

1. Informations générales :

Titre du cours :	Sport and Human Rights		
NOM de l'enseignant·e :	Dr Tsubasa Shinohara	Semestre :	☐ Automne ☒ Printemps
Public visé :	☐ 1 ^{ère} année ☒ 2 ^{ème} année ☐ 1 ^{ère} année et 2 ^{ème} année	Langue :	☒ anglais
Nombre maximal d'étudiant·es :	☐ 20 ☒ 30 ☐ 40 ☐ 50 ☐ Pas de maximum	Organisation du cours :	☐ 9 séances de 2h sur 9 semaines ☐ 12 séances de 1h30 sur 12 semaines ☒ 12 séances de 1h30 sur 6 semaines ☐ 6 séances de 3h sur 12 semaines

2. Résumé du cours :

Sports are widely recognised as a transnational and global phenomenon that transcends national borders. People may participate as athletes, recreational players, coaches, trainers or spectators, and sports play an important role in building social communities and promoting physical well-being.

At the same time, the sporting world has long operated as a relatively autonomous community with its own regulatory structures. This has sometimes led to human rights concerns, including abuse, harassment and unequal power relations between athletes and coaches. In addition, mega-sporting events organised by major sports governing bodies such as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) may raise human rights issues in host countries, including labour rights concerns.

This course examines the relationship between sports and human rights focusing on the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)'s jurisprudence. It covers (1) theoretical frameworks for sports and human rights, (2) dispute resolution mechanisms in sports and the role of the ECtHR, and (3) case studies on sports and human rights.

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This course will provide students with a basic understanding of human rights through the use of sports, which is a highly accessible subject for students. Human rights issues are often abstract and sometimes difficult to perceive; therefore, the course will use examples from sports to help students better understand and imagine human rights issues and to relate them to their everyday lives.

3. Pré-requis éventuels :

Students are encouraged to have a basic understanding of the French Constitution, Public International Law, and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). However, students without prior knowledge of these areas are also very welcome. Introductory lectures on International Law and the ECHR will be provided to ensure that all participants can follow the course.

4. Assessment:

Assessment for this specialised course consists of an in-class presentation (either individual or group) and the submission of an essay of 5–6 pages on a topic chosen by each student. The essay must include an introduction, a main body and a conclusion, and must provide page references with correct APA-style citations. It may be written in either French or English. Group work is permitted for the essay and in-class presentation; however, each essay must clearly indicate which sections were written by each student. Topics will be allocated at the beginning of the term.

The purpose of the in-class presentation is to assess students' own knowledge, independent of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The aim of the essay, including the use of correct citations and referencing, is to ensure that students have engaged with the required reading materials and to develop their academic writing skills.

Bibliographie indicative / Bibliography

- Rietiker, D. (2022). *Defending athletes, players, clubs and fans: A manual for human rights education and litigation in sport, in particular before the European Court of Human Rights*. Council of Europe Publishing. <https://book.coe.int/en/human-rights-and-democracy/11127-defending-athletes-players-clubs-and-fans.html>
- Rook, W., & Heerdt, D. (Eds.). (2025). *The Routledge handbook of mega-sporting events and human rights*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003302551>
- Abanazir, C. (2023). *Political Expression in Sport: Transnational Challenges, Moral Defences*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003241102>

5. Description détaillée du cours (facultatif)

Course Objective

The objectives of this course are in the following:

- (1) Understand the framework of Sports law and European human rights law; and
- (2) Understand a discussion of sports and human rights;

Course Outline

Semaine 1:

- Séance 1 : Course Instruction: Basic Understanding of Sports Law (Lex Sportiva)
- Séance 2 : Dispute Resolution in Sports (Court of Arbitration for Sport and Swiss Federal Tribunal)

Semaine 2:

- Séance 3 : Basic Understanding of the European Human Rights Law
- Séance 4 : Access to a Court, Fair Trial and Other Procedural Guarantees

Semaine 3

- Séance 5 : Privacy in the Fight against Doping
- Séance 6 : Freedom of Expression of Players and Athletes

Semaine 4

- Séance 7 : Migrant Workers' Rights and Working Conditions in Mega Sporting Events
- Séance 8 : Women in Sports: Equality, Discrimination and Sexual Violence

Semaine 5

- Séance 9 : Transgender and Intersex Athletes in Female Sports
- Séance 10 : Youth Protection and Disabled Athletes in Sports

Semaine 6

- Séance 11 : Esports and Human Rights
- Séance 12 : In-Class Presentation