possible manner. Attendance is not participation. The student is introduced to the case method of training in problem solving. This is important because law is based on the case method. Each student will make at least one class presentation on Current Legal Issues (a handout will be provided detailing this assignment). Each student should be prepared to contribute to class discussion in each class.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is important for the lecture, notes and the contributions from other members of the class. It is also important for class participation. For unexcused absences 2-4, the final grade will be reduced by .25 points for each unexcused absence. For unexcused absences 5 and above, the final grade will be reduced by .33 for each unexcused absence.

EXAMINATIONS

Two midterm examinations will be scheduled during regularly scheduled class periods. The University will schedule the final examination during the final examination period from December 16 to December 26, 2006. All final examinations must be taken during the scheduled examination time. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED. All exams will be closed book.

Examinable Material - all assigned readings, all lectures and all discussions are examinable material, unless explicitly indicated.

V. GRADING

Class Participation, assignments, attendance and current legal issues	20%
1st Exam	20%
2nd Exam	25%
Final (Cumulative)	<u>35%</u>
	100%

Beginning in the fall, 2004, the University of Massachusetts implemented a plus/minus grading (A-, B+, B-, etc.) to replace the midpoint grading (AB, BC, CD). The + grades are assigned grade points ending in .3 (e.g., B+ is a 3.3); the - grades are assigned grade points ending in .7 (e.g., B- is a 2.7).

VI. CLASS MEETINGS AND CONTENT OUTLINE (TENTATIVE)*

<u>Class #</u>	<u>Day, Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	Thu., Sept. 7	Court System; Introduction to Sports Law
2	Tue., Sept. 12	Court System; Tort Law
3	Thu., Sept. 14	Tort Law
4	Tue., Sept. 19	Tort Law
5	Thu., Sept. 21	Tort Law
6	Mon. Sept. 25	Library Session DuBois Library (Calipari Room)-3:30 pm
7	Tue., Sept. 26	Tort Law
8	Thu., Sept. 28	Contract Law
9	Tue., Oct. 3	Contract Law
10	Thu., Oct. 5	Exam #1
11	Tue., Oct. 10	Antitrust Law
12	Thu., Oct. 12	Antitrust Law
13	Tue., Oct. 17	Labor Law
14	Thu., Oct. 19	Labor Law
	Tue., Oct. 24	No Class
	Thu., Oct. 26	No Class
15	Tue., Oct. 31	Athletic Associations
16	Thu., Nov. 2	Athletic Associations
17	Tue., Nov. 7	The Athlete and Constitutional Law
18	Thu., Nov 9	Exam #2
19	Tue., Nov. 14	The Athlete and Constitutional Law
20	Thu., Nov. 16	Gender Discrimination
21	Tue., Nov. 21	Gender Discrimination
	Thu., Nov. 25	No Class-Thanksgiving
22	Tue., Nov. 28	Intellectual Property
23	Thu., Nov. 30	Intellectual Property
24	Tue., Dec. 5	Criminal Law
25	Thu., Dec. 7	Employment Law
26	Tue., Dec. 12	Employment Law
27	To Be Scheduled	Speaker
	Mon., Dec. 18	Final Exam at 1:30 pm

* Speakers to be added. At least one will be scheduled outside of the regular class meeting periods.

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