RESM 4080.001 - Legal Aspects of Recreation, Event, and Sport Organizations

# Instructor Contact

**Name:** Dr. Joseph Walker

**Office Location:** COL 24

**Office Hours: M/T 1PM – 2:30**

I am also available to meet at other times when set by appointment. These meetings can be by Zoom or TEAMS

**Email** **joseph.walker@unt.edu**

**Phone:** (940) 369-7176

### Communication Expectations:

E-mail me. Please share your full name and the best way to contact you on your communications with me.

# Course Description

In-depth study of legal situations, which may be encountered by Recreation Event Sport Management (RESM) professionals in the delivery of recreation, event, and sport services. This course examines five legal areas: legal terminology and dimensions, concepts of liability, situations giving rise to litigation, case studies on program and activity areas, and insurance policies.

# Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

No prerequisites are needed.

# Course Objectives

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

1. Identify legal topics, concepts, and principles related to RESM.
2. Analyze how legal topics, concepts, and principles affect RESM organizations.
3. Compose concise summaries of detailed case law related to RESM.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of legal topics, concepts, and principles related to RESM.

# Required Text

Cotton, D. J. & Wolohan, J. T. (2021). *Law for Recreation & Sport Managers*. (8th ed). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

ISBN: 978-1-7924-2425-0

* + You do NOT need an online access code. Therefore, a used version of the textbook is fine.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **RESM 4080 Semester Outline Schedule**  |  |
|   |   |   |   |
| **18-Aug** | **1** | **Introduction, Syllabus Quiz (Prelim Module)**  | **Due Aug 21** |
| 18-Aug | 1 | Module 1  | Due Aug 25  |
| 25-Aug | 2 | Legal Brief #1  | Due Sept 2  |
| 1-Sep | 3 | Module 2 | Due Set 8  |
| 8-Sep | 4 | Legal Brief #2  | Due Sept 15 |
| 15-Sep | 5 | Module 3  | Due Sept 22 |
| 22-Sep | 6 | Legal Brief #3 | Due Sept 29 |
| 29-Sep | 7 | Module 4  | Due Oct 6  |
| 6-Oct | 8 | Legal Brief #4  | Due Oct 13 |
| 13-Oct | 9 | Exam #1 + Module #5  | Due Oct 20  |
| 20-Oct | 10 | Legal Brief #5  | Due Oct 27 |
| 27-Oct | 11 | Module #6  | Due Nov 3  |
| 3-Nov | 12 | Legal Brief #6 | Due Nov 10 |
| 10-Nov | 13 | Module #7  | Due Nov 17 |
| 17-Nov | 14 | Module 7 Critical Thinking Activity  | Due Nov 20  |
| 24-Nov | Holiday  |   |   |
| 1-Dec | 15 | Exam #2  | Due Dec 4  |
| 8-Dec | 16 | Law and Risk Paper Due  | Due Dec 11 |

# How To Be Successful in This Course

1. SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS ON TIME.
	1. The due dates are set to help all be successful with a five-week course. We will need to stay focused and not get behind.
	2. Please submit your assignments at least a few hours before the deadline to account for any problems that may arise (i.e., computer problems, internet/wifi outage, etc.).
2. FOLLOW DIRECTIONS/INSTRUCTIONS AND ASK QUESTIONS.
	1. Detailed instructions are given to help you. The instructions are specific to make sure you learn and/or practice using the appropriate course concepts, to make sure the submission is compatible with Canvas, and to make the assignment so it can be opened and reviewed.
	2. Attention to detail is important as we think about the law and legal issues. It will help you in this course and your career.
	3. If after reading the directions, you do not understand what is expected, please ask for clarification.
3. PUT TIME AND EFFORT INTO YOUR COURSEWORK.
	1. The quality of your work matters. Higher quality work receives higher grades.

High-quality work includes completing all aspects of an assignment and demonstrating critical thinking, written communication, and problem-solving skills. You will also show you clearly understand the topics/concepts and can apply them appropriately.

# How the Student Is Graded / Evaluated

### Syllabus Quiz (50 points)

* 1. The syllabus quiz contains 10 questions about course policies, rules, and procedures. The quiz is designed to ensure that you read and understand the syllabus.
	2. Please complete the quiz on Canvas. It is in the “Preliminary Module.”
	3. You can take the quiz an unlimited number of times and only the highest score will count toward the final grade. Nice way to start with 50 points.
	4. Students can look at the syllabus when taking the quiz.

### Introduction Discussion (50 points)

* 1. Every student must post to the discussion board by introducing themselves to the class.
	2. The post should be one or two paragraphs and can include information such as: your name (or nickname if you like to be called something different), your family, where you grew up, your major, interests/hobbies, what you would like to do for a career, and anything else you want your classmates to know about you.
	3. The discussion board is located on Canvas in the “Preliminary Module.”

### Reading Quizzes (20 points each)

* 1. Students must complete a reading quiz at the beginning of each module. The quizzes cover the chapter(s) assigned for that module and are designed to ensure that students are prepared for the module activities and/or assignments.
	2. Students complete the quizzes on Canvas.
	3. Quizzes consist of 10 questions and have a five-minute time limit.

### Critical Thinking Activities (20 points each)

* 1. Students must complete an activity during each module. The activities are designed to make students think critically about course topics, concepts, and principles.
	2. The activity will present a series of questions and/or scenarios. Once the student submits the activity, they will be given feedback based on their responses.
	3. Students can complete the activity an unlimited number of times and only the highest score will count toward the final grade.
	4. Students complete the activities on Canvas.

### Legal Brief Assignments (50 points each)

* 1. Students must read six court cases and complete a legal brief for each case. The cases will help students discover how course concepts and topics are applied by judges in real- world situations.
	2. The legal briefs will include:
		1. The parties involved in the case.
		2. The legal issue(s) being discussed in the case.
		3. The plaintiff’s argument(s) for each issue.
		4. The defendant’s argument(s) for each issue.
		5. The rule of law or legal principle(s) applicable to each issue.
		6. What the court ruled for each issue.
		7. The reason(s) the court ruled the way it did for each issue.
		8. Whether or not you agree with the court’s ruling and why you agree/disagree with the ruling.
	3. All legal brief assignments will be submitted to the instructor via Canvas.
		1. A template will be provided for you to complete the assignment.

### Legal Brief Activities (20 points each)

* 1. Students will complete an activity after submitting each Legal Brief. The activities are designed to make sure students understand the cases they read.
	2. The activity will present a series of questions. Once the student submits the activity, they will be given feedback based on their responses.
	3. Students can complete the activity an unlimited number of times and only the highest score will count towards the grade. Students complete the activities on Canvas.
	4. Students complete the activities on Canvas.

### Exams (100 points each)

* 1. Students must complete two exams on Canvas.
	2. The exams are open-book and have a four-hour time limit.
	3. Students can view their score immediately upon submitting the exam. However, students cannot see which questions they answered incorrectly until after the exam deadline closes.
	4. Exams must be submitted before the 11:59pm deadline (not just started before then).
	5. Any exam submitted after the deadline will receive a score of zero (0).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Graded Item Name** | **Points Possible** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| **Syllabus Quiz** | 50 points | 5% |
| **Introduction Discussion** | 50 points | 5% |
| **Reading Quizzes** (7 quizzes @ 20 points each) | 140 points | 14% |
| **Critical Thinking Activities** (7 activities @ 20 points each) | 140 points | 14% |
| **Legal Brief Assignments** (6 briefs @ 50 points each) | 300 points | 30% |
| **Legal Brief Activities** (6 activities @ 20 points each) | 120 points | 12% |
| **Exams** (2 exams @ 100 points each) | 200 points | 20% |
| **Total Points Possible:** | 1,000 points | 100% |

# Grading Scale

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Letter Grade** | **Point Total** | **Percent** |
| A | 900 – 1,000 | 90.0 - 100 |
| B | 800 – 899.5 | 80.0 – 89.99 |
| C | 700 – 799.5 | 70.0 – 79.99 |
| D | 600 – 699.5 | 60.0 – 69.99 |
| F | 0 – 599.5 | 0 – 59.99 |

**Course Policies**

## **Assignment Policy**

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time-sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. STUDENTS MUST IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY PROBLEMS TO THE INSTRUCTOR and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

## **Attendance Policy**

## This course is a face-to-face course and meets at the scheduled time. The course content is delivered in-person and through CANVAS utilizing a variety of on-line content delivery formats.

In class lectures will be delivered on a regular basis and in-class discussions will be conducted to help the students process and practice articulating the content as well as explaining legal positions. Additional points will be awarded for in-class participation.

## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The instructor reserves the right to amend the grading scale for the benefit of the students. The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus at any time during the semester. Any changes will be posted on Canvas and/or emailed to students.

# Technical Requirements & Skills

## Minimum Technology Requirements

* Computer
* Reliable internet access
* Microsoft Word
* [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (https://clear.unt.edu/supported- technologies/canvas/requirements)

## Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

* Canvas
* UNT Email
* Downloading and uploading files
* Microsoft Word

## Rules of Engagement

* Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in email or any other communication.
* Remember that all college-level communication should have correct spelling and grammar (this includes discussion boards).
* Avoid slang terms such as “wassup” and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you.”
* Use standard fonts such as Ariel, Calibri, or Times New Roman, and use a size 11- or 12-point font.
* Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETTED AS YELLING.
* Avoid the use of emoticons like :) or .
* Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or sound offensive.
* Be careful with personal information (both yours and others).
* Do not send confidential information via e-mail.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

# Getting Help

## Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk**: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) ([http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm%29)

**Email**: helpdesk@unt.edu

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In Person**: Sage Hall, Room 130

**Walk-In Availability**: 8am-9pm

### Telephone Availability:

* Sunday: noon-midnight
* Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
* Friday: 8am-8pm
* Saturday: 9am-5pm

**Laptop Checkout**: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC- 10554-4212710328)

## Student Support Services

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and- wellness-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness- center/services/psychiatry)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing- services/services/individual-counseling)

Other student support services offered by UNT include:

* [Registrar](file://localhost/C%3A/Users/jdl0126/AppData/Local/Temp/OneNote/16.0/NT/0/Registrar) (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
* [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
* [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
* [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
* [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
* [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

## Academic Support Services

* [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
* [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
* [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (https://library.unt.edu/)
* [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) ([http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/%29)
* [MathLab](https://math.unt.edu/mathlab) (<https://math.unt.edu/mathlab>)

# Canvas

1. The course will utilize Canvas as its online learning platform.
2. All assignments will be submitted to the instructor via Canvas (unless stated otherwise).
	1. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure the assignment is submitted correctly and before the deadline. MAKE SURE YOU GET A SUBMISSION CONFIRMATION IN CANVAS.
	2. SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS before they are due. All assignments are

open well in advance of the submission deadline. No late assignments will be accepted.

# Posting of Grades

1. Grades will be posted on Canvas.
2. Please review your grades and let me know if you have questions or concerns
3. Check your grades on Canvas several times a week to make sure the posted grade is correct. Do not wait until the end of the semester.
	1. Comments will be given on the assignments to improve your performance.
4. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor about their grade.
	1. Do not send messages to the instructor through the “Comments” section in Canvas. Please email the instructor.

# UNT Policies

## Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

## ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website](https://disability.unt.edu/) (https://disability.unt.edu/).

## Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

## Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

## Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

## Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](https://my.unt.edu/). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect) (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

## Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](file://localhost/C%3A/Users/jdl0126/AppData/Local/Temp/OneNote/16.0/NT/0/no-reply%40iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) ([http://spot.unt.edu/)](http://spot.unt.edu/%29) or email [spot@unt.edu.](file://localhost/C%3A/Users/jdl0126/AppData/Local/Temp/OneNote/16.0/NT/0/spot%40unt.edu)

## Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](file://localhost/C%3A/Users/jdl0126/AppData/Local/Temp/OneNote/16.0/NT/0/SurvivorAdvocate%40unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940- 565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](file://localhost/C%3A/Users/jdl0126/AppData/Local/Temp/OneNote/16.0/NT/0/oeo%40unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.

## Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

### Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/) ([http://www.ecfr.gov/).](http://www.ecfr.gov/%29) The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full the course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examinations, or other purposes integral to the completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

### University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on- campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

## Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002) [Courses](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002>).

## Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student’s permission unless all the following criteria are met:

* The work is used only once.
* The work is not used in its entirety.
* Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
* The student is not identified.
* The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student’s written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver, and Release Form

### Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically Delivered Courses

* 1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
	2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release to use the recording for future classes by the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
	3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures to re-use some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.