**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

School of Sport, Recreation, and Tourism Management

*SPMT 480 The European Model of Sport (3)*

Summer 2025

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DAY/TIME:** | May/2025 |  | **LOCATION:** | Online/face to face Europe |
| **PROFESSOR** | Dr. Margaret Jones |  | **EMAIL ADDRESS** | mjones15@gmu.edu |
| **OFFICE LOCATION:** | Krug Hall 211 |  | **PHONE NUMBER:** | 703-993-9923 |
| **OFFICE HOURS:** | By Appointment |  | **FAX NUMBER:** | 703-993-9707 |
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**PREREQUISITES**

None.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

SPMT 480 – The European Model of Sport is a study abroad program that takes students on a seminar through Europe, giving them a unique ﬁrsthand experience in international sports. The course is designed to introduce students to the European model of sport management, marketing, and sport law; and to provide students with an understanding of the changing context for sport in a global society. Participants will attend lectures from European sport executives, conduct student workshops, participate in organized class discussions as well as activities, and tour sport facilities. The seminar will cover several countries and cities in Europe.

Representatives of top international sport organizations will present a wide range of issues during the program. Topics will include the structure and characteristics of European sports, marketing and management in European sports, sports law, professional soccer, cycling, etc.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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

1. Express their ideas to one another and to the instructor,
2. Create logical, consistent, clear arguments that he/she can defend,
3. Develop an ability to identify sport related issues in a different country/culture/ society along with being able to compare how sport is delivered in the US with European countries;
4. Utilize skills in critical thinking and ethical decision making in the exploration of global sport issues,
5. Be able to separate opinion from fact in one’s own and others’ thinking and be able to express these differently,
6. Work together to generate reasonable alternatives and solutions to problems that exist in the world of sport in Europe,
7. Demonstrate an increased potential for contributing to the improvement of sports as a participating professional,
8. Gain an increased understanding of how sport operates in and acts on society in other cultures.

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

Unless otherwise noted, **all written papers will be submitted electronically via email**.

Assignments will be due on the specified date**.** **All written papers are to be submitted using WORD (with a .doc or .docx file extension)**

**INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS**

1. All assigned readings and assignments for each session are expected to be completed prior to attending.
2. All written assignments must be typed in APA format (computer word processing is recommended).
3. Attendance and participation are **REQUIRED**. Attendance will be monitored and attendance is defined as arriving on time for sessions and remaining in class/at lecture location.

**CLASS ATTENDANCE**

It enhances your academic success to be in every scheduled session both online and on location; therefore, you MUST ATTEND ALL scheduled sessions. Students are expected to attend the class/lecture periods of the courses for which they register and attend those classes **on time**. Participation is important not only to the individual student, but to the class as a whole. Because class participation is a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation.

**PARTICIPATION**

Respect the free exchange of thought in an academic environment and the participants therein. You are encouraged to a) feel free to openly and respectfully contribute your thoughts; b) listen actively to the comments of others; c) be punctual; d) ask any and all appropriate questions that you have; and e) maintain civility in your interpersonal communications. Discussions will be conducted in a civil, informed fashion. Your contributions are not only welcomed, they are essential; this is especially true with a study abroad course like this one.

**ALTERNATIVE WORK**

There is NO make-up work. Only those excused absences supported by documentationwill be addressed at the instructor’s discretion on an individual basis (e.g. a physician’s note for an illness). Alternative work due to intercollegiate athletic competitions or other legitimate university activity must be arranged **PRIOR** to due date. A grade of ‘0’ will be assigned to all missed work unless otherwise determined by the instructor. You are strongly encouraged to hand assignments in on time.

**GRADING** ***There will be NO extra credit.***

The instructor is solely responsible for assigning grades. As such, the instructor reserves the right to assess student performance in each of the categories identified in the EVALUATION section of this syllabus. Student non-compliance with stated academic, honor, attendance, or participation expectations will result in a ‘0’ for the associated evaluation.

**NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY**

Hybrid (Online sessions but primarily experiential with some in person lectures and tours)

**REQUIRED READINGS**

Handouts provided by the instructor or lecturers on the trip.

This course will be graded on a percentage

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| **GRADING SCALE** | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | = 94 – 100 |  | B+ | = 88 – 89 |  | C+ | = 78 – 79 |  | D | = 60 – 69 |
| A- | = 90 – 93 |  | B | = 84 – 87 |  | C | = 74 – 77 |  | F | = 0 – 59 |
|  |  |  | B- | = 80 – 83 |  | C- | = 70 – 73 |  |  |  |

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| **REQUIREMENTS** | **% of Grade** |
| **Attendance, Enthusiasm and Participation:** Students are expected to attend *all sessions, arriving on time*, behave professionally and participate in active discussions and lectures before, during and post-trip. | 25% |
| **Biographical Sketches and Narrative Descriptions:** Students are required to research countries, cities, organizations and locations that will be visited during the course of the trip and create a series of biographical sketches and narrative descriptions for use throughout the trip. | 20% |
| **Daily Travel Log, Photo Essay and Presentation:**Students are required to keep a travel log of no less than 1 page per entry describing events occurring the previous day, along with taking photos daily. | 30% |
| **Reflective Paper, Video and Presentation:**  Students are required to write a 4-page paper describing their study abroad experience in general, with notable sites and lectures along with a comparison/contrast of the European Model of Sport, to the US model. This paper is not limited to a discussion of sport and it is expected the student will also relate historical and cultural experiences on the trip. Each student will have to make an oral presentation with slides and a short video clip. | 25% |
| **Total** | 100% |

**\*\*EXAMPLE OF POSSIBLE COURSE SCHEDULE**

| **Date** | | | **Topics and Activities** | **Readings and Assignments Due** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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|  | April |  | **Pre-Trip Session # 1**  Introduction to the European Model of Sport, discussion of itinerary, rules, expectations and assignments | **R** - Handout # 1 |
|  |  | **Pre-Trip Session # 2**  Discussion of all individuals, sports organizations, history and locations students have researched prior to the trip | **A** - Biographical Sketches & Narrative Descriptions |
|  | May |  |  | **N/A** |
|  |  |  | **N/A** |
|  |  |  | **A** – Travel Log # 1  *\*\*Each log includes photos* |
|  |  |  | **A-**Travel Log #2 |

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|  | May |  |  | **A** – Travel Log # 3 |
|  |  |  | **A** – Travel Log # 4 |
|  |  |  | **A** – Travel Log # 5 |
|  |  |  | **A** – Travel Log # 6 |
|  |  |  | **A** – Travel Log # 7 |
|  |  |  | **A** – Travel Log #8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Post-Trip Session** – (online or face to face)  Debriefing, presentations and discussing the experience | **A**-Reflective paper and video |

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.*

**GMU Policies and Resources for students**

**Policies**

Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/).

Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).

Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.

Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see http://ods.gmu.edu/).

Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

**Campus Resources**

Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20.

Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/.

For information on student support resources on campus, see https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <http://cehd.gmu.edu/>.

*Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:*

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

**PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

**CORE VALUES COMMITMENT**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

