Social Aspects of Sport
Summer 2018

EXSS 218

Class time: Monday - Thursday  8.30 am – 10.25 am

Name of Faculty: Dr Gregg Wilson
Contact details: gw3@evansville.edu

Course Description
Explores the social roots of sport in contemporary society. This class will examine topics related to the historical, political and religious influences that shaped sport in England and will compare the differences and similarities that sport plays in both the U.S. and U.K. Student will critically evaluate the role of sports in order to identify and understand selected social issues. Emphasis will also be placed on the London Olympics and how the Olympic movement has influenced societal changes. Field trips will include visits to the London Olympic Venue and other sport sociology related trips.

Pre-requisites: Permission of Instructor

Credit Hour Policy Statement
This class meets the federal credit hour policy of:

- Combination of standard lecture and other activities – e.g. A combination of lecture + field trips, laboratory, or similar, for a total of 45-75 hours of supervised learning activities for each credit.

General Education Objective
This course meets the UE General Education requirements for both UE Overlay B & E.

Overlay B: Diversity: US
Overlay E: Writing across the curriculum

Learning Objectives
Listed below are the Learning Objectives for the course:

1. To become familiar with the historical emergence of contemporary sport sociology.
2. To describe the cultural influences that shape societal sports participation, modes of sporting activity and ethics.
3. To examine the role of religion, politics and culture in the development of sport in Great Britain.
4. To gain an understanding of the historical emergence of the modern Olympic Games.
5. To explain the fundamental concepts and techniques of the scientific method of research in the study of sport sociology.
6. To compare and contrast sport in Great Britain and the United States.
7. To understand the various definitions of sport and why it is studied as an academic discipline.
8. To describe the major political, cultural and religious issues pertinent to sport in today’s society.

9. To explain the gender difference in sport and exercise participation.

10. To identify the business and commercial implications of sport in the modern world.

Further Information about the Course

Please remember that we are guests at Harlaxton College. When taking field trips, we are representing both UE and Harlaxton. Please dress appropriately for all trips and be courteous and respectful during these visits. We are fortunate that the facilities have taken the time to allow us to visit, and everybody needs to be sure to express their appreciation.

Schedule of topics and assessments

Tentative sequence for EXSS 218

I. Sociology of Sport. What is it?

“There is nothing like looking, if you want to find something. You certainly usually find something if you look, but it is not always quite the something you were after.” The Hobbit

II. Knowledge Gathering in Sport Sociology: Research Issues

“The grandest aim of all science is to cover the greatest number of empirical facts by logical deduction from the smallest number of hypothesis or axioms.” Albert Einstein

III. Emergence of the Modern Olympic Games

1) Pierre de Coubertin
2) Berlin Olympics
3) Cold War Politics & Sport
4) Amateur vs. Professional Athletes
5) Commercialization

IV. Sports and Socialization

IV. Youth Sports

“I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it.” - Harry S. Truman

TEST # 1

V. Deviance and Violence in Sports

VI. Gender in Sports and Society
VII. Social Class and Sports

VIII. Barriers to Sport & Exercise Participation
“If a man is to live, he must be all alive, body, soul, mind, heart and spirit.”
*Thomas Merton*

IX. Sports and the Economy. The Business Side of Amateur & Professional Sports

X. Sports and the Media

TEST # 2

XI. Sports and Politics

XII. Sport and Religion

XIII. The Future of Sports

TEST # 3

Teaching Methods

Required Text:

Teaching Methods:

Assessment and Grading Criteria

Tests: There will be four (4) exams given during the semester to assess student ability to comprehend and synthesize course material. Each exam will be worth 30 points and be composed of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Written Assignments: There will be three (3) written assignments. Each assignment will cover a topic discussed in class of the student’s choosing. This will allow the student to explore areas of interest in greater detail and meet the writing requirement of the University. Each assignment will be worth 10 points.

Point Totals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test or Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test # 1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Assignment</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test # 2</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Assignment</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test # 3</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Assignment</td>
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Total: 150 points
There will be no extra credit given for additional course work.

Make up examinations/quizzes will be given only with approved prior notice.

Academic honesty is expected in all work. See Honor Code below.

Incomplete grades will not be given unless granted by UE.

**NO TEXTING DURING CLASS.**

### Attendance Policy

Harlaxton College operates a mandatory attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students.

In the Summer Semester only ONE unexcused absence will be allowable. Additional unexcused absences will attract an overall grade penalty of a third-of-a-letter grade for each unexcused absence (e.g. one additional unexcused absence would result in an A- being reduced to a B+).

Students are responsible for the academic consequences of their failure to attend class.

### Drop/Add and Withdrawal Policy

The course is subject to the UE drop/add policy as modified to apply to a summer semester of study in the UK context.

### Disability Policy

It is the policy of the University of Evansville (Harlaxton College) to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. University of Evansville students should contact the Office of Counselling and Health Education to seek help with this. Students from Partner Universities/Colleges should contact their own relevant student support office. For assistance whilst at Harlaxton students should contact the College Secretary whose office is located adjacent to the Principal’s office.

Written notification to faculty from the College Secretary is required for academic accommodations to be implemented.
Honor Code

All students at the University of Evansville (Harlaxton College) agree to and are bound by the principles and practice of the honor code:

‘I understand that any work I submit for course credit will imply that I have adhered to this Academic Honor Code: I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.’

The full Honor Code is available online:
https://www.evansville.edu/offices/deanstudents/downloads/honorcode.pdf