

**Department of Kinesiology, Sport, and Leisure Studies
College of Education and Graduate Studies
Grambling State University**

Course Syllabus

Producing knowledgeable, skilled, and compassionate educators and other school professionals in the place “Where Everybody is Somebody.”

REC 410:-Legal Liability in Recreation and Sport

Credit hours: _____

Instructor: _____

Semester: _____

Office: Hours: _____

Class Time: _____

Telephone: _____

Pre-Requisite(s):

TREC 204: Introduction to Recreation and Introduction to Therapeutic Recreation

REC 301 Program Planning in Recreation

Course Description

Study entails review of legal principles, general rules of law, and legislative processes impacting planning and administration of leisure services, sport agencies and related organizations. A general orientation of legal concepts in tort liability, contracts, human rights, property and risk management is also provided.

Rationale

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with the legal principles, general rules of law, and the legislative process impacting the planning and administration of leisure service agencies, and sports. Emphasis will be focused on knowledge and understanding in the applied areas of legal foundations and responsibilities of leisure services, and sports and analysis of legislation which promote and influence the delivery of leisure services, and sports.

The course will provide a general orientation to legal concepts in tort liability torts, contracts, human rights, property and risk management. Students will be made aware of basic legal principles that must be considered in the decision- making process.

Conceptual Framework Theme and Selected Program Outcomes for this Course

Through broad-based curricula, consisting of performance-based assessment, research- based instruction and strategic field experience, Leisure Studies Program at Grambling State University graduates Leisure Studies professional leaders. Content, professional knowledge, skills and dispositions enable professional Leisure Studies educators to help all students reach their full potential. The program recognizes and adheres to the standards and evaluative criteria set forth by the **Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT)**.

Disability Services for Students

Grambling State University maintains the Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) to help assure compliance with the rules and regulations set forth by various congressional acts, i.e., the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 1990. This office has created an atmosphere of opportunity by providing services and mediating considerations for students.

The primary goal of the Office of Disability Services for Students is to ensure access for students with documented disabilities. We encourage students to take control of their own learning and to discuss the means for arranging types of appropriate support. In addition, we serve as an advocate for students in determining appropriate considerations.

The Office of Disability Services is located in the GSU Student Counseling Wellness and Resource Center, it is recommend that you read the handbook located on the GSU webpage, as it will be a useful reference throughout college and beyond or visit and/or call the center on campus 318-274-3277.

Course Objectives and Corresponding Program Outcomes

As students progress through the course, participate in learning activities, complete course assignments and acquire competencies, they should demonstrate mastery of the following objectives at a minimum of 80% accuracy. Students will:

1. Discuss and understand legal foundations and the Legislative Process. (7.01)
2. Identify and discuss the following laws and acts related to recreation, park, and leisure service. (7.01)
 - a. Recreation enabling acts
 - b. Special laws, Contract and Tort law, Enabling Laws
 - c. Regulatory laws National, State, and local agencies.
 - d. Special district laws, property laws and human rights.
 - e. Define Equal Employment Opportunity Act
 - f. Define Civil Service Act
 - g. Define Fair Labor Standard Act
3. Discuss Issues in recreation, park, tourism, sports relative to liability, negligence (7.01)
4. Analysis of issues related to negligence in the agencies. (7.01, 7.02)
5. Outline and discuss civil tort liability to include the following: (7.02)
 - a. nuisance-public and private
 - b. intentional tort-person, property, strict liability,
 - c. federal tort
 - d. administrator defense of legal liability civil torts
 - e. a mock role play case in class
 - f. identify factors in a civil action lawsuit based contractual liability
6. Distinguish the difference between civil liability property lawsuits and criminal property action.(7.02)
7. List all legislation affecting recreation and sport for special populations. (7.02)
8. Identify the principles and practices of safety, emergency, and risk management law enforcement related to recreation, park and leisure services. (7.03)

9. Design a risk management plan that addresses, recreation, sport to reduce the possibility of further injuries. (7.03)

Textbook

Hronek, B. & Spengler, J. (2011). *Legal liability in recreation and sports*. (2nd Ed.). Champaign, IL: Sagamore Publishing.

Course Requirements

1. Attend class regularly and be punctual.
2. Obtain all required textbook (s).
3. Complete all assignments.
4. Home work should be turned in by due date. No late work will be accepted.
6. Attendance - University policy requires that you attend at least 75% of the classes to receive credit in the course. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of class.
7. Promptness – A student who is late to class should check with me immediately after class in order not to be recorded as absent. Chronic lateness will be regarded the same as being absent.

Preparation and participation - Classes are intended to be interactive and student participation is essential. Students are expected to answer questions in class, participate in class exercises, class discussion and projects and complete homework assignments and other special assignments. Students are encouraged to ask pertinent questions in class and to bring pertinent articles of current events to present in class. No cell phone use is allowed during class. Any violation of this rule will adversely affect your class participation grade

4. Turn off all electronic devices (ex. cell phones, mp3 players, ipods)

Evaluation Procedures

Students will be evaluated on the following professional performance, knowledge, special projects, presentations and class assignments.

Two textbook examinations	200 pts
Risk Management Plan	100 pts
Mock Court Case (must participate and be present in all court sessions to receive all points)	100 pts
Case brief	<u>100 pts</u>
Total Points	500 pts

Grading Scale:

500-450 =A
 449-400 =B
 399-350= C
 349-300= D
 299 and below =F

Course Outline and Assignment Due Dates

Week 1	Course Introduction and Orientation. Overview of Trends, Risk and Legal Liability.
Week 2	Protection Issues and Governmental Immunity.
Week 3	The Legal Process and Insurance.
Week 4	Textbook Exam.
Week 5	The Negligence Cause of Action and Defenses of Negligence.
Week 6	Waivers and Agreements to participate in activities.
Week 7	Textbook Examination.
Week 8	Harm to Persons Trespass.
Week 9	Defenses to intentional Torts and Constitutional Right.
Week 10	Managing Sport and Recreation Activities.
Week 11	Case Brief
Week 12	Mock Case
Week 13	Case Presentations.
Week 14	Case Presentations.
Week 15	Final

Class Format, Reflection Process and Teaching Strategies Used in the Course

This course will be taught through traditional, active learning and electronic modes using lecture, discussion, group activities, multimedia presentations, PowerPoint, emails and Smart board to enrich learning. Collaborative learning groups will occur to facilitate the group process.

Technology Infused into this Course

Undergraduate candidates will be required to use email and the internet. PowerPoint and Smart board may be used for individual/group presentations. Assignments may be submitted via email.

Special Note: The Course Instructor reserves the right to make any and all required adjustments to the Course Sequence as deemed appropriate. **It is the student's responsibility and obligation to make-up and/or submit any-and all missed assignments given a university excuse.**