

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Richmond Business School
Programme:	Master of Arts Degree in International Sports Business
FHEQ Level:	7
Course Title:	Sports Law, Contracts and Negotiation
Course Code:	SPT 7103
Total Hours:	200
Timetabled Hours:	39
Guided Learning Hours:	21
Independent Learning Hours:	140
Credits:	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description: This module explores the web of contractual relationships that operate within sport. An athlete, manager, coach and support staff are usually employees of clubs. Other athletes may be self-employed but are still engaged under a contract. These parties may also find themselves contractually bound by the rules of a governing body and athletes may also enter into contracts with agents. This module navigates through this complex web of contractual relations and explores how a unique a system of public and private regulation applies to sport. It examines who is considered an employee, how contracts are negotiated, what terms appear in contracts, how parties to a contract can be disciplined and how contracts are ended.

Prerequisites: MA International Sports business students only

Aims and Objectives:

- Critically evaluate the web of contractual relationships operating in sport to demonstrate a detailed knowledge and critical understanding of its complexities
- Critically review the history, regulation and institutions of employment law and its impact on the sports sector

- Critically examine legal frameworks, including the rules of the sport's governing bodies in relation to employment issues in sport.
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the impact of both Human Rights and European Law legislation on the development of employment law within and its impact on the sports sector
- Demonstrate an advanced ability to communicate effectively using the English language proficiently in relation to legal matters in oral or written contexts (including presenting) and to employ correct methods of citation and referencing (including Harvard).

Programme Outcomes:

A1, A2, A5

B1, B2, B3, B4, B5

C1, C2, C3, C4, C5

D1, D2, D3, D4, D5

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is found at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

- Understand current issues relating to the theory and practice of sports law
- Discuss and analyse the issues surrounding employment law and the employment relationship in sport
- Apply the necessary skills to design and write an appropriate case study, integrating both theoretical and practical applications of research (contextualise).
- Demonstrate good knowledge and critical understanding of both Human Rights and European Law legislation.

Cognitive skills

- Evaluate empirical evidence in terms of the implications of contracts in sport for both, athletes, managers and support staff.
- Define key sports law terms adequately, and generalize appropriately

Subject specific, practical and professional skills

- Demonstrate an understanding and critical awareness of the complexities within sports law, contracts and negotiation, including an awareness of public and private regulations.
- Work together as members of a team, in group work that will require rational, and analytical approaches

General/transferable skills

- Demonstrate research and/or problem-solving skills
- Develop analytical skills and communicate their findings effectively to others.

- Evaluate and apply current research and theory from the disciplines relevant to the study of sport coaching and confidently take an active and knowledgeable part in informed discussion of such issues

Indicative Content:

- The Law of the European Union
- Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- Law Reform Employment law & the employment relationship in sport
- Contracts: express and implied terms
- Discipline and dismissal
- Collective bargaining / social dialogue
- Discriminatory practices in the employment relationship.
- The status and transfer of professional players (FIFA Regulations)
- The impact of EU law: Bosman and beyond
- The regulation of third party interests
- How work permits operate; the express and implied duties employees and employers owe to one another; disciplinary and dismissal processes; the impact of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players; the jurisprudence of the FIFA Dispute Resolution Chamber (DRC) and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS); the capacity of minors to contract; the use of nationality restrictions and home-grown player rules in sport; the role of players' unions, collective bargaining, social dialogue and strike action.
- Key statutes covered are the Equality Act 2010, the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Employment Rights Act 1996.

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed and independent tasks and guided reading. Independent study will be strongly encouraged through the provision of reading lists and tasks to undertake in preparation for upcoming taught sessions. Together, the learning strategies of taught sessions and independent study aim to develop conceptual knowledge of international sport management.

Bibliography:

IndicativeText(s):

- Anderson, J. (2010) *Modern Sports Law*. 8th Ed. Oxford: Hart.
- Gardiner, S., O'Leary, J., Welch, R., Boyes, S., and Naidoo, U. (2012) *Sports Law*. 14th Ed. Oxon: Routledge.
- James, M. (2010) *Sports Law*. 16th Ed. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Journals

- International Sports Law Journal
- Sport and the Law Journal
- World Sports Law Reports

Suggested Journal Articles

Anderson, P.M (2015) 'SPECIAL REPORT: 25 YEARS OF SPORTS LAW SCHOLARSHIP: THE HISTORY OF THE MARQUETTE SPORTS LAW JOURNAL/REVIEW', *Marquette Sports Law Review*, 25, p. 531, LexisNexis Academic: Law Reviews, EBSCOhost, viewed 28 July 2016.

Sadeghloo, A. Y. (2015). INVESTIGATING CIVIL RESPONSIBILITY OF ARBITRATORS IN SPORTS CONTRACTS. *International Sports Law Review Pandektis*, 11(1/2), 83-98.

Goulas, D. G. (2015). THE VALIDITY OF RESTRICTIONS ON TRAINEE ATHLETES SIGNING THEIR FIRST PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT UNDER GREEK CASE LAW. *International Sports Law Review Pandektis*, 11(1/2), 374-390

Brown, K. D., McPeters, T. D., Sanchez, A., & Sebert, E. (2015). 2014 ANNUAL SURVEY: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SPORTS LAW. *Marquette Sports Law Review*, 25(2), 617-659

Shannon, J. H. (2015). PRINCIPLES OF CONTRACT LAW APPLIED TO ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS CONTRACTS: A MODEL FOR BALANCING THE RIGHTS OF THE INDUSTRY WITH PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF MINORS. *Loyola Of Los Angeles Law Review*, 48, 1171

Zhi, L., & Yijuan, Q. (2015). A STUDY ON THE APPLICATION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF LAW IN COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT. *International Sports Law Review Pandektis*, 11(1/2), 229-241

Jones, K. L. (2013). THE UNITED STATES MODEL OF SPORTS LAW. *International Sports Law Review Pandektis*, 10(1/2), 126-146.

Shevchenko, O. (2015). ON THE ISSUE OF SPORTS FEDERATIONS RULES AND NATIONAL LAW INTERACTION. *International Sports Law Review Pandektis*, 11(1/2), 47-53.

Colantuoni, L. (2015). COACHES AND MANAGERS CONTRACTS IN FOOTBALL: PECULIARITIES AND TERMINATION INT'L AND COMPARATIVE STUDY. *International Sports Law Review Pandektis*, 11(1/2), 391-403.

Web Sites

- www.lawinsport.com
- www.britishsportslaw.org
- www.danielgeey.com

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Annual update	June 2023	
Total Hours Updated	April 2024	