

KINE 1320 - Introduction to Officiating - Spring 2026

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:10-11:05am, HPC 3055

Instructor: Rick McGill

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 8:30am-10:00am and by appointment.

Course Overview: Introduction to Officiating is an exploratory course for students interested in sports officiating. Topics will include rules and their interpretation/application, definitions, signals, mechanics, and positioning. Additionally, in-depth discussion on conflict resolution and communication in high intensity environments. The course will cover the following sports: baseball/softball, basketball, football, soccer and volleyball.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1) Demonstrate basic knowledge of the rules and terms for each sport
2) Demonstrate coverage areas and mechanics for each sport
3) Apply conflict resolution and problem-solving techniques relevant to officiating a sports contest
4) Manage participant and spectator behaviors to promote a healthy sport environment
5) Identify local opportunities and processes for becoming an official

Recommended Textbooks and Readings:

National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Rules book for:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Football
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Softball

Assignments and Weights/Values

1. Rules Exams (1 per sport)	25%
2. Mechanics and Signals Quizzes (1 per sport)	25%
3. Officials Observation assignments and Video Reviews	25%
4. Class Participation and Attendance	15%
5. Final Exam	10%

Grading Scale:

A	90% or greater
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	59% and below

Graded Course Requirements Information:

Rules exams (5): exam to cover the necessary rules covered in each sport.

Mechanics and signals quizzes (5): quizzes that will test knowledge of the mechanics and signals necessary to officiate each sport.

Official observations (2): these assignments allow you to attend a sporting event of your choice to observe and evaluate sports officials working in the contest. The accompanying essay should include habits you observed, difficult situations worked through, and a skill you noticed that you would use as an official.

Video Review Discussions (5): these canvas posted video reviews all you to critique and evaluate plays/situations from sporting events and the actions of the officials.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

Introduction to Officiating			
<i>Week #</i>	<i>Class Topic</i>	<i>Readings</i>	<i>Assignments Due</i>
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Introduction and Expectations • Professionalism and Preparation of an Official • Promoting a healthy sport environment 	Syllabus	
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volleyball terminology • Volleyball rules • Volleyball rules • Volleyball Signals 	NFHS Volleyball	Volleyball Signals Quiz Volleyball Video Review
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volleyball Mechanics • Volleyball Official film study/On-court work • Volleyball Unit Exam 		Volleyball Mechanics Quiz Volleyball Unit Exam
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker • Basketball terminology • Basketball rules • Basketball Signals 	NFHS Basketball	Official observation essay #1
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball Mechanics • Basketball Official film study/On-court work 		Basketball Signals Quiz Basketball Mechanics Quiz
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball Unit Exam • Football terminology 	NFHS Football	Basketball Video Review Basketball Unit Exam
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football rules • Football Signals 		
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football Mechanics • Football Official film study/On-field work 		Football Signals Quiz Football Mechanics Quiz

Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football Unit Exam • Baseball terminology 	NFHS Baseball	Football Video Review Football Unit Exam
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball rules • Softball terminology/rules • Baseball/Softball Signals 	(Last day to drop class is November 4th)	Official observation essay #2 Baseball/Softball Signals Quiz
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball/Softball Mechanics • Baseball/Softball umpire film study 		Baseball/Softball Mechanics Quiz
Week 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball Unit Exam • Soccer Terminology • Soccer Rules 	NFHS Soccer	Baseball Video Review Baseball Unit Exam
Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer Mechanics • Soccer Referee film study 		Soccer Mechanics Quiz Soccer Video Review
Week 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer Unit Exam • Career path exploration and local governing bodies • Final exam prep 		Soccer Unit Exam
Final	Final Exam: TBD		

Late Work and Make-Up Exams: At the instructor’s discretion, absences may be considered excused for legitimate, documented reasons (serious illness, family emergency, etc.). It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor of absences as soon as possible, and to document that absence if an excused absence is being requested. At the instructor’s discretion, reduced credit may be given for work that is late or missing due to unexcused absences.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is the responsibility of the student. The University expects students to attend and actively participate in all activities for a course. Regular attendance and engagement in class activities/assignments contribute to learning the content. When a student has a legitimate absence, the instructor may permit the student to complete missed assignments.

UT Tyler Honor Code: Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. Students Rights and Responsibilities To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry: We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University: All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quit lines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies: Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Spring, the Census Date is Jan. 29.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept.9) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy: Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of

the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services: In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.707

Student Absence due to Religious Observance: Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second-class meeting of the semester. Revised 05/17

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities: If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement: It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation: Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct: Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
 - copying from another student's test paper;

- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
 - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
 - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
 - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
 - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
 - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
 - divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
 - substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
 - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
 - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
 - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
 - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
 - “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty. iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

Artificial Intelligence: UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools’ ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler’s Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on

predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, AI is not permitted in this course at all. To best support your learning, you must complete all graded assignments by yourself to assist in your learning. This exclusion of other resources to help complete assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Refrain from using AI tools to generate any course context (e.g., text, video, audio, images, code, etc.) for an assignment or classroom assignment.

UT Tyler Resources for Students:

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)