

T1304

Individual exam

Spring 2024

Answer only 2 of these 3 questions:

1. Discuss challenges that women working in men's elite or professional sports may experience. What are ways to make this better?
2. Discuss how coaching in professional sports come with a unique or specific set of challenges, compared to coaching at grassroots, youth or lower-level sports.
3. Why do performance practitioners in elite sports often speak about planning and preparing with the ultimate aim (winning or developing top performances) in mind? Discuss and give examples from practice.

Good luck!

Geir

Sensurveiledning

1. A top graded answer shows deep insights into Tynke Toering's chapter from Collins, with references to gender stereotypes, gender pay gaps, devaluation and social rejection, and social challenges. For the second part, it is expected that students refer to several of the suggestions in Toering's chapter about what women can do, what men can do, and what organizations can do. Students should also refer to some of those studies that were presented in the lecture on this topic about leadership assessments of women and men, and how some of the reason for why there are few women in leadership roles is not about lack of competence but lack of confidence. A good answer will also acknowledge some of the complexity and nuance that necessarily is a part of this very difficult question. A pass grade will show some familiarity with this chapter and the lecture on the topic.
2. A top graded answer presents several of these challenges as they have been identified and discussed in several of the chapters from Collins, such as Olsen, Smith, Hiddink, and the guest lecture from Deila. The answer needs to be coherent and also present commonalities and themes across these chapters/presentations, such as for example the importance of managing upwards (your bosses) and the importance of communication and leadership. A pass answer will present something from at least 1-2 of these chapters/presentations.
3. A top graded answer refers to Connolly's views on the importance of "knowing the problem before you start to solve it", and refers to and explains relevant concepts from Connolly, such as "Schwerpunkt" and "commander's intent". It is also possible to refer to theories that support this, such as Dynamical systems theory and Chaos theory, but they are not

necessary for a top grade. In addition, several relevant chapters in Collins should be elaborated upon, where some of the obvious ones are Barr, Jordet, and Jongkind. The answer needs to be written with coherence and clarity for a top grade. A pass answer needs to refer to at least 2 chapters from Collins.