

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**Sport Law and Risk Management
FITN 124**

I. Basic Course Information

- A. Course Number and Title: FITN 124 Sports Law and Risk Management
- B. New or Modified Course: Modified
- C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2018
- D. Effective Term: Fall 2019**
- E. Sponsoring Department: Health Science Education
- F. Semester Credit Hours: 3
- G. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: 3
Laboratory: 0
Out of class student work per week: 6
- H. Prerequisites/Corequisites: None
- I. Laboratory Fees: None
- J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval:
Beryl Stetson, beryl.stetson@raritanval.edu, 908 526-1200 x8208
Terence Lynn, Terence.lynn@raritanval.edu, 908 526-1200 x8512

II. Catalog Description

This course studies factors essential to the safe delivery of exercise programs, sports activities and sporting events as well as providing an understanding of the legal system and application of that knowledge to the sports profession. Students will learn professional standards required in the development and implementation of programs in sport and physical activity as well as procedures for managing common program elements such as crowd control and transportation.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. This course will give the student an understanding of the legal system and its application to the sports profession, recognize the legal roles and responsibilities of sport governing bodies and learn how to apply U.S. tort liability laws to sport organizers and participants. In addition, the student will learn the importance of risk management in the sport industry and recognize and apply procedures for managing and reducing potential losses associated with common elements in a variety of sporting programs.
- B. There is no lab component.
- C. This course generally transfers as a Sports Management program requirement. This course generally transfers as an Exercise Science program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course meets a program requirement for the Associate of Science degree in Exercise Science, Option in Sports Management. This course is an elective in the Exercise Science A.S degree.
- C. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

- A. Sport and the Law
 - 1. Overview of the Legal System
 - a. Sources of Regulation in Sport and Physical Activity
 - b. The Litigation Process
 - 2. Legal Research
 - a. Performing a comprehensive search
 - b. Understanding legal databases
 - 3. Exclusion vs. Inclusion
 - 4. Employment
 - 5. Contracts
- B. Role of Governing Bodies
- C. Liability
 - 1. Tort Liability
 - 2. Product Liability
 - 3. Referees and Game Officials
 - 4. Player Violence
- D. Personal Rights and Expectations
 - 1. Amendment Issues (1st, 4th, 5th and 14th
- E. Risk Management in Sport Administration
 - 1. Introduction and Overview of Risk Management in sport

2. Management of Risk and Safety
 - a. Participant Safety
 - b. Emergency and Contingency Planning
 - c. OSHA Requirements and Workers Comp
 - d. Transportation and Crowd Control
 - e. Employee/Volunteer Selection
 - f. Training and Management
- F. Activity Specific Examples and Resources 3

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Research legal issues and present their findings in writing. (GE-1, IL*)
2. Apply risk management concepts and principles in activity specific settings (such as fitness, athletic fields, and whitewater activities) and present their findings. (GE-1)
3. Use technological tools, such as LexisNexis, for legal research. (GE- 4, IL*)

*embedded critical thinking

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize legal roles and responsibilities of key sport governing bodies.
2. Apply U.S. tort liability laws to sport officials, management, coaches, athletes and spectators.
3. Apply the laws regarding inclusion and exclusion of individuals based upon race, gender and disabilities.
4. Recognize and apply appropriate professional standards in the development and implementation of programs of sport and physical activity.
5. Recognize and apply alternative procedures for managing the potential losses associated with common program elements

C. Assessment Instruments

1. research papers
2. projects
3. homework
4. tests/quizzes
5. case studies

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. research papers
- B. projects
- C. tests
- D. presentations

Given the goals and outcomes described above, LIST the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. research paper
- D. student oral presentation
- E. student collaboration

VIII. Texts and Materials

- A. Mitten, Governance and Regulation, 2nd Ed. , 2016, Wolters Kluwer ISBN - I9781454869788

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. RVCC Library
- B. RVCC Computer lab
- C. Lexis Nexis

X. Honors Options: n/a