

Ethics and Sports

Grades:	8th – 10th
Day of Week:	Thursday
Time of Class:	1:00 pm - 2:30 pm ET
Length of Class:	5 weeks
Semester:	Spring 2023
Tuition:	\$125.00

Class Dates:

Week 1 – Week of April 17

Week 2 – Week of April 24

Week 3 – Week of May 1

Week 4 – Week of May 8

Week 5 – Week of May 15

Make Up Week– Week of May 22

Instructor's Name:	Sarah Rosenson
Instructor's Email:	sarah@SarahsClass.net

Description of Class:

Calling all athletes and sports fans! In this five-week class we will discuss the difference between ethical sportsmanship and unethical gamesmanship, focusing on basketball, baseball, soccer, and football.

Studying ethics is a great way to develop critical thinking skills, and to develop your own moral code. Many interesting issues come up in the world of sports, which we will analyze by looking at the strongest arguments on both sides. Students will think of examples from their own experiences as athletes and/or sports fans, and we will debate whether specific examples from professional sports fall on the right or wrong side of the ethical line, and why.

Is it ethical to be a football fan given what we now know about the effects of repeated head trauma?

Should baseball players who used steroids be admitted to the Hall of Fame?

Should there be rules against taunting in basketball, end zone celebrations in football, and bat flipping in baseball?

Is flopping in soccer ethical?

Should athletes speak out on social issues, or not?

Class Approach:

This will be a discussion-based class looking at one or more different topics in ethics and sports each week. Students should come to class prepared to share their views in a lively conversation.

Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:

Students will be given a resource booklet of articles we will discuss in class.

Requirements:

Students will be required to participate in class discussions, and to do all assignments in a timely manner.

Weekly Homework:

Approximately one to two hours per week. Assignments will include short writing assignments in response to our discussions.

Anticipated Weekly Course Schedule:

Week	Topic
Week 1	Definitions and principles: the difference between ethical sportsmanship and unethical gamesmanship. Is flopping in soccer ethical?
Week 2	Is it ethical to be a fan of tackle football, given what we now know about the effects of repeated head injury?
Week 3	Should baseball players who used performance-enhancing drugs be allowed into the hall of fame?
Week 4	Should there be rules against taunting in basketball, endzone celebrations in football, and bat flipping in baseball?
Week 5	Are athletes role models, or not? And should they speak out on social issues, or not?