



## PSY 260E General Sport Psychology

Professor: José Carlos Jaenes Sánchez, Ph.D.  
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Office Hours: Monday, 3pm-4pm  
(Appointments by email preferred)

Course Information:  
**Fall 2023**  
**Tuesday- Thursday**  
Group A: 10.30-11.50  
Building 25, room 108

### Course Description

This course will introduce both the key concepts in the field of Sport Psychology as well as the practical applications of these concepts to current practices in exercise, sports, competition, health, wellness, and the individuals who draw upon these canons. In this course, students will consider questions such as:

- What role does Sport Psychology have in the preparation of top athletes and those currently seeking to enhance their athletic performance?
- Beyond physical training, what are the psychological components when training and competing in athletic events?

Beyond a model merely based on psychological theory, this course delves into how sports psychologists contribute to high performance for individual athletes and teams through motivation, concentration / attention, dedication, mindfulness, decision-making, and other behavioral factors. Students will gain a solid understanding of how Sports & Health Psychology is an essential component to training for peak performance. Experiential learning exercises will take students outside the classroom to engage with field professionals in the host city.

This course will provide a multi-faceted understanding of the theoretical and practical ways Sport Psychology can be applied for those not only aspiring to be sport psychologists, but also for those in the fields of physical education, coaching, recreation, health, etc.

### Course Goals and Methodology

Learning Course readings, exercises and class preparation are very important. Sometimes, the professor might only have enough time in class to go over the major conceptual and empirical issues, so it is extremely important for students to develop a full understanding of a motivational topic and to utilize it. You must supplement in-class discussion with knowledge gained from the assigned readings. This strong emphasis on course projects reflects not only a desire to educate you about the psychological aspects of sport and exercise, but also a commitment to help you apply your knowledge in meaningful and practical ways, whether you are a physical educator, coach, recreation specialist, athlete, or aspiring sport psychologist.

### Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, you will:

- Gain practical experience in goal setting, behavior change, and maintenance of health and wellness.

- Identify and clarify the psychological principles of Sport Psychology that contribute to performance and exercise.
- Evaluate how psychological variables influence participation and performance while participating in physical activity to enhance psychological intervention skills for attaining goals and maintaining performance.
- Understand how participation and motivation in sport contribute to the psychological characteristics of an individual or team.
- Acquire skills, knowledge, and personal insight regarding sport psychology that you can apply as a coach, athlete, or other practitioner.

### Useful Texts

Textbook (Reference): Harvis, M. (2006). Sport Psychology. A Student's Handbook (PDF). **Reading and study texts prepared by the professor available on Blackboard.**

Hanin, Y. & Stambulova, N. (2004). Sport Psychology. The Psychology of Athletic Excellence. Research Gate. PDF Available on [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/235966567\\_Sport\\_Psychology\\_The\\_Psychology\\_of\\_Athletic\\_Excellence?](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/235966567_Sport_Psychology_The_Psychology_of_Athletic_Excellence?)

Gangyan, S., Cruz, J. & Jaenes, J.C. (Eds.) (2017). Sport Psychology: Linking Theory to Practice. Madrid. Dyckinson. PDF Available on Blackboard.

Jaenes, J.C. (Ed.). (2017). PSYTOOL: Values in Sports. Special supplement number 3. Revista de Psicología del Deporte. PDF availables on [www.rpd-online.com](http://www.rpd-online.com) (free of charges).

Weinberg, R.S. & Gould, D. (2015). Foundations of Sport Exercise Psychology. Fifth Ed. Human Kinetics. Chapters available on Blackboard.

Johnson, U. (2006). Sport Psychology – Past, Present and Future: The Perceptions of Swedish Sport Psychology Students. Athletic insight. PDF Available in <http://www.athleticinsight.com/Vol8Iss3/FuturePDF.pdf>

Brown, G.T. (2014). Mind, Body and Sport UnderStUnderstanding and Supporting Student-athlete Mental Wellness. NCAA. PDF Available [https://www.naspa.org/images/uploads/events/Mind\\_Body\\_and\\_Sport.pdf](https://www.naspa.org/images/uploads/events/Mind_Body_and_Sport.pdf)

Jaenes, J.C., Alarcón, D., Trujillo, M., Méndez-Sánchez, M.P., Guereño, P.L. & Wilczyńska, D. (2022). A moderated mediation model of well-being and competitive anxiety in male marathon runners. *Frontier in Psychology*, 13:800024. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2022.800024

Jaenes, J.C., Wilczyńska, D., Alarcón, D., Peñaloza, R., Casado, A. & Trujillo, M. (2021). The Effectiveness of the Psychological Intervention in Amateur Male Marathon Runners. *Frontier in Psychology*. 12:605130. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2021.605130

Moscoso-Sánchez, D.; Alarcón-Rubio, D.; Trujillo-Carmona, M. & Jaenes-Sánchez, J.C. (2021). Training Conditions and Emotional Impact on Spanish Olympic Swimmers and Rowers in Social Isolation due to COVID-19. Results of a Survey. *Sustainability* 13, 11148. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su132011148>

Wilczyńska D., Alarcon Rubio D., Śliwińska P., Jaenes J.C. (2021). Psychological response of athletes in first lockdown due to Covid-19: comparison of Polish and Spanish samples.

*Baltic Journal of Health and Physical Activity, Supplement (1)* 1-8. doi: 10.29359/BJHPA.2021.Suppl.1.01

Jaenes, J.C., Alarcón, D, Trujillo. M., Peñaloza, R., Mehrosfar, A.H., Chirico, A, Giancamilli, F., and Lucidi. F (2021). Emotional Reactions and Adaptation to COVID-19 Lockdown (or Confinement) by Spanish Competitive Athletes: Some Lesson for the Future. *Frontier Psychology* 12:621606. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2021.621606

Mehrsfar, A.H., Moghadam Zadeh A, Jaenes Sánchez J.C., Gazerani P. (2021). Competitive anxiety or Coronavirus anxiety? The psychophysiological responses of professional football players after returning to competition during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Psychoneuroendocrinology*; 129:105269. DOI: 10.1016/j.psyneuen.2021.105269.

### **Course Requirements and Grading**

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Quizzes: 40 % Multiple choice (4 options)
- Case Study (3):10%
- Homework: 10%
- Final Paper: 10%
- Midterm: 15%
- Final: 15%

### **General Course Policies**

Each student is expected to be familiar with the course syllabus. Students are expected to focus their full attention on the class, arrive on time, and stay until class ends. Leaving the classroom on repeated occasions is disturbing to both your professor and your classmates and may adversely affect your participation grade. Please make use of the 10-minute breaks in between classes to fill up your water bottle, use the restroom, etc.

Students are expected to listen and respect other points of view. Phone calls, social media, email, or Internet browsing at any time during class are not acceptable during class except for specific class-related activity expressly approved by your instructor. You are responsible for any and all course material covered in class, announcements, and/or handouts if you are not present for any reason. Students will be held responsible to be up to date by attending to class regularly and checking both email and the Blackboard site of the course frequently (monitor your email and Blackboard announcements at least once every 24 hours).

**Communicating with instructor:** Please allow at least 48 hours for your instructor to respond to your emails. The weekend is not included in this timeframe. If you have an urgent request or question for your professor, be sure to send it during the week.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Attendance is mandatory at all classes. As we understand that you might fall ill or be unable to come to class (e.g. due to a religious holiday, a flight delay, a family wedding/reunion, a graduation, a job interview, etc.) at some point during the semester, you are allowed up to 4 absences. You will be responsible for the material covered and any work missed. You will not need to justify your absences (up to 4) in any way unless you miss an exam, a presentation, a quiz, etc. In this case, you must present a doctor's note (signed, stamped and dated) to be able to reschedule the exam, etc. It will still count as an absence but you will be allowed to retake the exam, etc. We don't encourage you to use all 4 days unless you really need them

as your participation grade may suffer if you are not in class. If used unwisely and you get sick late in the semester, the following penalties will apply:

- On your 5th absence, 1 point will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- On your 6th absence, 3 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
- Your 7th absence, will result in failing the course

Exams missed due to an excused absence must be made up within a week of returning to classes. Talk to your professor immediately after your return.

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic integrity is a guiding principle for all academic activity at Pablo de Olavide University. Cheating on exams and plagiarism (which includes copying from the Internet) are clear violations of academic honesty. A student is guilty of plagiarism when he or she presents another person's intellectual property as his or her own. The penalty for plagiarism and cheating is a failing grade for the assignment/exam and a failing grade for the course. The International Center may also report this to your home university. Avoid plagiarism by citing sources properly, using footnotes and a bibliography, and not cutting and pasting information from various websites when writing assignments.

### **Learning Accommodations**

If you require special accommodations, or have any other medical condition you deem may affect your class performance, you must stop by the International Center to speak to the Faculty Coordinator, Marta Carrillo ([mcaroro@upo.es](mailto:mcaroro@upo.es)) to turn in your documentation. The Faculty Coordinator will explain the options available to you.

### **Behavior Policy**

Students are expected to show integrity and act in a professional and respectful manner at all times. A student's attitude in class may influence his/her participation grade. The professor has a right to ask a student to leave the classroom if the student is unruly or appears intoxicated. If a student is asked to leave the classroom, that day will count as an absence regardless of how long the student has been in class.

### **Cell Phones**

Please, keep your cell phones turned off during class. Use of cell phones during class, is impolite, inappropriate, and prohibited. All students are expected to show common courtesy to others, in order to create a positive learning environment, and eliminate distractions for everyone. Cell phones, tablets, watches, and other electronic devices, are to be turned off or silenced (do not set to vibrate) and placed in your purse, backpack, briefcase, etc. during class.

### **Laptops**

Your professor will determine whether laptops will be allowed in class. The use of a laptop, may be limited to specific purposes, including note taking as allowed by special needs/academic accommodations, and/or at the discretion of the professor. The use of a laptop, is prohibited during all tests and quizzes, unless otherwise specified by your professor. If you have any questions, regarding the use of laptops or cell phones, please inquire with your professor onsite. Checking your Facebook, Instagram, etc. is really impolite.

### **Course contents**

1. **Sport Psychology:** Beginning your journey. Welcome to Sport and Exercise Psychology. Defining Sport and Exercise Psychology. The roles of Sport Psychologists. Ethical standards for Psychologists. Two hats: Sports and Psychology. What Sport Psychologists do, when and how.

**Video:** Lara Boyd. Brain plasticity.

**Some practical experiences:** Rowing World Championship U-23 Race (Check Republic).

**Practice 1:** Coordination skills for marathon runners.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXTSMF568zs>

Kenya's Eliud

Kipchoge wins back-to-back marathons

**HOMEWORK 1:** With your own words: Write a 300-word composition: Describe how the knowledge and the practice sport psychology can affect you if you were a coach, a certified athletic training, sport journalism or other career (related with sports) Time New Roman, 12 cpi, simple. (one class after completing lesson 1). Printing homework's is a student's responsibility.

2. **Emotions and Sport:** Basic concepts: Stress, Anxiety Trait, State. The Relationship between Trait and State. Fear, Arousal. The relationship between emotions and motor behavior and performance. Theories about emotions and performance. ZOP Theory and others. Some practical experiences: Rowing World Championship. Linz (Austria)

**Practice 2:** Understanding Emotional States: Case Study 1: A case study: A case of volleyball player Reading: Colleen Case. PDF Available. Consult Blackboard.

Reading (optional): <https://time.com/6084384/why-simone-biles-out-team-eventsilver/>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LAY03PMpuE>

**HOMEWORK 2:** With your own words: Write a 300 words composition: Given what you have learned, what can Colleen do to manage his situation and play well. How could you help her view her anxiety? Time New Roman, 12 cpi, simple. (Colleen case)

3. **Psychology for Coaches:** Evaluation in Sport Psychology: Behavioral, Cognitive and Psycho-Physiological approaches. Direct and indirect intervention. Coaching Styles. Working together: Coaching Leadership: definition, Different approaches. Practice 3: Evaluating coaches: C.B.A.S as an observation and communication model. Coaching styles.

Class discussion: Your fever coach & your worst coach.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWZsQj49dO8> Introduction to I coach kids' program

**HOMEWORK 3:** With your own words: Write a 300 words composition. Coaching styles: Pros and Cons of each style.

**CLASS ACTIVITIES:** a. Compose a slide describing a sport situation illustrated with an appropriate picture and the correct CBAS instruction. You will present the situation in class.

b. Desirable and undesirable behaviors: Coach code. One student will introduce him/herself as the coach and will explain his/her philosophy

4. **Motivation:** Defining motives and motivation. Why skateboarding or Cycling BMX Freestyle have been accepted in the Olympics? Urban Sports. Urban abilities and values. Student responsibility: Building motivation with five guidelines. Developing Achievement motivation and competitiveness.

Theories: a) Self-Determination Theory (Deci & Ryan). More popular in Sport Psychology.

b) Stage of Change Model (Prochaska and Di Clementi). More popular in Health Psychology.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ggYObSO5tU> Skateboarding: Tokyo 2020

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2egvqEsNIXQ> Cycling BMX FreeStyle

**HOMEWORK 4:** Design a short program to increase motivation in performers. Indicate how you will foster an appropriate motivational climate. Feel free to choose and describe the sport, performer age, situation, etc. 250-300 words.

5. **Psychological Characteristics of Peak Performance:** Follow the line: Past (personal history). Warming up. Competition. Post-competition: evaluation & feedback. Peak Performance profile. Psychological Skills Training (PST): General characteristics. Different elements: Stop Thinking, Concentration skills, Decision making, stress management, etc.

Class discussion: Your fever athlete: Why?

Working in groups: Stop Thinking, Concentration skills, Decision making, etc.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BtQIla9X0qE> Men's Canoe Double 1000 meters final World Championship. Halifax, Canada.

6. **Physical Training:** Basic concepts. How to put together physical, tactical training and psychological preparation. Tools to enhance performance. Psychological training in tennis, football, track and field, rowing, etc.

**Practice 4:** How to put it all together. Sport Psychologists and trainers: working together. The case of marathon.

**Reading:** Jaenes, J.C. et al. (2021). The effectiveness of the psychological intervention in amateur male marathon runners. *Frontier in Psychology*.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9IGSIi-fhE> Women's 1500 final

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJYvxopYzPA> Nevin Harrison Olympic Champ USA C1

**HOMEWORK 5:** Design a PST program to learn or increase five psychological abilities in sport. Feel free to choose the sport, performer age, situation, and psychological abilities. I highly recommend you to compose a table in order to be more illustrative.

7. **The dark side of Sport (1):** Addictive and Unhealthy Behaviors: Eating Disorders (EAT): Anorexia, Bulimia, and Athletic Anorexia. Addiction: Positive and Negative directions. Preventing EAT. Coach Role: Positive and negative influences. EAT and dancing. Prevalence of EAT

**Practice 5. The case of John:** Examine this case in light of the Stage of Change Model (Motivation Theory). Class discussion.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIMvh3QWukk> Struggling with an eating disorder

**HOMEWORK 6:** Write a 300 words composition: Given what you have learned, what can John do to manage his situation and perform better. How could you help him? Time New Roman, 12 cpi, simple. (John case)

8. **The dark side of Sport (2):** Burnout: Different models. Symptoms. Treatment and Prevention. Overtraining. Staleness. Causes of overtraining. Symptoms. Treatment and prevention. Coaches' Burnout. Drugs, Doping, WADA organization and ADAM System. Individual differences in athlete burnout causes overtraining.  
**Reading:** : Wilczyńska, D.; Qi, W.; **Jaenes, J.C.**; Alarcón, D.; Arenilla, M.J.; Lipowski, M. Burnout and Mental Interventions among Youth Athletes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Studies. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2022, 19, 10662. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph191710662>
9. **Positive consequences of Sport and Physical Activity:** Health and Psychological Well-being Exercise in the reduction of Anxiety, Depression, and Enhancing mood with exercise. Psychological benefits: explanations. The runner's High. Adherence.  
**Reading: Jaenes, et. al. (2022).** A moderate meditation model of wellbeing and competitive anxiety in male marathon runners. *Frontiers in Psychology*  
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.800024>
10. **Values and Sports: PSYTOOL Project:** Racism and violence in Sports. Different types of discrimination: gender, sexual orientation. Promoting values in sports: European Erasmus+ Projects.  
**Reading: Jaenes et. al. (2017).** Racism and discrimination in Sports. PSYTOOL project.  
**Nassar case:** Please read about the case. We will discuss in class.

**Two outdoor activities** (class time): Will be announced.

### Important dates

#### September

Tuesday, September 12: First day of classes

Monday, September 18: Last day to change classes (last day of drop & add)

#### October

October 12 – Día de la Hispanidad. No classes will be held.

#### **Monday, October 16 – Thursday, October 26: Mid-term exam period**

Friday, October 20: Classes will be held (Thursday's classes)

#### **Friday, October 27: Last day to withdraw from a class**

#### November

Wednesday, November 1: All Saint's Day. No classes will be held

#### December

6: Día de la Constitución. No classes will be held.

Thursday, December 7: "Puente". No classes will be held.

Wednesday, December 13: Last day of classes

#### **Thursday & Friday, December 14 & 15 - Monday & Tuesday, December 18 & 19: Final Exams (4 days)**

Tuesday, December 19: Last day of the Program Tuesday, December 19 (pm): Farewell reception (in Seville)

### Paper instructions for Fall Semester 2023

#### Topic: Sports as Value: A project to promote equality, non-discriminations, and tackling match-fixing in grassroots sports

At the beginning of the 2015 until 2017, the Erasmus+ funded project “PSYTOOL” initiated a two-year long journey in which countries from the European Union (Spain, Portugal, UK, Italy, and Sweden) partnered up for a common goal; to integrate positive values within the sport practice, and to build stronger communities through sport and promotion of EU values with Pablo de Olavide as I.P. and José Carlos Jaenes as General Director.

#### 1. Important dates

- a) Preliminary draft of midterm paper to be submitted: **October 26**
- b) Term paper submission deadline: **December 1** (feel free to submit in advance)  
Papers handed in after the deadline will not be considered.

#### 2. Formal requirements

The paper must be typed on a computer and comply with the following requirements:

- a) **Font:** Times New Roman, font size 12 and a line spacing of 1.5.
- b) **Word count:** The length of the draft of term paper is 2500 words while the term paper is maximum 4000 words. Footnotes should be included in the word count of the main text. Not included in this count: the front page (with name and title etc.), summary, table of contents and references (bibliography).

**3. Paper structure:** Technically the paper should be as good as possible: It should be well organized in sections and subsections, each with respective headings, and it should contain footnotes and references. The paper should follow the following recommended structure:

- **Table of contents** (an orientation)
- **Introduction:** The introduction is to be placed in the beginning of the paper and should contain the following:
  - Sports Value, non-discrimination, match-fixing definitions, why is important in life but also in Sports (based on references)
  - Common mental and social problems in Sports: related with life style, age, pressure, competitions, dreams and goals.
  - Clarification of terms (or definitions) if necessary, especially if you include terms like sexual harassment, bullying, etc.

**Potential clients:** Children, parents, coaches, clubs, grassroots age, why?

**Actions:** Be creative, but create a workable project.

**Seminars, workshops, training (be creative) even why not, you can create your own website project.**

- Of course, you could enrich your paper including “famous” public cases; Nassar’s case...

#### - Discussion

- 5 bullet points (Conclusions)
- References in A.P.A. format with DOI if possible (in references)
- **Methodology:** You have to read at least five relevant articles about the topic. I recommend you to check Medline (Frontier in Psychology or other important Sport or Sport Psychology Journals).

Organize your main text along several well-defined sections. This is where you develop the arguments and discuss the topic.



- **Annex:** List of references (bibliography): - The use of footnotes and references in the bibliography should be consistent.
- **An example** of a bibliography can be found in the guidelines for writing the syllabus o by checking important Sport Psychology Journals (APA format).

If you have questions regarding any of these issues, please contact the professor at [jcjaesan@upo.es](mailto:jcjaesan@upo.es)