

Fall, 2017
Professor Robert Edelman
Office: H&SS 6056
Hours: Tues and Thurs 10-11
Phone: x44096
Email: redelman@ucsd.edu

HIEU 127 – The Global History of Modern Sports

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. Students who have taken Making of the Modern World will be sufficiently prepared.

Aside from the specifics of this topic, much attention will be paid to explaining what is called the historical method which inculcates particular skills for understanding the contemporary world. We will pay attention to when certain practices began and how they emerged into their form today. The Olympic Games are the most visible sporting practice that has invented a galaxy of traditions which have never been timeless. Understanding this process helps us comprehend how the world changed and continues to change. Additionally, we now live in a world of much too much information. The ability to discern good from bad information will be what separates the winners from the losers in our digital age. While this is far from a simple process, the study of history teaches us this crucial skill. This, more than the acquisition of specific knowledge, is the primary hoped for outcome of this course.

There will be an in-class mid-term (33%) week 6, and a take-home final (67%).

Students will have the option of replacing the in-class mid-term with a focused research paper of 10-15 pages. The topic must be worked out in consultation with the instructor and approved. It is crucial that this work will be yours and not something you have purchased. To get approval, you must submit a list of a few questions you hope to answer about the topic and a brief preliminary list of sources. This must be done by the time of the mid-term. No topic will be accepted after that date. The paper is due at the same time as the take-home final. Presenting work that is not your own as your own is a very serious violation of student conduct and can be treated harshly.

Books to be purchased at Bookstore

Tony Collins – *Sport in Capitalist Society*
C. L. R. James – *Beyond a Boundary*
Allen Guttman – *The Olympics*
Kathryn Jay – *More than Just a Game*
Richard Mandell – *The Nazi Olympics*

Reader – University Readers

Both the books and the reader will also be placed on reserve at the library.

Electronic Reserves – password re127

David Goldblatt – *The Ball is Round*
Xu Guoqi – *Olympic Dreams*
Peter Alegi – *Laduma: Soccer, Politics and Society in South Africa*
Simon Martin – *Football and Fascism*
Ramachandra Guha – *A Corner of a Foreign Field*

Available on free download at www.LA84Foundation.org
Robert Edelman – *Serious Fun: A History of Spectator Sports in the USSR*

READINGS

Week 0 – Definitions and Requirements

Week I – Theorizing Sport

In Reader – Allen Guttman – *From Ritual to Record* ch. 1
Johan Huizinga *Homo Ludens*, ch. 1

Week II – The Rise of Sport in the Modern World

Tony Collins – *Sport in Capitalist Society*, read entire book
In reader - Richard Holt, *Sport and the British* .

Week III - The People's Game – Soccer

Electronic reserves – David Goldblatt – *The Ball is Round*, pp. 19-260

Week IV – The Olympic Games

In reader – John MacAloon – *This Great Symbol* pp. 43-60 and chs. 5 and 6

Guttman – *Olympics* – chs. 2-10

Week V – American Exceptionalism?

In reader - Reader – Gorn and Goldstein – *A Brief History of American Sports* - chs. 2-4

Kathryn Jay – *More than Just a Game* – chs. 2-5

Week VI – Sport and Fascism

Mandell – *The Nazi Olympics*, chs. 2-5

Electronic Reserves – Simon Martin – *Football and Fascism* - pp. 173-217

Mid term

Video - Olympia

Week VII - Sport and Communism

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

Week VIII – Race and Gender in American Sport

In reader - Eric Dunning – “Sport as a Male Preserve”

In reader - Susan Cahn - *Coming on Strong*, chs. 2-9

Video – City Dump

Week IX - Sport and Colonialism – Africa and the Diaspora

C.L.R. James – *Beyond a Boundary* – pp. 1-116

Electronic reserves – Peter Alegi – *Laduma* – pp. 15-84

Video - BBC History of Rugby South Africa vs. New Zealand

Week X – Sport and Colonialism: China and India

Electronic reserves – Xu Guogui – *Olympic Dreams* – pp. 12-116

Electronic reserves – Ramachandra Guha, *A Corner of a Foreign Field* pp. 189-