SOCIOLOGY 2T03 – SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT

Winter, 2019
Day/Time: M 9:30-10:20 AM; TH 9:30-11:20 AM
Class Location: BSB/B136

Instructor: Dr. Mark Norman
Email Address: norman2@mcmaster.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course examines sociological issues related to the nature of play, games, and sport in contemporary society. The course focuses on current structures of sport as both liberating and limiting human social possibilities. Sociological theories are used to analyze such topics as: the relationship between sport and social institutions; the social organization of sport; sport and gender relations; sport and racism; and social change in and through sport. This course is both skill-driven and content-driven. Students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of sport using sociological perspectives and show their ability to engage in critical inquiry. Students will develop and demonstrate their ability to arrive at understandings of a problem, an issue, or a phenomenon, through the process of asking good questions, searching out good evidence, and arriving at well-reasoned conclusions. Active participation and engaged learning are essential in this course.

REQUIRED TEXTS
- **Additional Readings:** All additional readings will either be journal articles that are available online through McMaster University Library or articles that are available online (URL will be provided).

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES
This course addresses many of the University Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (see [http://cll.mcmaster.ca/COU/degree/undergraduate.html](http://cll.mcmaster.ca/COU/degree/undergraduate.html)). Students will develop a deep understanding of the Sociology of Sport, while broadening their sociological training. They will work individually and in groups to apply theoretical knowledge from course material to contemporary case studies and media products and they will communicate this knowledge in written assignment and in-class discussions. Students will be encouraged to grapple with, and to recognize the strengths and limitations of, diverse theoretical traditions.

EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Feb. 14 (in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Analysis Essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>March 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Exam period (Apr. 11-29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Responses (3)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3 randomly selected Monday classes</td>
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(3 X 5%)

***Further details about assignments will be discussed in class and posted on Avenue to Learn within the first two weeks of term.***
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 – Introduction to Course (Jan. 7 & 10)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 1, “The Sociology of Sport: What Is It and Why Study It?”

Week 2 – Sociology of Sport: Theoretical Traditions (Jan. 14 & 17)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 2, “Using Social Theories”
- McKay, “Assessing the Sociology of Sport: On Revisiting the Sociological Imagination”

Week 3 – Socialization and Deviance in Sport (Jan. 21 & 24)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 4, “Sports and Socialization”
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 6, “Deviance” in Sports”

Week 4 – Gender and Sport (Jan. 28 & 31)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 8, “Gender and Sports”
- Additional reading TBD

Week 5 – Race and Ethnicity in Sport (Feb. 4 & 7)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 9, “Race & Ethnicity”
- Forsyth & Walmsley, “‘Native to Native… We’ll Recapture Our Spirits’: The World Indigenous Nations Games and North American Indigenous Games as Cultural Resistance.”

Week 6 – REVIEW & MIDTERM EXAM (Feb. 11 & 14)

No Required Readings

***MID-TERM RECESS – NO CLASSES (Feb. 18 & 21)***

Week 7 – Sports Media (Part 1) (Feb. 25 & 28)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 12, “Sports and the Media”
- Scherer & Norman, “Sport, Media, and Ideology”
Week 8 – Sports Media (Part 2) (March 4 & 7)

Required Readings:
- Andrews & Ritzer, “Sport and Prosumption”
- Norman, “Saturday Night’s Alright for Tweeting: Cultural Citizenship, Collective Discussion, and the New Media Consumption/Production of Hockey Day in Canada”

Week 9 – Social Class and Sport (March 11 & 14)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 10, “Social Class”
- Gruneau, “Goodbye, Gordie Howe: Sport Participation and Class Inequality in the “Pay for Play” Society”

Week 10 – Sports, the Economy and the State (March 18 & 25)

Required Readings:
- Coakley & Donnelly, Chapter 13, “Sports and Politics”
- Scherer & Koch, “Living with War: Sport, Citizenship, and the Cultural Politics of Post-9/11 Canadian Identity”

Week 11 – Sports and Global Social Change (March 25 & 28)

Required Readings:
- Forde & Wilson, “Radical Sports Journalism?: Reflections on ‘Alternative’ Approaches to Covering Sport-Related Social Issues”
- Millington, Darnell, & Millington, “Ecological Modernization and the Olympics: The Case of Golf and Rio’s “Green” Games’

Week 12 – Future Directions in the Sociology of Sport / Exam Review (April 1 & 4)

Readings TBD

Week 13 – Course Conclusion (April 8)

No Required Readings

LIST OF NON-TEXTBOOK READINGS:

- Available from: McMaster Library (online)
- Available from: McMaster Library (online)

- Available from: McMaster Library (online)

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- Available from: Avenue to Learn
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

COURSE POLICIES

- Late assignments will be deducted 5% per day. Missed midterms, exams, or group responses will receive a zero unless proper documentation is filed to document the absence.

- Emails should be professional in tone and be sent from your McMaster University account. I will respond to emails with 48-72 hours, weekends excepted.

- Rather than holding regular office hours, I will make myself available to meet with students at a mutually convenient time. Advanced notice is required to arrange a meeting. Please contact me by email at an early stage so that we can arrange a meeting time.

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- Do NOT email assignments. Please see your instructor for the most appropriate way to submit assignments.

- The Sociology staff do NOT date-stamp assignments, nor do they monitor the submission or return of papers.

- The McMaster Student Absence Form (http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/) is a self reporting tool for Undergraduate Students to report absences that last up to 3 days and provides the ability to request accommodation for any missed academic work. Please note, this tool cannot be used during any final examination period.

- You may submit a maximum of 1 Academic Work Missed request per term. It is YOUR responsibility to follow up with your instructor immediately regarding the nature of the accommodation. If you are absent more than 3 days, exceed 1 request per term, or are absent for a reason other than medical, you MUST visit your Associate Dean’s Office.
(Faculty Office). You may be required to provide supporting documentation. This form should be filled out when you are about to return to class after your absence.

- Students should check the web, the white board and the Undergraduate Bulletin board outside the Sociology office (KTH-627) for notices pertaining to Sociology classes or departmental business (e.g., class scheduling information, location of mailboxes and offices, tutorial information, class cancellations, TA job postings, etc.).

- Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.

- The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

- It is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

**RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS, AND SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)**
The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student’s religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code. Please review the RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences about how to request accommodation.