

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARK ADMINISTRATION

FALL 2020

COURSE NUMBER: RP 4103-TC1

COURSE TITLE: Recreation Law and Policy

INSTRUCTOR: DeAnn Lehigh

E-MAIL ADDRESS: slehigh@atu.edu or sdlehigh@msn.com

OFFICE HOURS: Instructor is not on campus. The best method of contact is via Arkansas Tech address. Barring technical difficulties, you should expect an acknowledgement of your email within 24 hours with an estimated timeline for final resolution of the issue.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An examination of the relationship between recreation and the law. Specific topics include liability, negligence, contracts, and administration policy. Identification of legal decision making organizations, the court system, personnel and constitutional rights issues.

TEXT REQUIRED FOR COURSE TEXT:

Bruce B. Hronek and John O. Spengler, Legal Liability in Recreation, Sports and Tourism, Fourth Edition, Sagamore Publishing 2011.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS: There will be additional readings required beyond the textbook. These readings will either be available through web sites or will be posted on Blackboard.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course, the student will:

1. Understand the basis and origin for the laws that govern the recreational field.
2. Understand the framework of the Federal and Arkansas judicial system.
3. Develop an understanding of the basic contractual elements common to the recreational field.
4. Become acquainted with the basics of civil rights laws related to employment.
5. Understand the elements of negligence and be able to rationally analyze facts to determine liability.
6. Understand the exposure to liability of an employer for the acts of its employees.
7. Comprehend the tort liability considerations inherent in the operation of a recreational facility.

COURSE POLICIES:

COURSE ACCESS: This is a mixed technology course with some portions in the classroom and some on-line course therefore computer access is a requirement. Because of the nature of the course, it is imperative that you pay close attention to the syllabus. Lack of computer access or computer difficulties are not excusable

reasons for completing coursework in a timely manner. If you need assistance due to a disability, please refer to the Disability Services website <http://www.atu.edu/disabilities> or contact them by telephone at (479) 968-0302.

ASSIGNMENTS: Students must complete assignments within the time frames specified by the instructor. Completion of an assignment includes delivery to, and receipt by, the instructor. Failure to timely complete an assignment will result in a 10% grade reduction for each day that assignment is late unless other arrangements are made with the instructor.

EXCUSES: Since this class is on-line and you will have approximately one week to complete any assignment or other course requirement, acceptable excuses will be rare. It is your responsibility to plan your participation in this course to allow for contingencies. However, if something extraordinary occurs that adversely impacts your performance, you may explain the circumstances in writing to the instructor. A good faith analysis by the instructor will determine if the facts warrant an excuse for non-performance.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic dishonesty or misconduct will not be tolerated. The most severe discipline permissible under University policy will be taken. Academic dishonesty also includes plagiarism and assisting other students in completing assignments, reports, tests or any other requirements for this course. Special care will be needed to avoid plagiarism in this course due to the nature of the coursework. *Plagiarized work may result in a zero grade depending on the level of plagiarized material. It behooves you to clearly understand what constitutes plagiarism, therefore I strongly encourage you to refer to the information provided online for additional clarification.* I strongly encourage you to please review the University's policy at the link to the Academic Integrity website (<https://www.atu.edu/academic-integrity/>) and also reference the ATU Student Handbook and the ATU Catalog at:

<https://www.atu.edu/catalog/undergraduate/regulations-procedures.php>.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Arkansas Tech University does not discriminate on the basis of color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, age, national origin, religion, veteran status, genetic information, or disability in any of our practices, policies, or procedures. If you have experienced any form of discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the institution. If you report such an incident of misconduct to a faculty or staff member, they are required by law to notify Arkansas Tech University's Title IX Coordinator and share the basic fact of your experience. The Title IX Coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information please visit: <http://www.atu.edu/titleix/index.php>.

Arkansas Tech University values diversity and inclusion and is committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation of all students. My goal is to create a learning environment that is useable, equitable, inclusive and welcoming. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or prevent an accurate assessment of your achievement, please meet with me privately to discuss your needs and concerns. You may also contact the Office of Disability Services, located in Doc Bryan Student Center, Suite 141, in person, via phone at (479) 968-0302 or TTY (479) 964-3290, via email at disabilities@atu.edu, or visit their website at <https://www.atu.edu/disabilities/index.php> in order to initiate a request for accommodations.

COURSE ASSESSMENT:

EFFORT AND SUBSTANCE: The student's responses to assignments, tests and other requirements of the course will be reviewed for level of effort and substantive content. Since students will have access to the textbook and other materials while preparing their responses, regurgitation of those sources is not the critical element. Rather, demonstration of the ability to understand the principles involved and the ability to organize thoughts and arguments are the critical elements.

GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION: Effective communication is essential. Use of complete sentences and proper grammar plays a large role in that communication and will therefore be a factor in assessing each student's coursework.

	Total Points	% of total	Grade	Percent
Assignments including exams (100 points each)	1000	45%	A	90-100
Discussion Board 100 points each	200	13%	B	80-89
Final Exam	200	13%	C	70-79
Risk Management Team Project	200	6%	D	60-69
Wiki (weekly input 50 points per weekly entry)	500	23%	F	0-59
Total Points for Course	2100	100%		

COURSE CONTENT:

WEBEX: I will be providing a few opportunities in which I will lecture, and we will discuss the course content. It will allow you an opportunity to ask questions about the upcoming assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS: There will be fourteen weekly assignment, a group project and a final assignment given during the course. Each assignment will consist of a reading from the textbook, additional readings from specified sources, videos, PowerPoint slides and written tasks/questions or discussion group posts associated with these readings. Responses to tasks/questions may be subjected to minimum word requirements, which will be specified on each assignment. Attempts to comply with minimum word requirements through grammatical nonsense will be penalized. ***CASE BRIEFS: Periodically through the course, you will be assigned a legal decision by a court (a case) and you will be required to write a "brief" of that decision in conjunction with an assignment. Cases will be made available on Blackboard. A video describing the process is included in the materials. Total points 1400***

WIKI: You will be expected to create and maintain a wiki that relates to the weekly topics. You will be

expected to post an article that is topical, relating to the current week's readings. This is go-no go assessment. Posting a topical article will result in full credit. Posting late will result in the above noted deduction of points for late work. **Total points 700**

DISCUSSION BOARD: There will be four opportunities to engage in a discussion board. Each will be worth 100 points and will be graded according to the rubric associated with the discussion board. **Total points 400**

HELP WITH BLACKBOARD: For assistance in using Blackboard, go to <http://etech.atu.edu/> and click on "Help Desk" then "FAQs- Students" or go to <http://elearn.atu.edu>. For further information, call 479-968-0646.

ANTICIPATED ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

* subject to change

Week	Text Reading	Class Meeting	Assignment Due Date
#1	Chapters 1-2	WEBEX on Aug 24	Aug 26
#2	Chapter 12-15 Wiki (total 50 points)		Sep 2
#3	Chapters 3-5 Wiki (total 50 points)	WEBEX Sept 8	Sept 9
#4	Chapters 3-5 (continued) Case Briefs, Discussion Board & Wiki (total 250 points)		Sep 16
#5	Chapter 6-8 Case Brief & Wiki (total 150 points)	WEBEX Sep 21	Sept 23
#6	Test (total 100 points)		Sep 30
#7	Chapters 9-11 Wiki (total 150 points)	WEBEX Oct 5	Oct 7
#8	Chapter 16-17 Discussion Board & Wiki (total 250 points)		Oct 14

#9	Chapters 18-20 Case Briefs & Wiki (total 50 points)		Oct 21
#10	Chapter 24 Wiki (total 50 points)	WEBEX Oct 26	Oct 28
#11	Test (total 100 points)		Nov 4
#12	Chapters 25-27 Wiki (total 50 points)		Nov 11
#13	Risk Management Project & Presentation 200 points	WEBEX Nov 23	Nov 23
Final	Total 200	ONLINE	Dec 5*

*subject to change depending on the finals schedule published by the University.