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American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

**Department of Sports and Health Sciences
SPMT699
Sports Management Practicum and Integration Project
3 Credit Hours
16 weeks**

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Instructor Information

[*\(Biography\)*](#)

Instructor:
Email:
Phone:
Office Hours:

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Course Description (Catalog)

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The Masters of Science in Sports Management is a multi-faceted degree that allows a student to select one of three areas of specialization within Sports Management including Sports Administration, Coaching Theory and Strategy, and General. At its core the Sports Management program seeks to develop an advanced understanding of the Sports industry from either a Coaches point of view or the Administrative point of view. The ability to apply learning to practice is a key requirement for demonstrated success in learning. To achieve and demonstrate learning, a practicum and integration seminar is offered to students in this degree as an alternative to the comprehensive exam. This option can be undertaken by any student seriously interested in the integration and application of theory and practice. Students selecting this option are exempt from comprehensive exams. The course requires that the student:

- Identify and obtain approval for an organization or project of interest.
- Select and obtain an approval for a workplace mentor.
- Complete a 120 hour practicum in the approved organization under the guidance of the mentor.
- Keep a log of work completed to be signed by the mentor.
- Submit a 25 page integrative applied research paper using Kolb's experiential learning cycle as the basis for reflection on that experience. The experiential or practical component of the class aims to apply learning in an aspect of interest related to the degree and concentrations of the student's areas of specialization. It is understood to be a supervised practicum that requires approval by APUS before entering into the relationship with the organization. The selection of an organization or site for the practicum must relate to the content of the student's course work and/or concentration. Goals of the applied practicum and integration seminar will be submitted by the student for approval using an application for approval to the Faculty member, Program Director and Dean of Graduate Studies. The organization will serve as an opportunity to experience the practice of an area of Sports Management related to the focus of the student's degree. This option will act as a capstone of the student's program. Students are eligible for enrollment upon successful completion of all core requirements.

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Course Scope

It is important for graduate students to culminate their degree experience with a comprehensive final exam, paper, and/or experience. This integration practicum forces the student to: (a) rise above individual courses to reach a comprehensive understanding of theory and first principles in their respective academic discipline; (b) use the knowledge gained in individual courses as the foundation from which such comprehensive understanding is reached; (c) obtain real life experience in their area of concentration to integrate theory and practice; and (d) reflect upon their experience in the completion of a reflection paper.

To achieve and demonstrate learning, a practicum and integration seminar is offered to students in this degree as an alternative to the comprehensive exam. This option can be undertaken by any student seriously interested in the integration and application of theory and practice. Students selecting this option are exempt from comprehensive exams. The course requires that the student:

- Identify and obtain approval for an organization or project of interest.

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- Select and obtain an approval for a workplace mentor.
- Complete a 120 hour practicum in the approved organization under the guidance of the mentor.
- Keep a log of work completed to be signed by the mentor.
- Submit a 25 page integrative applied research paper

The experiential or practical component of the class aims to apply learning in an aspect of interest related to the degree and concentrations of the student's areas of specialization. It is understood to be a supervised practicum that requires approval by APUS before entering into the relationship with the organization. The selection of an organization or site for the practicum must relate to the content of the student's course work and/or concentration and not be part of a student's current employment organization. Goals of the applied practicum and integration seminar will be submitted by the student for approval to the course instructor.

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Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, students will fulfill the following **Learning Objectives** (L.O.):

1. Identify and obtain approval for an organization or project of interest related to your concentration and/or area of study in order to demonstrate learning and apply concepts to practice.
2. Select and obtain an approval for a workplace mentor to guide your work during your practicum.
3. Synthesize, integrate and apply management theory to an identified practice of sports management.
4. Refine skills in critical reflection and analysis through completion of a reflection log.
5. Evaluate and develop theory in the context of sports management practice.
6. Complete a 120 – 150 hour practicum in a professor approved organization under the guidance of the mentor.
7. Integrate theory and practiced through submission of an applied research paper using Kolb's experiential learning cycle as the basis for reflection on that experience demonstrating the student's ability to review, synthesize, and analyze theory and their experience based upon the literature and their course of study.
8. Demonstrate integration of concepts, theories, and practice as a result of completion of core and required course work for the Masters in Sports Management Degree.

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Course Delivery Method

This SPMT699 Sports Management Practicum and Integration Project course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. **Online assignments are due by Sunday evening** of the week as noted and include Discussion Board questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded discussion board), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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Course Materials

Required Course Textbook:

There are no required textbooks for this course. However, all students should review all textbooks and supplemental materials used in the various courses taken during their graduate studies at APU/AMU.

Required Readings:

See Course Outline

Additional Resources:

In the Course Materials folder there are additional course articles, and up to date APA handouts.

Websites

In addition to the required course texts the following public domain Websites are useful. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

Site Name	Website URL/Address
The OWL at Purdue	http://owl.english.purdue.edu/
APA Style Homepage	http://www.apastyle.org/index.aspx
North American Society of Sports Management	http://www.nassm.org/

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Evaluation Procedures	
Graded Assignment	Point Value
Discussion Forum Postings Weeks 1-15	50
Identification and Selection of Organization	5
Theory, Concept, Reference Summary	25
Program of Study and Your Goals for the Practicum	5
Theory, Concept, and References	10
Letter of Invitation and Commitment	5
Practicum Log	100
Final Practicum Integration Paper	100

Total	300

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16 – Week Course Outline

<u>Lesson</u>		<u>Learning</u>	
<u>Week</u>	<u>Lesson Title</u>	<u>Objectives</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
1	Introduction and Welcome Writing Your Goals and Objectives	1, 5	Course Begins Discussion Board I Participation (Student Introduction) First student/faculty coaching interaction Assignment 1: Program of Study and your Goals
2	Identify Work place locations or organizations to meet your individual learning objectives or goals	1, 2	Assignment #2: Selection/Identification of a Practicum Location Obtain Professor Approval for this practicum.

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			Discussion Board Participation #2 First coaching Interaction with Professor is complete
3	Introduction to the practice/reflection log Introduction to the final reflective paper and Kolb's methods	1, 2	Continue Assignment #2 until final approval of professor is obtained. Discussion Board Participation #3
4	Practicum Reflection Log	1,2, 3, , 8	Discussion Board Participation #4 Assignment 3 Receive confirmation letter from work organization and commitment from on site mentor Assignment 4 Bibliography and Reference List related to practicum
5	Practicum Reflection Log	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	Discussion Board Participation #5 Assignment 5 Theory and Concept Summary for Practicum Assignment 6 Reflection Log
6	Practicum Reflection Log	3,4,4,5,7	Discussion Board Participation #6 Assignment 7 Reflection Log
7	Practicum Reflection Log	3,4,5,6	Discussion Board Participation #7 Assignment 7 Reflection Log Second contact with Professor via phone or chat
8	Practicum Reflection Log	3, 4,5,6	Discussion Board Participation #8 Assignment 7 Reflection Log
9	Practicum Reflection Log	3,4,5,6	Discussion Board Participation #9 Assignment 7 Reflection Log

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10	Practicum Reflection Log	3,4,5,6	Discussion Board Participation #10 Assignment 7 Reflection Log
11	Practicum Reflection Log	3,4,5,6	Discussion Board Participation #11 Submit Assignment 7 Reflection Log Third Interaction/call with professor
12	Complete Section I of Reflection Paper	3,4,7	Discussion Board Participation #12 Submit section I & II of paper for feedback if desired
13	Complete Section II of Reflection Paper	3,4,8	Discussion Board Participation #13 Submit section III and IV of paper for feedback if desired
14	Complete section III of Reflection Paper	3,4,8	Discussion Board Participation #14 Submit section III and IV of paper for feedback if desired
15	Complete section IV of Reflection Paper	3, 4,8	Discussion Board Participation #15 Assignment #8 Paper
16	Wrap Up Class	4	Final Discussion Board Participation #16

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference the University's grading scale

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Policies

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

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[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. It is recommended that students try to adhere to a consistent format, which is described below.

- Typewritten in double-spaced format with a readable style and font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor).
- Arial 11 or 12-point font or Times New Roman styles.
- Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation made for special situations and online submission variances.

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Style Manual, 6th Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation used in the APA Style Manual, 6th Edition.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

NETIQUETTE

Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate--both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting--basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks, or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Educator classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and--especially--satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

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Academic Services

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Turnitin.com:** [Turnitin.com](http://turnitin.com) is a tool to improve student research skills that also detect plagiarism. Turnitin.com provides resources on developing topics and assignments that encourage and guide students in producing papers that are intellectually honest, original in thought, and clear in expression. This tool helps ensure a culture of adherence to the University's standards for intellectual honesty. Turnitin.com also reviews students' papers for matches with Internet materials and with thousands of student papers in its database, and returns an Originality Report to instructors and/or students.
- **Smarthinking:** Students have access to 10 free hours of tutoring service per year through [Smarthinking](#). Tutoring is available in the following subjects: math (basic math through advanced calculus), science (biology, chemistry, and physics), accounting, statistics, economics, Spanish, writing, grammar, and more. Additional information is located in the Online Research Center. From the ORC home page, click on either the "Writing Center" or "Tutoring Center" and then click "Smarthinking." All login information is available.

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Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. These are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111) or class name.

If a guide you need isn't available yet, let us know by emailing the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu

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