

Fall, 2010
Professor Robert Edelman
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HIEU 127 – The History of Sport in the Modern World

This course looks at the phenomenon of sport in all its social, cultural, political and economic aspects. Our starting point will be the emergence of modern sport in nineteenth century Britain, but our approach will be global. Our primary concern will be with elite sport rather than participation or physical culture. Because our approach will be topical rather than strictly chronological, students should already have a good knowledge of world history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as we will be attempting throughout the course to set sport in the context of the events of particular periods. Students who feel they lack the background may want to read Eric Hobsbawm's works – *The Age of Empire* and *The Age of Extremes*. Other works covering the nineteenth and twentieth centuries are also acceptable.

Since sport is such a visual activity, several videos will be shown. Excerpts will be seen in class. The entire videos will be available on reserve and online.

There will be a mid-term exam composed of identifications and a brief essay. Students may replace the mid-term with a 12-15 page research paper on a topic of the student's choice and the professor's approval. You must meet with me in person to discuss and refine your topic and work out your bibliography and outline. This should be done during office hours or by appointment. Then I will need a short list of questions you will try to answer in your essay and a brief, preliminary bibliography. A wide variety of sources, written and electronic (with the exception of Wikipedia) may be used and must be cited. The questions and the bibliography must be completed by the date of the mid-term. Electronic submissions will not be accepted, only hard copy. No proposals will be accepted after the mid-term. You may not change your topic after the mid-term. It is crucial that this work be your own. Plagiarism is the most serious crime a student or historian can commit at a university. It will be more impressive to graders that you cite your sources than if you claim them as your own. It is therefore vital that the student and professor have a clear idea of your topic. The paper is due the same day as the final exam. The final will be in-class.

Books to be purchased at Groundwork:

William Baker – *Sports in the Western World*
C. L. R. James – *Beyond a Boundary*
Allen Guttman – *The Olympics*
Kathryn Jay – *More than Just a Game*

Reader – University Readers

Both the books and the reader will also be placed on reserve at H&SS library

Electronic Reserves –

David Goldblatt – *The Ball is Round*

David Large – *Nazi Games*

Xu Guoqi – *Olympic Dreams*

Peter Alegi – *Laduma: Soccer, Politics and Society in South Africa*

Arjun Appadurai – *Modernity at Large*

Simon Martin – *Football and Fascism*

Available on free download at www.LA84Foundation.org

Robert Edelman – *Serious Fun: A History of Spectator Sports in the USSR*

Videos on reserve and available online with video streaming

BBC History of Soccer vol. 1

Olympia

City Dump

03 for Gold

Soviet Sport Festivals

Lagaan

READINGS

Week O - Introduction and Definitions

Zero readings

Week I - Theorizing Sport

All in Reader – Allen Guttman – *From Ritual to Record* ch. 1

Richard Gruneau – “The Critique of Sport in Modernity”

Pierre Bourdieu – “Program for a Sociology of Sport”

Norbert Elias – “An Essay on Sport and Violence”

Johan Huizinga – *Homo Ludens* ch. 1

Week II – The Rise of Sport in the Modern World

Baker – pp. 99-259

Week III - The People's Game – Soccer

Electronic reserves – David Goldblatt – *The Ball is Round*, pp. 19-260

Video – BBC History of Soccer vol. I

Week IV – The Olympic Games

Reader – John MacAloon – *This Great Symbol* pp. 43-60 and chs. 5 and 6

Guttman – *Olympics* – chs. 2-10

Week V – Sport and Gender

Reader – Susan Cahn – *Coming on Strong* chs. 2-9

Reader - Eric Dunning – “Sport as a Male Preserve”

Mid-term

Week VI – American Exceptionalism

Reader – Gorn and Goldstein – *A Brief History of American Sports* - chs. 2-4

Kathryn Jay – *More than Just a Game* – chs. 2-5

Video – City Dump

Week VII – Sport and Fascism

Electronic reserves – David Large – *Nazi Games* - 49-109 and 147-187

Electronic Reserves – Simon Martin – *Football and Fascism* - pp. 173-217

Video - Olympia

Week VIII – Sport and Communism

Download from website [www.LA84foundation.org]- Robert Edelman – *Serious Fun* - chs. 2-6

Video – Soviet Sports festivals

Week IX. - Sport and Colonialism

C.L.R. James – *Beyond a Boundary* – pp. 1-116

Electronic reserves – Peter Alegi – *Laduma* – pp. 15-84

Week X – Sport in Asia

Electronic reserves – Xu Guogi – *Olympic Dreams* – pp. 12-116

Electronic reserves – Arjun Appadurai – *Modernity at Large* - pp. tba

Video - Lagaan