



SPRING 2026 COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number: 392-R01

Course Title: Sports Law

Credit Hours: 2

Grading Mode: Letter graded

Meeting Time(s): Thursday 8:10p-10:10p

Meeting Mode: Online - zoom

Exam Time(s): TBD

Exam Mode: Take home final exam

Prerequisite(s): N/A

Corequisite(s): N/A

Instructor(s):

Todd Flanagan

Contact Information and Office Hours:

tflanag1@GMU.EDU

Office hours by appointment only

Reading(s) & Supplement(s):

[Sports Law and Regulation: Cases, Materials, and Problems, SIXTH Edition](#) by Matthew J. Mitten, Timothy Davis, N Jeremi Duru, Barbara Osborne

Course Overview:

The course will chart the development of professional league sports. How the interplay of contract, tort, agency, anti-trust, and labor law created professional sports as we know them today.

Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the major cases in each area and the legal concepts which govern professional sports.

Grading Policies:

Participation %: 20

For each class, be prepared to discuss the assigned reading and any notes, questions, or problems from the text. Reading material in *italics* will be posted on TWEN.

Final Exam/ Paper %: 50

Additional Content %: 30

Three quizzes worth 10% each.

Quizzes and Final will primarily be short answer with some multiple choice.

Classroom Policies:

Attendance: Per AR 3-1.4, “maintenance of matriculation requires regular class preparation, participation and attendance, registration in the course of study required for the student’s program (full-time or part-time), successive registration for each fall and spring term of each academic year until study is completed, and compliance with all other relevant requirements.”

Absences: Per AR 4-1.1, “if a student is absent for any reason for more than 20 percent of the sessions of a course, the student is not eligible for credit in that course. A student who is not present for at least 75 percent of a session of the course is absent from that session.”

Use of Technology & AI:

Open Use Policy: Students may use generative AI tools in this course and are authorized to use AI for any purpose during this course except during any quiz or exam. Students must use AI tools responsibly, verify facts presented by AI, disclose when AI tools are used to create course work product, properly cite any AI tools utilized, and should be prepared to produce the transcript of prompts and responses upon request. Misuse will be treated as a violation of academic standards.

Use of Electronic Text Books During Exams:

Students are permitted one laptop computer for exam taking purposes. Additional laptop computers or any other electronic data storage devices are not allowed in an exam

room, unless permitted by the course instructor's *written* exam instructions. Electronic text books (e-books) may be used during exams that are designated as open book by the instructor, and the instructor allows text books to be used during the exam and allows access to a student's computer files during the exam (open exam). E -books may not be used in exams where the instructor does not allow students to access their computer files during the exam (secure exam) even if the instructor permits access to text books. If the instructor has blocked access to the internet or computer files, you must bring a hard copy of the allowed text book(s) you wish to consult. Students will need to borrow or otherwise locate a hard copy of the e -book or print resources needed from the e-book to take into the exam room. The instructor determines the length of the examination and whether or not it is secure or open and what, if any, study materials are permitted during the exam. Students are responsible for adhering to the instructor's standards for all examinations, which are included in the examination materials.

Course Schedule & Assignments

Week 1 - Introduction to Sports Law / Pro Sports League Governance

pp. 1-18, 327-346

Week 2 - Intro to Antitrust

pp. 346 - 402

Week 3 - Labor Relations pp. 403 – 441

1944 NFL Player Contract (informational only)

Week 4 – Labor Relations

pp. 442 - 487

Week 5 – Antitrust and Labor Law

pp. 488 – 523

Week 6 - Agents

pp. 531 – 579

Week 7 – Agents

pp. 580 - 597

HA Artists

Wallace v. Branion

NFLPA v. Olken

Week 8 – Sports Torts - Liability

pp. 759 – 807

Week 9 – Sports Torts - Liability

pp. 807 – 838

Week 10 - College NIL

Reading – TBD

Week 11 – College Athletics

pp. 93-141

Week 12 – College Athletics

pp. 141-175

Week 13 – College Athletics

pp. 175-182, 216-226

Student Resources

[Antonin Scalia Law School Academic Regulations](#)

[GMU Common Course Policies Addendum](#)

[Mason Square Services](#)

[Mason Square Police](#)

Van Metre Hall, Room 110

Emergency - Dial 911

Escort Services - 703-993-8070

Dispatch – 703-993-2810

[Student Support and Advocacy Center \(SSAC\)](#)

Mason Square Sexual Assault Services:

Van Metre Hall, Room 222D

703-993-8186

Notice of Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Interpersonal Violence, and Stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Non-Confidential Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If a student wishes 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. Students may also seek assistance or support measures from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

[Mason Square Clinic](#)

Van Metre Hall, Room B102

703-991-2831

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#)

[Student Health Services](#)

[Student Disability Services](#)

[Student Conduct](#)

[University Life](#)