

Fall, 2009
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.

There will be two one-hour exams that will test specific knowledge, an analytical paper and a take-home final. Each exam will comprise 15% of your grade. The paper will be 20% and the final 50%.

Readings

Books to be purchased

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

BBC History of Soccer (10 vols.)

Olympia

City Dump

03 to Gold

Soviet Sport Festivals

Lagaan

READINGS

Week O -

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

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”

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

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

Week VIII – Sport and Communism

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

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