

College of Health and Human Services
Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport

RSA 542 Investigations of Current Issues in Interscholastic Athletics
Course Syllabus
(Spring 2024)

Course Title: Investigations of Current Issues in Interscholastic Athletics

Course Prefix Number: RSA 542

Instructor: Dr. Christopher L. Gaddis

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Office: N/A

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course is designed for students to be able to identify, describe, explain, and present research as needed on critical issues related to interscholastic athletics.

Objectives:

Identify key policy issues that exist in interscholastic athletics.

Discuss the relevance of athletics in the education setting.

Explore the effects of participation on the health and wellbeing of student athletes.

Explain the relationship that athletics has with diversity issues such as race, gender, ethnicity, etc.

Course Format:

This online course consists of six (6) assignments and related discussions. Each assignment consists of related readings and the creation of a paper corresponding to the topic. The online class sessions are asynchronous and allow students to work within specified time parameters for each section. There are no scheduled online lectures for this course. Students will complete the assignments and submit them on or before the required submission date. Detailed instructions will be posted on Blackboard.

Prerequisites: Graduate student status at WKU.

Class Location: Internet: <https://blackboard.wku.edu/>

Text: None required

University Policies:

The instructor is available to assist you:

Dr. Christopher L. Gaddis, Adjunct Professor

AAB# 2 Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport

Western Kentucky University

Bowling Green, KY. 42101

- Class participation: This is an online course and you must be disciplined to complete assignments on time. You are a part of a class and will communicate with your classmates on assignments and class participation is required!
- Someone could be a part of this class that lives anywhere in the world. Please check announcements for any current or relevant information involving class activities.
- Email is one of the best methods for communication in this class. Remember, that anything you write can be viewed by others. Each email should deal with one subject or one assignment. Each email or assignment should be concise but include all relevant information. **For the email subject, it is important that you use RSA 542 and your name.**
- Academic Honesty: Information about WKU Academic Offenses can be found in the Student Handbook online. If a student in this class commits one of these offenses, it will be reported to the Office of Student Life for disciplinary sanction. The student may also receive a failing grade for the class.
- ADA Accommodation Statement - In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu . Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.
- Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement - Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigator, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

- The U.S. Department of Education requires that distance education courses must include regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty. For more information about Regular and Substantive Interaction at WKU, please visit the [Regular and Substantive Interaction in Online and Distance Learning webpage](#).

In this course, regular and substantive interaction will take place in the following way:

- Assessing and providing feedback on a student's coursework
- Providing information or responding to questions about the content of a course or competency
- Setting assignments and assignment deadlines throughout the term of the class
- Interaction with students frequently and students grow to expect it
- Other instructional activities approved by WKU or SACSCOC

Class Policies:

- All class correspondence will be done via your WKU email account and WKU Blackboard. It is your responsibility to check these regularly.
- You will need access to a computer with a reliable internet connection.
- Technological problems are not an excuse for submitting assignments late. If you experience computer problems or you have problems with a WKU site or technology product, call the helpdesk at 270-745-7000 or log onto their website www.wku.edu/helpdesk. Then contact me via email with a case number and I will resolve the problem from my end if it is necessary.
- I am always available to answer your questions via email, and will respond within 24 hours.
- The penalty for plagiarism or cheating of any kind will be a zero for the assignment.

Attendance:

The university policy states "Registration in a course obligates the student to be regular and punctual in class attendance." Since this is an online course, the student is expected to participate in class postings and submit materials by the due date. You are responsible for all course information, reading, class discussions, and assignments. This course is designed so that students can work at their own pace, however there are specific deadlines for each assignment. You are responsible for submitting all material in on time.

Assignments:

- All assignments/discussions are due on or before 12:00 midnight (CST) on the assigned date.
- All assignments must be submitted via Blackboard. Assignments submitted via email WILL NOT be accepted.
- All assignments will be explained in detail on Blackboard.
- This is a graduate level course, so all assignments must be in APA format.

Scoring Rubrics:

All **projects** will be graded by the instructor utilizing the following Scoring Indicators:

5---Demonstrates complete understanding of the problem. All requirements of the task are included in the response.

4---Demonstrates considerable understanding of the problem. All requirements of the task are included.

3---Demonstrates partial understanding of the problem. Most requirements of the task are included.

2---Demonstrates little understanding of the problem. Many requirements of the task are missing.

1---Demonstrates no understanding of the problem.

Grades:

Grades are based on an accumulated point system.

- Introduction: 100 pts. (1) = 100 pts.
- Assignments: 100 pts. (6) = 600 pts.
- Discussions: 50 pts. (6) = 300 pts.
- TOTAL = 1000 pts.**

Grading Scale:

900 – 1000 = A
800 – 899 = B
700 – 799 = C
600 – 699 = D
Below 600 = F

NOTE: Sometimes there are situations beyond your control that might cause you not to submit an assignment by the suggested time/date. If you find yourself in this situation, contact the instructor and request additional time to complete your assignment(s). All reasonable requests will be granted; however, all assignments must be completed by **Thursday, May 2, 2024**. If you experience difficulty submitting your assignments via WKU Blackboard, contact the instructor ASAP.

APA Quick Reference Guide

- APA formatting for title page, body, referencing and bibliography
- Cover page
- Use the standard margins of 1 inch.
- Double space text
- Text is left-aligned
- Use the standard font “Times New Roman”, Size 12.
- Indentations of five spaces. Do not create extra spaces between paragraphs.
- Place page numbers in upper right corner of the page.

For these assignments, there are no limits on the number of pages or references. However, this is a graduate course, and the expectation is quality graduate level work.

The instructor reserves the right to make necessary changes to this syllabus, schedule, and assignments during the course. Students will be notified in advance of any such changes.