# RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

# FITN 124 Sports Law & Risk Management

#### I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: FITN 124 Sports Law & Risk Management
B. New or Modified Course: Modified
C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2023
D. Effective Term: Fall 2024
E. Sponsoring Department: Health Science Education
F. Semester Credit Hours: 3
G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3  Laboratory: 0  Out of class student work per week: 6
<ul> <li>H. □ Prerequisite (s):</li> <li>□ Corequisite (s):</li> <li>□ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s):</li> </ul>
I. Additional Fees: None
J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval:
Chair: Linda Romaine, Linda.Romaine@raritanval.edu
Dean: Dr. Sarah Imbriglio, Sarah.Imbriglio@raritanval.edu

# **II. Catalog Description**

This course will focus on and explore how sports and law interact and co-exist. Law plays an integral role in our society and is present in all areas of organized sports and risk management. Students will be able to examine key concepts of the law that apply to and impact the world of sports. Students will develop skills to analyze various legal disciplines as they apply to sports and the field of risk management and demonstrate an understanding of how basic legal principals are applied in practice as they relate to athletics and risk management.

#### 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 in this course.

C.

- 1. This course generally transfers as an exercise science program requirement dependent on transfer institution.
- 2. This course generally transfers as a health and physical fitness program elective dependent on transfer institution.

## IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective.
- B. This course meets a program requirement for Associate of Science in Exercise Science degree program.
- C. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, <a href="www.njtransfer.org">www.njtransfer.org</a>; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

## V. Outline of Course Content

- A. Introduction to Sports Law
  - I. Overview of the Legal System
    - i. Fundamental components of a legal case
  - II. The Litigation Process and Procedure
  - III. The Constitution & Government Structure
- B. Safety and Risk Management
  - a. Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure
  - b. Torts & Personal Injury Law
  - c. Liability in Athletics
- C. Sports Medicine & Compensation
  - a. Contingency Planning & Response to Emergencies in Sports
  - b. Medical Malpractice & Workers Compensation law
- D. Legal Relationships between University & Student-Athletes/Franchises & Professional Athletes
  - a. Contract Law
  - b. NCAA Internal Governance

- c. Education, Athletics & Name, Image & Likeness
- E. Historical & Current Equality Issues in Athletics
  - a. Gender Equality
  - b. Racial Equality
- F. Professional Sports League Governance
  - a. Structure of Professional Sports
- G. Professional Sports Labor Law & Labor Relationships
  - a. Collective Bargaining Agreements in Sports
  - b. Dispute Resolution
- H. The Athlete-Agent Industry
  - a. Representing Players & Team
  - b. Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility

## VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

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

- 1. Produce a written paper and present findings to the class about a significant legal case or sporting event that set legal precedent. (GE-IL)
- 2. Construct and defend legal and policy arguments to support opposing positions and viewpoints in writing or orally. (GE-1, IL)\*
- 3. Recognize, and explain in writing or via presentation, ways in which laws affect sport related incidents as well as identify circumstances that warrant consideration and application of those laws. (GE-1)\*.

#### **B.** Assessment Instruments

- 1. Writing Assignments
- 2. In-class participation brainstorming exercise
- 3. Research Project, Paper, Presentation
- 4. Case Students
- 5. Quizzes/Examinations

#### VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Class Participation
- B. Writing Assignments
- C. Quizzes/Examinations
- D. Research Project

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

<sup>\*</sup>Embedded critical thinking

- C. Research Paper
- D. Student Oral Presentations
- E. Student Collaboration

### VIII. Texts and Materials

LIST which of the following types of course materials will be used. Specify title and publication information about textbooks and any other major text sources or other materials.

A. Mitten, *Governance and Regulation*, 2nd Ed., 2016, Wolters Kluwer ISBN - 19781454869788

(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

X. Check One: □Honors Course □Honors Options ⊠ N/	X.	<b>Check One:</b>	□Honors	Course	□ Honors (	<b>Options</b>	$\boxtimes$ N/
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