

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Dept. of Kinesiology

KIN 854: Legal and Administrative Issues for Administrators and Coaches

Spring Semester - 2018

Online Course Syllabus

Instructor: Rick Atkinson

Email: atkins27@ath.msu.edu (please make sure to put KIN 854 in subject line)

Course website: D2L.msu.edu

Textbook:

Spengler, J.O., Anderson, P.M., Connaughton, D.P., & Baker, T.A. (2009). *Introduction to Sport Law*. Human Kinetics: Champaign, IL.

Purpose:

This course is designed to prepare high school/college athletic administrators, directors of recreational programs, and athletic coaches at all levels for the responsibilities associated with providing and maintaining educationally sound and environmentally safe athletic programs for amateur athletics. Due to the increasing litigious area of athletics, knowledge of some aspects of the law, the ability to assess risk and management of risk, and the foresight to protect athletes, spectators, guests, personnel and vendors (to name a few) – all become valuable tools in promoting the goals and success of the coach/administrator. Obligations of those responsible for managing those participating/attending physical activities are identified, as are the consequences of failing to protect the welfare of those same individuals.

Course Objectives:

- 1. To develop analytic and problem solving skills with the course content.**
- 2. To develop the ability to think creatively and proactively on all subject area.**
- 3. To learn and understand various perspectives and values of Legal and Administrative Issues for Administrators and Coaches.**
- 4. To develop the ability to work productively in online learning in various formats.**

5. To be able to write critically and scholarly on various areas of Legal and Administrative Issues for Administrators and Coaches.

6. To cultivate the capacity to make wise decisions after successfully incorporating knowledge from this course.

Basic User Guide to KIN 854: Course

What to Expect:

Some of you may be familiar with the online learning environment, while others may be participating in their first online class. Although past experience with online learning is certainly an asset, we all know that every course (online and fact-to-face) is unique and provides its students with a distinctive set of opportunities and challenges. Therefore, this information is designed to give you a description of what is to be expected of you as a student enrolled in KIN 854 as well as some information that will help you navigate your online experience.

Course Structure and Time Commitment:

KIN 854 has been built around five major modules (i.e., *Risk Management and Loss Prevention, Legal Basics and Requirements for Coaches and Administrators, Specific Areas of Responsibility for the Coach, Areas of Joint Responsibility for Coaches and Administrators, The Law, Leadership and Administrative Success for Administrators*) and has been further broken down into a number of specific lessons. You will have three weeks to complete each module, during which you will engage in activities that include reading literature from the field, reviewing PowerPoint presentations, watching video, taking quizzes, producing a written product, etc. A course outline is provided below.

Just as with face-to-face classes, participating in an online course requires approximately three hours of work for every credit per week (e.g., students should plan on committing a total of nine hours of work toward a three-credit class). However, one of the benefits of an online class is that the scheduling of this time is more flexible. You may choose to commit an hour or two each day toward working on the module objectives, or you may choose to complete the assigned tasks across two to three days in which you set aside larger chunks of time.

Requisite Equipment and Skills:

The following is a list of the types of equipment needed for you to successfully navigate through this course:

- Computer with an online connection and audio capabilities.
- Microsoft Office software (i.e., Word and PowerPoint).
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (for viewing PDF documents)
- Windows Media Player/QuickTime (for viewing video-files & listening to audio-files)

The following is a list of the types of skills needed for you to successfully navigate through this course:

- An understanding of the D2L online environment
 - Navigating through D2L pages
 - Downloading documents off D2L
 - Uploading documents to D2L
 - Posting to discussion boards
- Use of the aforementioned computer software.
- **Time Management.** Because we have no class meetings it is very important that you keep up with all assignments and your readings. I recommend that you keep a calendar, set deadlines and chart your progress over the semester. **You do not want to fall behind in this class as modules open and close at certain times and you could miss assignments.** It is especially important to think critically about all aspects of the course as the final assignment will have you tie together areas that you have learned.
- **KIN 854 consists of 5 modules, with each module having 3 lessons**
- **At the conclusion of each module, there will be case studies or questions that will require scholarly written responses.**
- **There will also be assignments throughout each module**
- ***Each module is worth 50 points, with a total of 250 points for the class.***
- ***All assignments must be delivered in the drop box by 11:30pm of the Sunday the assignment is due. Any late assignment will lose 2 points per day late. The dropbox will close on Wednesday of the immediately following week and therefore no assignments will be allowed 4 days after the due date.***
- **This is a Master's level class. Therefore, *scholarly writing is expected.* Please adhere to APA format for all papers and assignments.**
- **THERE IS NO SPRING BREAK, AS CLASS WILL CONTINUE AND AN ASSIGNMENT WILL BE DUE**

COURSE OUTLINE

MODULE 1

DUE DATE

Introduction

RISK MANAGEMENT AND LOSS PREVENTION

LESSON 1 (READ CHAPTER 3, pages 45 – 59) 1/14

Go through INTRODUCTION slides first

Defining Risk Management

The Risk Management Process

NO ASSIGNMENT DUE

LESSON 2 (READ CHAPTER 3, pages 59--70) 1/21

Facility Concerns

The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

Events

Emergency Action Plans and Crisis Management

Lightning Safety

ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE

LESSON 3 1/28

Creating a Risk Management Game Plan

ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE

Exercise—MOOT COURT CASE DUE page 71 in text 1/28

MODULE 2

DUE DATE

LEGAL BASICS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR
COACHES AND ADMINISTRATORS

LESSON 1 (READ CHAPTER 2, pages 14 – 25) 2/4

Negligence Defined

Duty-Breach-Cause-Damage

Gross Negligence

Intentional Torts

ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE

LESSON 2 (READ VARIOUS ARTICLES) 2/11

Facility Liability

Fans/players/Personnel

Signage

Waivers

Privacy

NO ASSIGNMENT DUE

LESSON 3 (READ CHAPTER 2, pages 25 – 29) 2/18

Legal Defenses to Negligence

Assumption of Risk

Contributory/Comparative Negligence

Consent

Governmental Immunity

Insurance (Not a legal defense)

“Ignorance” is NEVER a defense

Exercise--MOOT COURT CASE DUE, page 42-43 in Text 2/18

MODULE 3

DUE DATE

SPECIFIC AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COACH

LESSON 1(Read Various Articles) 2/25

Practice
Games/Competitions/Warmups
Discipline
Tryouts
ASSIGNMENT #4 DUE

LESSON 2 (Read Various Articles) 3/4

Team Travel
Locker Rooms
Parents
Case Study in Progress
ASSIGNMENT #5 DUE

LESSON 3 (Read Various Articles) 3/11

Hazing Issues
ASSIGNMENT #6 DUE

PROJECT AT END OF MODULE 3 DUE 3/11

MODULE 4

DUE DATE

AREAS OF JOINT RESPONSIBILITY FOR COACHES AND ADMINISTRATORS

LESSON 1 (READ CHAPTER 5, pages 121 –130) 3/18

Contracts
Travel
Medical Issues
Behavior
Criminal Issues
Ethics
NO ASSIGNMENT DUE

LESSON 2 (READ CHAPTER 8, pages 181—207) 3/25

Title IX
History
Participation
ASSIGNMENT #7 DUE

LESSON 3 4/1

Title IX (Continued)
Facilities
Scheduling
Separate Teams
Sexual Harassment under Title IX

Exercise--MOOT COURT CASE DUE, page 207-208 Text 4/1

MODULE 5

DUE DATE

THE LAW, LEADERSHIP, AND ADMINISTRATIVE
SUCCESS FOR ADMINISTRATORS

LESSON 1 (READ CHAPTER 6, Pages 139—160) 4/8

Employment Law
Discrimination
Title VII
Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
The ADA and Employment
NO ASSIGNMENT DUE

LESSON 2 4/15

Budgets and Funding Options
Working with Communities
NO ASSIGNMENT DUE

LESSON 3 4/29

Successful Administration
Evaluation of Staff

Final Exercise—Putting It Together--DUE 4/29