

**San José State University**  
**CASA/Department of Kinesiology**  
**KIN 281, Legal Aspects of Sport, Spring 2022**

**Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Cole Armstrong & Dr. Justin Lovich
<b>Office Location:</b>	SPX 114
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 924-8932
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:cole.armstrong@sjsu.edu">cole.armstrong@sjsu.edu</a> (best way to reach me)
<b>Office Hours:</b>	W 11:00am – 1:00pm by appointment via Zoom/Google Meet
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	M 4:00pm – 6:45pm
<b>Classroom:</b>	SPX 153

**MYSJSU Messaging and Canvas**

In order to ensure that you receive all pertinent email communication, you must have a current and accurate email address in the MySJSU system. Please check to make sure your email is updated in MySJSU. Copies of course materials such as the syllabus (and major assignment handouts may be found on Canvas. For more information on setting up your account go to <http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/students>.

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an examination of the legal and ethical environment in which professional and amateur sports presently operate. Included will be a broad discussion of ethics, aspects of contract law, labor law, contract law and antitrust law, as they apply to the sport industry. Through knowledge dissemination (lectures), class participation (discussions and presentations), and professional inquiry, a variety of information regarding legal and ethical aspects of sport is introduced.

**Kinesiology Department Graduate Degree Program Student Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to:

1. Conduct and critique research using theoretical and applied knowledge.
2. Interpret and apply research findings to a variety of disciplines within Kinesiology.
3. Effectively communicate essential theories, scientific applications, and ethical considerations in Kinesiology.

4. Acquire skills to become agents of change to address issues in Kinesiology through the application of knowledge and research.

[http://www.sjsu.edu/kinesiology/learning\\_outcomes/](http://www.sjsu.edu/kinesiology/learning_outcomes/)

## Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Upon completion of Kinesiology 281, through well-prepared assignments and presentations, a high level of class participation, and satisfactory completion of examinations, the student will be able to:

- Understand the basics of the U.S. legal system.
- Explain the types of law that impact the management of sport organizations.
- Define and apply key legal terminology and fundamental concepts relevant to various areas of law including tort, contract, constitutional, antitrust, labor, and intellectual property law.
- Evaluate the potential liabilities associated with the management of a sport business and prepare a risk management plan.
- Understand and discuss major ethical theories and how these theories can be used to inform sport management practice.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

The following text is required for this course.

- Spengler, J.O., Anderson, P.M., Connaughton, D.P., & Baker, T.A. (2016). *Introduction to Sport Law*. Human Kinetics. ISBN: 9780736065320

## Definition of a Credit Hour

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minutes of direct faculty instruction and *six hours of out-of-class student work each week*.

## Library Liaison

Suzie Bahmanyar: [suzie.bahmanyar@sjsu.edu](mailto:suzie.bahmanyar@sjsu.edu)  
(408) 808-2100 Reference Desk  
(408) 808-2470 Student Computer Service

## **Teaching Strategies**

The course will be delivered in a hybrid manner via lecture with PowerPoint slides and through synchronous Zoom lectures. Class discussions (both in class and via Canvas) linked to relevant topics may be used to enhance lectures.

## **Assignments and Grading Policy**

### **Course Evaluation**

#### **Discussion Questions (10 points) (PLO: 1, 2, 3)**

Students will be required to post 2 discussion questions based on the readings of the week to Canvas by 1:00pm on the day of class meetings. Students should be aware of the questions their fellow classmates have asked and not repeat previously posted questions/material.

#### **Business Memos/Executive Summary (20 points) (PLO: 1, 2, 3)**

Following each chapter/class lecture, students will write an informative business memo/executive summary. The memo should be written as if you are providing an archive of the weekly information. The memo must demonstrate a clear grasp of the legal/ethical concepts discussed in each chapter/class.

Papers must be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced, one-inch margins, and one-two pages in length. Only Microsoft Word documents will be accepted (**.docx or .rtf**). Late submissions will *not* be accepted. Plagiarism will be considered a violation of the University Academic Honor Code. This includes copy/paste from another source and plagiarizing oneself. All papers must be original work for this class. Further information regarding this assignment will be posted on Canvas.

#### **Case Brief (20 points) (PLO: 1, 2, 3)**

Working in groups of two (2), students will select a legal case (and receive approval from the instructor) to research, read and analyze. Following this analysis, one student from the group will submit the group's written case brief, or summary of the case. Additional information about this assignment, including how to write a case brief and a rubric discussing how the assignment will be graded, will be available on Canvas.

The case brief must be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, single-spaced, one-inch margins, and two-three pages in length. Only Microsoft Word documents will be accepted (**.docx or .rtf**). See the course calendar for the due date. Late submissions will *not* be accepted.

#### **Presentation (15 points) (PLO: 1, 2, 3)**

Students will work in groups and will be required to present an assigned chapter from the textbook to the class. This presentation will serve as the daily lecture and will form the basis from which the week's class discussion will be drawn. Each group will be responsible for no less than 45 minutes of class time. Each group will be evaluated on the thoroughness of their presentation, the quality of the material presented, and their ability to engage the students with questions/materials/audio visuals, etc.

### **Final Paper (35 points) (PLO: 1, 2, 3)**

Students will complete a 15 page minimum paper informed by sport ethics/law scholarship. The instructor must approve of the topics for the final paper by week 4. Papers must be no more than 20 pages in length, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins. All writing must be utilizing current APA style guidelines, and utilize a minimum of 15 scholarly references. Rubric available on Canvas.

### **Grading**

A+ = 100-97%	A = 96.9-93%	A- = 92.9-90%
B+ = 89.9-87%	B = 86.9-83%	B- = 82.9-80%
C+ = 79.9-77%	C = 76.9-73%	C- = 72.9-70%
D+ = 69.9-67%	D = 66.9-63%	D- = 62.9-60%
F = 59.9-0%		

### **University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](#) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Audio or digital recording of class activity is prohibited without permission from the instructor.

**\*\*Syllabus is subject to change with advance notice from professor\*\***

## KIN 281 Course Schedule, Spring 2022

*This is a tentative schedule and as such is subject to change with fair notice. Advance notice for any changes will be provided by the professor.*

### Tentative Course Schedule

Wk	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment/Notes
1	1/31	Course Intro/Syllabus Review		***
2	2/7	Sport Ethics - Coaching		Readings on Canvas
3	2/14	Sport Ethics - Participation		Readings on Canvas
4	2/21	Paper Check in #1	NA	E/meeting between during week
5	2/28	Sport Ethics - Business		Readings on Canvas
6	3/7	US Legal System	Ch. 1	
7	3/14	Tort Law	Ch. 2	
8	3/21	Risk Management	Ch. 3	
SB	3/28	Spring Break	N/A	
10	4/4	Agency Law	Ch. 4	
11	4/11	Contract Law	Ch. 5	
12	4/18	Employment Law	Ch. 6	
13	4/25	Antitrust Law	Ch. 10	
14	5/2	Paper Check in #2	NA	Case Brief Due: Canvas
15	5/9	Sport Ethics/Book Discussion		Readings on Canvas
16	5/16	Course Wrap Up Paper Discussion		
	TBD	Final Exam		

\*\*\* Make sure to monitor the Canvas site for additional readings/materials.

Dr. Armstrong Classes

Dr. Lovich Classes