

**Eastern Washington University**  
*Department of Wellness and Movement Sciences*  
RCLS 400: Legal Foundations in Recreation and Leisure Services  
Winter 2022

**Course Information**

Instructor: Jeremy Jostad  
Office: PEC 243  
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Office Hours: Learning about you and your professional goals are important to me! Please take the time to visit my office hours at least once in the quarter. If you cannot make any of my office hours please let me know. I would be more than happy to make time to meet with you.  
Monday & Wednesday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm; or by appointment  
Class meets: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00-9:50 AM  
Locations: PC 104  
Credits: 4  
Prerequisites: None

**Course Description**

This course provides an introduction to the principles of legal foundations as they pertain to recreation and leisure services. An examination of the pervasive nature of risk as it pertains to the provision of recreation and leisure services along with the concepts and methods of risk management will be studied. Students will become familiar with a body of legal knowledge that will help them reduce liability exposure and manage the risks that are a part of the recreation profession.

**Text**

Spengler, J. O., & Hronek, B. B. (2011). *Legal liability in recreation, sports, and tourism* (4<sup>th</sup> ed). Champaign, IL: Sagamore.

\*Additional readings may be assigned and will be posted on Canvas

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. understand the nature of the American legal system and its relationship to governing bodies in recreation and leisure services.
2. be aware of the potential liability for injuries in the supervision, management, and conduct of recreation.
3. understand the rights and responsibilities of management, employees, participants, and clientele, and the potential for management liability.
4. develop a risk management plan and be able to apply them to a given recreation setting.
5. apply selected legal principles to cases involving civil rights and civil liberties of personnel, participants, and clientele.
6. increase awareness of current legal issues in sport and recreation

**COAPRT/Program Learning Outcomes to be addressed in this class:**

7.03 - Students graduating from the program shall be able to demonstrate entry-level knowledge about operations and strategic management/administration in parks, recreation, tourism and/or related professions.

## Assignments

### **Attendance**

Learning is a collaborative effort from everyone in the classroom. In order to learn most effectively you need to attend class. Students are able to miss four class sessions without any penalty, but will lose 25 points on their fifth absence and all 50 points on their sixth absence. Students who miss more than 6 classes will need to retake the class.

If you miss more than 15% of class time, you will have to retake the course.

4 credit course = More than 6 hours missed you will have to retake the course.

### **Participation**

I believe students learn best when they are actively engaged with the content. Students are expected to contribute to class discussions and actively participate in in-class exercises. We will be completing in-class assignments and each student should be helping to complete these assignments. If you are not in class, you cannot receive credit for these assignments. Please be ready to engage with others and the material throughout class.

### **Reading Quizzes**

Every week students will be expected to complete a reading quiz on Canvas. The purpose of the reading quiz is to ensure students understand the essential information of the material that is covered, which will enable us to do more discussion and activities in class. These quizzes are much easier if students complete all of their reading and are attentive in class. ***Reading quizzes can be found on Canvas and should be completed before class the day they are due. There are a total of 9 quizzes, however, a student's lowest quiz grade (or non-completed quiz) will be dismissed and not counted toward their final grade. These are the only assignments that cannot be turned in late.***

### **Case Synopsis**

Each student will select a case to review and write a synopsis of this case. Students will then present this information to the class on the date that we go over the relevant topic. Be thorough in your descriptions of the issues involved and in your explanations of the relevant points of law involved. Please see Canvas for a complete description of the write up.

### **Risk Management Plan**

This assignment will require that you combine your knowledge of liability and risk management. More information will be provided on this assignment on Canvas.

### **Exams**

There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam in this class. The mid-term will cover information discussed in the first half of the class and the final exam will cover material discussed in the second half of class. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.

### **Grading Breakdown**

Attendance	50 points
Participation	20 points
Reading quizzes	80 points
Case Synopsis (75 pts for write-up and 25 pts for presentation)	100 points
Risk Management Plan	100 points
Midterm exam	75 points
Final exam	<u>75 points</u>
Total	500 points

### **Grading and Evaluation Procedures**

Criteria for evaluation in this class include ordinary standards of good writing (clear expression; accurate punctuation, grammar, and spelling; well organized) and meeting specifications of individual assignments. Assignments must be handed in on or before announced deadlines. Assignments must be typed (10-12 point font) and double-spaced. Late assignments will be handled as outlined under “Course Procedures and Policy.” All required assignments must be completed to earn a course grade of C+ or higher.

<b>RCLS Grade Scale</b>			
Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	94-100	C	74-75
A-	90-93	C-	70-73
B+	86-89	D+	66-69
B	84-85	D	64-65
B-	80-83	D-	60-63
C+	76-79	F	59 and below

### **Course Policies**

#### **COVID-19 Protocols**

*COVID-19 Safety Protocols: Everyone is required to wear a face mask while attending this course. EWU requires all persons to wear masks while attending in-person activities for this course. Students who fail to abide by this safety protocol will be reminded of the protocol and asked to comply. If a student continues to not comply, the instructor may ask the student to leave the learning environment on an emergency basis due to the threat to others' health and safety. The student will not be allowed back in the learning environment until the student meets the safety protocols. This absence may impact the student's grade and will be counted as an unexcused absence. The student may also be referred to Student Rights & Responsibilities for failure to comply with EWU Policy 602-02 (Immunization) and the Governor's and university directives. If a student is not able to comply with the face mask protocol due to medical or disability-related reasons, they should immediately contact Student Accommodations and Support Services and request an accommodation.*

*Although this course is being offered in person, the university reserves the right to modify the method of delivering the course for health and safety reasons.*

#### **Attendance**

Each class period contains substantial and pertinent information for your success in this class. Students are expected to be in class from the beginning until the end of class. To be excused from class for university sponsored events (music, sports, conferences, etc) you must present written documentation **BEFORE MISSING CLASS**. A student who anticipates missing a class for excused absences is required to discuss this issue with the instructor during the first week of classes to determine the possible solutions or consequences.

### **Graded Work**

Grades are generally posted within 2 weeks of their due date on Canvas. When rubrics are used they will be posted on Canvas.

### **Late Work**

All assignments are due at the time listed on the assignment. Late assignments will be reduced 10% beginning the minute it is late, and continue to increase by 10% deduction per day including Saturday and Sunday (this does not apply to Reading Quizzes). **Assignments will not be accepted after one week.** It is your responsibility to see that your assignment has been received. If work is not turned in by the class period due and turned in on that day, it will be counted as one day late.

### **Extra Credit**

No extra credit is available. Please be aware of all assignment expectations and due dates.

### **Papers**

All reports and papers must be neatly typed using an acceptable word processor or converting the document to a readable format (i.e., “.doc” “.wpd” “.rtf” or “.pdf”). Grades will be lowered due to poor quality, organization, composition, grammar, and/or spelling. All work must be original (your own) unless cited by references.

### **References and Citations for Papers**

Quotes and concepts taken from other people's work must be cited and referenced, using a standard and consistent format (APA). Examples of appropriate forms are available in an APA Manual.

### **Academic Integrity**

- 1) Violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. Examples of academic dishonesty include misrepresenting others' work as your own, failure to provide proper citations in written text, stealing or destroying material intended for the use of other students, using notes or cell phones during exams, taking photographs of exams, assisting others during exams, copying someone else's work, letting his or her work be copied. *Any* violation of academic integrity for any assignment in this class may result in an XF grade *for the course as a whole*. An XF grade indicates that you failed the course for violating EWU's policy on academic integrity. For additional information regarding this issue, refer to the following link <http://access.ewu.edu/Undergraduate-Studies/Curriculum-and-Policies/Academic-Integrity.xml>.
- 2) Any form of academic dishonesty will be documented and reported to the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs. A student who cheats on a test, quiz or homework assignment (copying someone else's work, letting his or her work be copied, talking or sharing a calculator during an exam and other forms of cheating) will receive a zero on the assignment or assessment. Another incidence of cheating may result in a grade of XF for the quarter. (XF on a transcript indicates that a student received a 0.0 because he or she cheated.) For additional information regarding this issue, refer to the following link <http://access.ewu.edu/Undergraduate-Studies/Curriculum-and-Policies/Academic-Integrity.xml>.
- 3) EWU expects the highest standards of academic integrity of its students. Academic honesty is the foundation for a fair and supportive learning environment for all students. Personal responsibility for academic performance is essential for equitable assessment of student accomplishments. The university supports the faculty in setting and maintaining standards of academic integrity. Charges of academic dishonesty are reviewed through a process that allows for student learning and impartial review. EWU's academic integrity policy is available online at: <http://access.ewu.edu/Undergraduate-Studies/Curriculum-and-Policies/Academic-Integrity.xml>

- 4) **Statement on plagiarism and academic fraud:** Broadly speaking, plagiarism occurs when an author uses the words, ideas, and/or phrasing of another author (either directly or in paraphrase) without proper attribution. Cutting and pasting sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles written by someone else into your essay and then submitting it as your own is the obvious example. However, academic fraud is broader than this. For example, if you use the words of another author but fail to put quotation marks around them, that's plagiarism. Or if you put quotation marks around them but fail to provide a citation, that's plagiarism too. Using the notes or class materials of another student in the completion of an exam or other assignment (whether it's an in-class or take-home exam), is cheating. If you *provide* your notes/class materials to another student who then uses them to complete an assignment, that could be defined as cheating too.

EWU's academic integrity policy is available online at: <http://access.ewu.edu/Undergraduate-Studies/Curriculum-and-Policies/Academic-Integrity.xml>

### **Disability Support and ADA**

Eastern Washington University is committed to providing support for students with disabilities. If you are a student with physical, learning, emotional, or psychological disabilities needing an accommodation, you are encouraged to stop by Disability Support Services (DSS), TAW 124 and speak with Kevin Hills, the Manager of DSS, or call 509-359-6871.

### **Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action**

No person shall, on the basis of age, race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin or disability, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of Eastern Washington University. Eastern Washington University adheres to affirmative action policies to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.

### **Student Conduct**

Students are subject to the University's Student Conduct Code, which has been promulgated as a chapter in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) at Ch. 172-120. This code protects the interests of the University in providing an atmosphere supportive of student learning. In this class, students are expected to treat other individuals with respect and to engage in the learning activities assigned. Distractive, disruptive, irrelevant or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

### **Withdrawal/ Incomplete**

If it becomes necessary for you to withdraw from the course, it is your responsibility to do so. To receive an incomplete (X), a student must be passing the course when a verifiable documented emergency occurs after the last withdrawal date.

### **Syllabus Disclaimer**

This syllabus has been created as a guide to the class and is as accurate as possible. However, all information is subject to be modified as class needs change. Any changes will be posted and documented on the Canvas Announcement page.