

PSC 310: Politics of Sport
Spring 2019
Center Hall 305
TTh 9:45-11:00
Professor: Dr. Theodore J. Masthay
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Sports and politics intersect in myriad ways. From the government funded stadiums to expressions by athletes in the name of social justice, though athletics are often seen as an escape from the hum drum of everyday life, its interaction with larger systems of thought and behavior are undeniable. In this course, we will examine the relationship between sports and politics from several angles. This includes studying from the perspectives of fans, governments, international sports organizations, and the athletes themselves. We will learn together why it is wrongheaded to dismiss sports as “just a game.”

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change at any time throughout the semester. You will be informed of all changes and a revised copy of the syllabus will be available on Canvas.

Textbooks

Markovits, Andrei S. and Lars Rensmann. 2010. *Gaming the World: How Sports Are Reshaping Global Politics and Culture*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Harvey, Jean, John Horne, Parissa Safai, Simon Darnell, and Sébastien Courchesne-O'Neill. 2014. *Sport and Social Movements: From the Local to the Global*. New York: Bloomsbury.

Bennett, James T. *They Play, You Pay: Why Taxpayers Build Ballparks, Stadiums, and Arenas for Billionaire Owners and Millionaire Players*. New York: Copernicus Books.

Grading

The semester will consist of two exams, two 6-8 page papers, a group bid book project, and class participation.

Midterm Exam	20% of final grade
Final Exam	20% of final grade
Paper #1	15% of final grade
Paper #2	15% of final grade
Bid Book Project	15% of final grade
Attendance/Participation	15% of final grade

A: 93-100 B: 83-87.99 C: 73-77.99 F: 0-59.99
A-: 90-92.99 B-: 80-82.99 C-: 70-72.99
B+: 88-89.99 C+: 78-79.99 D: 60-69.99

Attendance/Participation

Attendance is not required in this course; but your performance this semester will suffer greatly if you are not regularly in class, both physically and mentally. 15% of your final course grade will be weighted towards your engagement during the 150 minutes a week we are together. You are expected to read the assigned texts and be able to discuss them during class. This does not mean you have to have mastered the entire reading list; your participation can include proposing questions for the class (including yourself) to discuss. On occasion, I will ask that you formally submit discussion questions based on the reading before class. But it is of paramount importance that you be constantly engaged with the material during class time.

Exams

There will be two exams throughout the semester. The midterm exam be administered in Center 305, during our regularly scheduled class time. The final exam will still be administered in Center 305, but will occur during the time assigned by the college. Green books will be provided to you for both exams.

You may challenge the grade of your exams. However, you may not contact me until 24 hours after the exam has been handed back. While I will review your grade with the potential for it to increase, I reserve the right to lower your grade as well.

Makeup Exams

There will be no makeup exams administered without ample cause and notice. Valid excuses include significant illness, death in the family, or required attendance at a college sponsored event (including athletics). I must receive notice of these issues *before* the scheduled date of the exam. Documentation for your absence must be given to me within one week after the exam is administered. If you miss an exam without fulfilling these duties, you will receive a 0.

Paper Assignments

Twice during this semester, you will be responsible for turning in a 6-8 page paper that addresses the content we have dealt with in class. The first involves reporting on the process and legacy of a taxpayer funded stadium building project in the U.S. or abroad. For the second, you will have leeway in determining your own topic within the realm of the governance of female sports. Assignment sheets detailing more specifically what is expected in these papers will be posted on Canvas.

Bid Book Project

During the second half of the semester, you will be given details on your final project. In groups of three, you will prepare and present a bid book to host either the FIFA World Cup or the Olympics. Your group will be assigned which event you will make a pitch for, but after that, you get to select the city/country you make the bid for (subject to my approval). In this project, you will not only present the benefits of hosting one of these mega-events, but how you will overcome the potential difficulties.

Classroom Rules

Be courteous of your peers. University is a place where ideas should and do flow freely, but all discussions should remain respectful.

Class ends at 11:00, not 10:59...or 10:58...or 10:57, etc. Please do not begin packing your things until I have indicated that class has ended. I will do everything in my power to make sure that class does not extend past 11:00.

A note about emails: Do not expect to receive any correspondence from me between the hours of 6 pm and 8 am on any day, including the night before an exam. Do not email me to ask about grades, I am not allowed to discuss those over email per FERPA regulations. If you have questions, come to my office hours or set up an appointment. You must email me from your @wabash.edu account; I will not respond to any other addresses. **Do not email me any questions about the course without first consulting the syllabus.**

The Gentleman's Rule

As with all other facets of Wabash life, the Gentleman's Rule applies to your interactions with me and your colleagues inside and outside the classroom, as well as to the completion of all academic requirements of the course. Except for leading an article discussion and data collection for the minilabs, all assignments and exams are to be completed independently, with no assistance from other people or other students' work. Remember the Wabash mission statement: "Wabash College educates men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely." Acting responsibly includes not cheating. *If there are any questions about how the standards of academic integrity apply to a specific assignment or test, please do not hesitate to talk with me for clarification before handing in the assignment.* Uncertainty about the application of these principles will not excuse a violation. Remember that you can be expelled for academic dishonesty!

The general principle is that you should **always submit work that is entirely your own**. Here are some specific examples of academic dishonesty:

- Copying another student's exam or assignment – either a current or past student.
- Copying any text from the internet (or other resource) on an assignment.
- Paraphrasing any text from any resource without providing a reference.
- Extensive paraphrasing of text from any resource even when providing a reference.
- Turning in the same assignment to multiple courses, in the same or different semesters, without prior consent from both professors.
- Taking another student's graded assignment without his permission.
- This is not an exhaustive list of violations. If you have a question, ask before you turn in the assignment.

If I find out that you have cheated on an assignment, you will receive ZERO points for that assignment, and I will turn you into the Dean for an academic dishonesty strike.

Writing Center

Do you have questions about how to start a paper? Are you struggling to get all of your ideas to fit? Do you have a draft but want someone to review it? Did you get a lower grade than expected on your last paper and want to do better? Then you need to visit the Writing Center!

No matter what your writing questions or needs, the Wabash Writing Center Consultants are eager and able to help you! Located on the second floor of the Lilly Library, the Wabash Writing Center is open to all students, faculty, and staff.

To make an appointment, go to <https://www.wabash.edu/ace/writing>, select the button labeled “Click HERE to make an appointment,” and register in the scheduling system.

If you have any questions, please email the director, Prof. Koppelman, at koppelmz@wabash.edu.

The Office of Student Enrichment

Succeeding at Wabash College takes a great deal of effort and planning. Life is complex, assignments are time consuming, and staying involved keeps you running. When you have questions about how to make everything fit into your schedule, how to study more efficiently, how to take better notes, or any other question about developing your college skill, visit the Office of Student Enrichment (OSE).

Got to <https://koppelman.youcanbook.me> to arrange a one-on-one, personalized meeting with Prof. Koppelman. No matter your questions, Prof. Koppelman will work with you to find a solution that helps you achieve your goals.

ADA Statement

Students with disabilities (apparent or invisible) are invited to confidentially discuss their situation with the disability coordinator, Heather Thrush, Director of Student Engagement and Success. If a student wishes to receive an academic accommodation, it is required that his documentation of the disability be on file with Heather Thrush, who can, in confidence, provide information and guidance. Early notification helps us all work together in the most effective ways. Heather Thrush can be reached at her office (Center Hall 112A), by phone (x6347), or by email (thrushh@wabash.edu).

Counseling Center

Garden Level of Chapel, Kevin Swaim (swaimk@wabash.edu, x6252) & Jamie Douglas (douglasj@wabash.edu, x6252). It's free! It's confidential, and this guarantee is taken seriously. Your contact with the counseling center is confidential between you and the counselor to the fullest extent of the law (confidentiality may be breached in cases such as when there is imminent danger to someone or a report of current abuse of a child or elder). Reasons Wabash students go to the counseling service include personal and academic questions, advice for family problems, stress, anger, grief and loss, conflicts with family or friends or guys in their living units, alcohol and other drugs, feeling edgy and anxious, relationships, motivation problems, sexuality, concerns about friends, just wanting someone neutral to talk to. Walk-ins 11-1 M-Th (knock if they are in session during those hours) or by appointment.

Course Schedule

All readings that are not from the required texts will be provided on Canvas

GTW = Gaming the World

SSM = Sports and Social Movements

TPYP = They Play, You Pay

Week 1: Introduction;

Jan 17

- Course introduction

Jan 19

- *TPYP* Chapter 2
- Frey, James H. and D. Stanley Eitzen. 1991. "Sport and Society."

Week 2: Sports as an Identity

Jan 22

- *GTW* Chapter 1

Jan 24

- Goldblatt, David. 2015. "Football at Twilight: Britain's Endgame."
- Foer, Franklin. 2004 "The Pornography of Sects."

Week 3: Sports and Globalization

Jan 29

- *GTW* Chapter 2

Jan 31

- Klein, Alan. 2006. "The Dominican Republic: Fishing where the Fish are."
- Kaufman, Jason and Orlando Patterson. 2005. "Cross-National Cultural Diffusion" The Global Spread of Cricket."

Week 4: International Sporting Organizations

Feb 5

- Boudreaux, Christopher J., Gökhan Karahan and R. Morris Coats. 2016. "Bend it like FIFA: Corruption on and off the Pitch."
- **TOPIC FOR PAPER #1 DUE**

Feb 7

- E: 60: A 21st Century Slave State, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OjqQLVRZyyw>
- E: 60 FIFA & Sepp Blatter, <http://www.espn.com/video/clip?id=12880429>

- Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel, an IOC Investigation

Week 5: Politics of Building, Part I

Feb 12

- *TPYP* Chapter 3

Feb 14

- *TPYP* Chapter 4

Week 6: Politics of Building, Part II

Feb 19

- Grix, Jonathan. 2013. "Sport Politic and the Olympics."
- Lensykj, Helen. 2000. "The Hidden Costs: Olympic Impacts and Urban Politics."

Feb 21

- *TPYP* Chapter 5

Week 7: Sports & Political Violence

Feb 26

- Foer, Franklin. 2004. "The Gangster's Paradise."
- *SSM* Chapter 5
- **PAPER #1 DUE**

Feb 28

- Midterm Exam

Week 8

SPRING BREAK

Week 9: Athletes as Workers

Mar 12

- *SSM* Chapter 1

Mar 14

- *SSM* Chapter 2

Week 10: Sports and Gender

Mar 19

- *GTW* Chapter 4

Mar 21

- *SSM* Chapter 3

- Lopiano, Donna A. 2000. “Modern History of Women’s Sports: Twenty-five Years of Title XI.”

Week 11: Sports and Race

Mar 26

- Latterell, Steven R. 2005. “Stopping the Savage Indian Myth: Dealing with the Doctrine of Laches in Lanham Act Claims of Disparagement.”
- **TOPIC FOR PAPER #2 DUE**

Mar 28

- *GTW* Chapter 5

Week 12: Politics of Collegiate Athletics

Apr 2

- *GTW* Chapter 6

Apr 4

- Nocera and Strauss, <https://www.si.com/college-football/2016/02/24/northwestern-union-case-book-indentured>
- Baker, <https://www.seattletimes.com/sports/college/college-athletes-hoping-to-unionize-received-big-boost-from-national-labor-relations-board/>
- NCAA, <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/press-releases/ncaa-responds-union-proposal>

Week 13: Congress and the Regulation of Sports

Apr 9

- Johnson, Arthur T. 1979. “Congress and Professional Sports: 1958-1971.”
- Kaburakis et al. 2016. “Inevitable: Sports Gambling, State Regulation, and the Pursuit of Revenue.”

Apr 11

- Saka, Joseph M. 2006. “How Congress Can Help Sports Leagues Shift the Focus from Steroids to Sports.”

Week 14:

Apr 16

- Workshop
- **PAPER #2 DUE**

Apr 18

- NO CLASS. I will be at WPSA in San Diego.

Week 15: Presentations

FINAL EXAM MONDAY, APRIL 29 @ 9:00 AM