

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **SMGT 503**

#### **ETHICS IN SPORT**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course offers an introduction to ethics within the sporting context. The values promoted within sport will be examined along with common ethical dilemmas faced by those involved in sport. The course will cover issues ranging from fair play to sportsmanship to Title IX and drug use for performance enhancement.

#### **RATIONALE**

The values of sport and the basis for ethical decision making in sport will be examined. Moral significance of sport will be explored. This course is intended to develop and foster critical thinking skills, to learn and understand the philosophical and ethical background of sport, and to improve written and verbal communication skills.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Understand and apply the theoretical and foundational concepts that support ethical reasoning.
- B. Identify factors that influence his/her decision making and avoid negative factors that may impact his/her ability to be good citizens.
- C. Formulate arguments that will serve as a base for inquiry and resolving moral challenges.
- D. Develop a personal and professional ethical code.

## V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes.

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Each student will be required to participate in Discussion Board Forums in Modules/Weeks 3 and 6. Answers to the discussion questions should be well thought out, presented using good grammar and spelling, to the point, and be 400–500 words. The forums are graded and represent 100 points of the final course grade.

Each Discussion Board Forum will be divided into 2 parts: a thread in response to the instructor's prompt and a reply to 2 classmates' threads. Thus, in order to earn full credit for each forum, the student's interaction must include 1 thread, which must be submitted by Wednesday deadline and 2 replies which must be submitted by Sunday deadline. Each thread must be 400–500 words and should incorporate 1 scripture reference and at least 1 resource (e.g. textbook or a scholarly journal). Each reply must be at least 200 words and incorporate at least 1 citation. Discussion board posts must be made in accordance with current APA format.

D. Case Analysis (7)

There will be 7 case analyses taken from the *Sports Ethics for Sports Management Professionals* text. The student is required to analyze and thoroughly present the ethical and moral issues surrounding the topic in each case analysis. One case analysis is to be completed by the end of the module/week assigned; there are a total of 7 case studies to be analyzed.

The student will analyze and thoroughly present the case in paragraph form using current APA formatting (Times New Roman, 12-point font, and double spaced). Also included will be a title page, and reference page. No abstract required. The length of the case analysis will be 5–7 pages, which includes the title page and the reference page. Scholarly references and citations from the assigned reading are required in answering the case studies.

E. Personal Research Project

For this project, the student will be asked to describe how he/she will integrate what was learned in this course into his/her life. The student will need to reflect on the textbook readings and case analyses as well as his/her own current and future career choices and the possible linkages between those prospects and who he/she is. This 8–10-page project involves research into his/her personal ethical code, and possible alternative career choices, or plans for the student's future. In other words, the student will develop both 5- and 10-year goals of where he/she sees himself/herself, and then describe the path that he/she might take to reach those goals.. The Personal Research Project must be written according to current APA formatting (which includes title page and reference page and level headings). A total of 5 scholarly references and citations are required.

The intent of this assignment is for the student to consider potential future careers for himself/herself. The student's future could include: additional schooling, a job, a description of what an ideal job(s) look like, where the student wants to live, what kind of

family life he/she would choose, and what responsibilities the student sees himself/herself taking on. Basically, this is a plan for where the student’s life is going over the next 10 years. As part of this project, the student will need to identify his/her vision (cause), mission, and values from an ethical standpoint. Additional details on how to do this are found in the Assignment Instructions section of the course.

F. Quizzes (8)

The student will complete 8 open-book, open-notes quizzes encompassing material from the required text. The student will be given 1 hour to complete 10 multiple-choice and essay questions.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums	(2 at 50 pts each)	100
Personal Research Project		150
Case Analyses	(7 at 50 pts each)	350
Quizzes	(8 at 50 pts each)	400
<b>Total</b>		<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 F = 759 and below

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **SMGT 503**

Textbook: Thornton et al., *Sports Ethics for Sports Management Professionals* (2012).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Thornton et al.: ch. 1 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Case Analysis 1-4: Lowery v. Euverard Quiz 1	10 0 50 50
<b>2</b>	Thornton et al.: chs. 2–3 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis 1 presentation	Case Analysis 2-6: Mayer v. Belichick Quiz 2	50 50
<b>3</b>	Thornton et al.: ch. 4 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis 1 presentation	DB Forum 1 Case Analysis 4-15: Hagan v. Houston Independent School District Quiz 3	50 50 50
<b>4</b>	Thornton et al.: chs. 5–6 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis	Case Analysis 5-5: Ladd v. Uecher and Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club Quiz 4	50 50
<b>5</b>	Thornton et al.: ch. 7 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis	Case Analysis 7-2: Barron v. PGA Tour, Inc. Quiz 5	50 50
<b>6</b>	Thornton et al.: chs. 8, 10 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Case Analysis 8-6: “What’s in a Name?” Quiz 6	50 50 50
<b>7</b>	Thornton et al.: ch. 9 Thornton et al.: Case Analysis 1 presentation	Case Analysis 9.2: Bias v. Advantage International Quiz 7	50 50
<b>8</b>	Thornton et al.: chs. 11–12 1 presentation	Personal Research Project Quiz 8	150 50
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.