

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	RIASA
Programme:	BA International Sports Management
FHEQ Level:	6
Course Title:	Talent Identification and Development in Sport: Principles and Practice
Course Code:	SPRT 6105
Total Hours:	160
Timetabled Hours:	45
Guided Learning Hours:	15
Independent Learning Hours:	100
Credit	16 UK CATS credits 8 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description:

This course explores key factors and issues in contemporary sport, including genetics, secondary factors such as birth date, cultural context, and population size, perceptual motor skill acquisition and expertise, and sports development policy. Through in-depth case studies, including European soccer, East African running, and US professional sports, students will critically evaluate these factors and their practical implications. The course emphasizes practical skills, ethical considerations, and an interdisciplinary approach, preparing students for professional roles in sports coaching, development, and talent management.

Prerequisites:

70 Credits

Aims and Objectives:

Aim: To equip students with an in-depth understanding and specialist skills necessary to critically evaluate and apply key factors in the identification and development of talented athletes across various sports, fostering their ability to operate autonomously in complex and interrelated professional contexts.

Objectives

- Develop an in-depth understanding of the genetic, environmental, and socio-cultural factors influencing talent identification and development in sports.
- Critically evaluate contemporary theories and practices in talent identification and development, integrating knowledge from genetics, psychology, sociology, and sports science.
- Design and implement practical projects and activities that apply theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios in talent identification and development.
- Demonstrate an in-depth awareness of ethical considerations in talent identification, including fairness, inclusivity, and the impact of cultural context.

Programme Outcomes:

A6 (I), A6 (II), B6 (I), C6 (II), D6 (II)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Course Learning Outcomes	Programme Outcome
<p>Disciplinary Knowledge and Understanding Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key scholars, texts, and debates in talent identification and development in sport; critically evaluate the impact of genetics, environmental factors, and socio-cultural contexts on talent development.</p>	<p>A6 (I) A6 (II)</p>
<p>Disciplinary Applied Skills Address practical issues in talent identification and development, focusing on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Design and implement strategies that promote fairness and inclusivity in sports talent development.</p>	<p>B6 (I)</p>
<p>Communication Skills Formulate, synthesize, and effectively articulate arguments related to talent identification and development. Present findings and strategies in various formats and media suitable for professional and interpersonal contexts within the sports industry.</p>	<p>C6 (II)</p>
<p>Transferable Skills Act with minimal supervision in talent identification and development. Engage in self-reflection, use feedback to analyze capabilities, appraise alternatives, and plan and implement actions. Lead initiatives and projects that enhance talent development practices in sports.</p>	<p>D6 (II)</p>

Indicative Content:

- Talent Identification and Development
 1. Skill Acquisition
 2. Coaching Theory and Practice
 3. Elite Sport Development
 4. Youth Sports Development
 5. Applied Sport Science
 6. Motor Control and Development
 7. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in Sport
 8. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Sport
 9. Communication and Leadership in Sport

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:

This course will be delivered face to face through a combination of lectures and interactive sessions. In addition to classroom activities, there are guided learning elements that are tutor led and arranged through Blackboard. These activities can be asynchronous online sessions, flipped classrooms, set readings with discussion boards or set guest lectures for example. Set activities are monitored by the instructor to ascertain student engagement. Students are encouraged to prepare for class and to play an active part, to raise questions, following-up ideas and interact with a wide range of provided material.

Indicative Text(s):

Baker, J., Cobley, S. and Schorer, J. (eds.) (2020) *Talent Identification and Development in Sport: International Perspectives*. 2nd edn. London: Taylor and Francis.

Baker, J., Cobley, S. and Schorer, J. (eds.) (2017) *Routledge Handbook of Talent Identification and Development in Sport*. London: Routledge.

Barker-Ruchti, N. (eds.) (2019) *Athlete Learning in Elite Sport*. London: Routledge.

Collins, D. and MacNamara, A. (2022) *Talent Development: A Practitioners and Parents Guide*. 2nd edn. New York: Routledge.

Farrow, D., Baker, J. and MacMahon, C., (eds.) (2023) *Developing sport expertise: Researchers and coaches put theory into practice*. 3rd edn. London: Routledge.

Journals

Journal of Applied Sport Psychology.

Journal of Sports Sciences.

International Journal of Sport Psychology.

Sport, Exercise, and Performance Psychology.

Psychology of Sport and Exercise.

European Journal of Sport Science.

Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness.

Sports Medicine.

Websites

The American Psychological Association (APA) - Sport Psychology. Available at: <https://www.apa.org/ed/graduate/sport> (Accessed: November 2024).

The British Journal of Sports Medicine. Available at: <https://www.bmj.com/bmj/series/bmj-sports-medicine> (Accessed: November 2024).

The International Society for Sport Psychology. Available at: <http://www.issponline.org> (Accessed: November 2024).

Sport and Exercise Psychology Review. Available at: <https://www.bps.org.uk/publications/sport-and-exercise-psychology-review> (Accessed: November 2024).

Sport Science Exchange. Available at: <https://www.gssiweb.org> (Accessed: November 2024).

See syllabus for complete reading list.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
First edition	Dec 2024	