

Spring, 2008  
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### HIEU 127 - Sport in the Modern World

This course looks at the phenomenon of sport in all of its social, cultural, political and economic aspects. Our starting point will be the emergence of modern sport in nineteenth century Britain, but our focus will be global. Our primary concern will be with elite sport, rather than participation sport or physical culture. Because our approach here will be topical rather than 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 this period. Students who feel they lack historical 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.

Students will be able to pursue this course at two levels of seriousness. You may replace the in-class mid-term with a research paper. In general, those who are majors or are hoping to receive an "A" should write the paper. While this will not guarantee an "A", it is my experience that those who do the paper get higher grades. If you write a poor paper, you will not get an "A." On the other hand, just doing the exam does not automatically mean you will get a "B." A great performance on the exam could produce an "A." This, however, is less likely. You must present a paper topic, brief outline and bibliography before the mid-term in order to get the instructor's permission to do this. No paper proposal will be accepted after the mid-term. All students will take the final which will be take home. The research paper will be due the same days as the final.

#### Books to be Purchased

William Baker - Sports in the Western World  
C.L.R. James - Beyond a Boundary  
Susan Brownell - Training the Body for China  
Richard Mandell - The Nazi Olympics  
The readings packet will contain other assigned works

Theoretically, all the readings for this course are on reserve. At least the request has been made to the reserve desk.

## **I. Introduction**

**Reading packet:** Allen Guttman, *From Ritual to Record*, chs. 1 and 2.

Pierre Bourdieu, "Program for a Sociology of Sport"

Richard Gruneau, "The Critique of Sport in Modernity: Theorising  
Power, Culture and the Politics of the Body"

Norbert Elias, *An Essay on Sport and Violence*

Johan Huizinga, *Nature and Significance of Play*

## **II. The Rise of Sport in the Modern World**

William Baker - *Sports in the Western World*- pp. 99-259

## **III. The People's Game - Soccer**

packet: Tony Mason, *Association Football and English Society, 1863-1915*. Pp. 68-167 .

Nick Hornby, *Fever Pitch*

Bill Murray, *The World's Game*, chs. 2-5.

## **IV. The Olympic Games**

packet: John MacAloon, *This Great Symbol, Pierre de Coubertin and the Origins of the  
Modern Olympic Games*, pp. 43-60, chs. 5 and 6.

## **V. Sport and Gender**

packet :Susan Cahn , *Coming on Strong: Gender and Sexuality in Twentieth Century*

*Women' Sport*, chs. 2-9 and Eric Dunning, "Sport as a Male Bastion"

mid -term exam

## **VI. American Exceptionalism?**

packet: readings in Steven Riess, *Major Problems in American Sport*  
Gorn and Goldstein - *A Brief History of American Sports*, pp. 49-221

## **VII. Sport and Fascism**

Richard Mandell-*The Nazi Olympics*, chs. 2-5 and 10

## **VIII. Sport and Communism**

Robert Edelman, *Serious Fun*, chs. 2-6. Students may download this book for free from the following website - [www.LA84foundation.org](http://www.LA84foundation.org). Click on "library" then "search" on the home page and find the book

## **IX. Sport, Colonialism and Race**

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

## **X. Sports in Asia**

Susan Brownell, *Training the Body for China*, chs.2-4, 8 and 11