Course: Good governance — credits: 5

Course code	SKVH22GG
Name	Good governance
Study year	2026-2027
ECTS credits	5
Language	English
Coordinator	G. van Dalfsen
Modes of delivery	Guest lecture Lecture Tutorial
Assessments	Good governance in sport - Professional product

Learning outcomes

The objective of this module concerns the understanding of the importance of good governance in sport and to analyse, evaluate and report on governance practices of a specific sport governing body.
LILO 2: Design (Competency level 3)
LILO 4: Advising (Competency level 3)

World of sport:
2. Organisation of sport and physical activity

Sport and society:
5. Social and ethical issues
6. Sport and physical activity policy

Sport and physical activity management
11. Management

Sport and physical activity research
15. Monitoring and evaluation

Content

Content of the course component: Over the past few years, ‘good’ governance in sport has become a central topic both within the European Union (EU)’s political agenda and within the sport management scholarly community. One explanation for this increased and voluminous policy research and scholarly activity on the matter, is the number of recent scandals (such as the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic bribery incident, the 2015 FIFA corruption crisis, or the 2016 IAAF case) that have affected international and national sporting organisations and have made headlines for months on end.

This, in turn, has attracted the attention of policy makers, investors, fans, consumers and sport enthusiasts in general, due to the apparent appearance of a ‘legitimacy gap’ (see Sethi, 1979) between sport (organisations) and its stakeholders. Such a ‘gap’ occurs when organisational goals, methods of operation, and outcomes are not in accordance with the expectations of those stakeholders who confer legitimacy (Wartick and Mahon, 1994). As such, the level of scrutiny that sport is now exposed to ensures that (how) decisions made on everything from event-bidding to the signing of sponsorship contracts are examined at an almost forensic level of detail (Anagnostopoulos and Winand, 2019). Therefore, this course will examine governance issues across the sporting landscape with the view to addressing how these can be avoided in future.

Course structure: The course consists of guest lectures, regular lectures, and tutorials led by your instructor. To be able to properly complete the course, active participation is a necessity.

Assessment structure: Professional product

Literature and any costs: -

Included in programme(s)

Sport Studies

School(s)

Well-being, Education & Sport

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