Modern European Sports History
Spring 2017
Credits: 3
Major Disciplines: History
Faculty Member: William Bowman
Tuesdays and Fridays, 11:40 – 13:00
V10 - D14

Faculty:

Course Description:
Through an examination of sports, this course will explore some of the most significant themes in modern history. Historians and other scholars have been studying the field of sports and leisure seriously for at least the last three decades. In the past two plus centuries, organized sports and leisure-time activities have formed a major source of entertainment, economic consumption, and even political and personal identity for countless individuals. Sports have also played a critical role in the efforts of modern men and women to define aspects of their lives and to find places for themselves in a rapidly changing world. Students in this course will trace major developments such as the effects of globalization, international relations, urbanization, shifting gender and race relations, the forging of identities, and the growth and influence of consumerism in Europe in the modern era.

Learning Objectives:
- Develop an appreciation for modern European sports history
- Develop an informed sense of how the course relates to multiple disciplines
- Develop critical reading skills
- Develop discussion skills, especially through classroom-based work
- Distinguish between primary and secondary sources through research work and through classroom work
- Develop writing and communication skills through construction and revision of papers

Course Requirements:
- Readings: In addition to the textbooks, there are several readings for this course. There is a compendium of readings for this class. Students must read assigned readings by the date specified in the syllabus. Although I will provide background material on occasion, the course will proceed primarily as a read-and-discuss class. There will be several (minimum of five) unannounced quizzes during the semester. A student can make up one quiz and one quiz only on the last class day of the semester.
- Exams: There will be one midterm and one final exam.
- Papers: There will be two short (3-4 and 4-5 pages, respectively) papers due. You will receive handouts and oral instructions describing paper assignments. There will also be a 1-2 page movie review. In addition, there will be a take-home essay as part of the final exam.
- Presentations: There will also be one in-class presentation made by students. These presentations will be based on your second paper for the course.

This syllabus is subject to change.
Grading

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation/Attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Paper, First</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Paper, Second</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>Movie Review</td>
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Books
Bill Buford, *Among the Thugs*. (soccer culture in Britain)
David Clay Large, *Nazi Games: The Olympics of 1936*. (Olympic Games)
Christopher Thompson, *The Tour de France* (cultural history of cycling)

Additional Readings: In addition to the texts, there will also be a number of readings, primarily available in a compendium for this course, (essays, book chapters, etc.) as per the syllabus.

DIS Contacts
Matt Kelley, Program Assistant, European Humanities Department

Disability and Resource Statement
Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should immediately contact Office of Academic Support (acadsupp@dis.dk) to coordinate this. In order to receive accommodations, students should inform the instructor of approved DIS accommodations.

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Course Schedule

**Friday, January 20**
Introduction to the course: Syllabus, Expectations, Logistics

**Tuesday, January 24**
Old Ways of Playing

**Friday, January 27**
Boxing as Modernizing Sport?
- Reading: Gorn, *Manly Art*, pp. 11-14, 19-33 (compendium) AND
- Foer and Tracy, “The King’s Pugilist and Max Nordau,” pp. 2-16 (compendium).

**Tuesday, January 31**
Modern Olympic Movement
- Reading, Young, “How the Amateurs won the Olympics, “pp. 55-73 (compendium) and
- David Clay Large, *Nazi Games: The Olympics of 1936*, pages to be announced.

**Friday, February 3**
Modern Olympic Movement, Day 2
- Reading: Large, *Nazi Games*, pages to be announced.

**February 6-11, Core Course Week**

**Tuesday, February 14**
Olympic Movement 3: Post-1945 Developments
- Reading: Guttmann, “In the Shadow of the Cold War,” pp. 85-102 (compendium) AND

**Friday, February 17**
Cricket: From Europe to the West Indies and Back
- Reading: CLR James, *Beyond a Boundary*, pp. 101-135. (compendium) AND
- TBA.

**Tuesday, Feb. 21**
Football: An European and Global Game
- Reading: Foer, “How Soccer Explains the Gangster’s Paradise,” pp. 7-34. (compendium) AND
- Bowman, “The World Cup as World History,” to be circulated electronically.

**Wednesday, Feb. 22**

*Field Study 1*, 13:00 to 17:00. Details to follow.

**Friday, Feb. 24**
Jews in Modern European Sports History
- TBA.
**February 25 to March 5, Long Tour 1**

**Tuesday, March 7**
Munich 1972
- Reading: Schiller and Young, “Olympic Legacies,” pp. 221-240 (compendium) AND
  Review for Midterm.

**Friday, March 10**

**Midterm Exam**

**Tuesday, March 14**
Sports and Modern Fandom I
- Reading: Buford, Among the Thugs, pages to be assigned.

**Friday, March 17**
Sports and Modern Fandom 2
- Reading: Buford, Among the Thugs, pages to be assigned.

**First Papers Due**

**March 18 to March 26, Long Tour 2**

**Tuesday, March 28**
Tour de France 1: Cycling and European Sports
- Thompson, The Tour de France, pages to be assigned.

**Friday, March 31**
Tour de France 2
- Thompson, The Tour de France, pages to be assigned.

**Tuesday, 4 April**
Leisure and Sports in Modern Europe
- Reading: Walton, “Consuming the Beach,” pp. 272-298 (compendium) and

**Friday, 7 April**
Women in Modern European Sports I
- Reading: Houlihan, “Sport and Gender,” pp. 89-102 (compendium) AND
- Guttman, “The Europeans take the Lead,” pp. 154-171 (compendium) AND

**Tuesday, 11 April**
Women in Modern European Sports II
- Reading: Polley, Moving the Goalposts, pp. 85-104 (compendium) AND
- Grainey, Beyond bend it like Beckham, pp. 201-07, 215-230 (compendium).

**12 April to 17 April, Travel Break**

*This syllabus is subject to change.*
Tuesday, 18 April
Presentations based on second research papers, Day I.

Friday, 21 April
Presentations based on second research papers, Day 2.

Friday, 21 April—Second papers due

Tuesday, 25 April
Denmark and Modern European Sports
  • Reading: TBA.

Wednesday, 26 April
Field Study 2: 8:30 to 12:30. Details to Follow.

Friday, 28 April
Sports Madness?
  • Reading: Zirin, “Today’s World Cup and Olympics: Invictus in Reverse, pp. 50-72 (compendium) AND
  • Perelman, “Twenty Theses on Sport,” pp. 121-128 (compendium).

Tuesday, 2 May
Review of the Semester and for Final
  Movie Reviews Due (Discussion of Sports in Film).

Friday, 5 May, Reading Day

Final Exam: Date and Time to be announced. (Take home portion of final will be due at the date and time of
the final exam).