Contemporary Issues of Sport SPM 3024 – CRN 11128
MWF: 10:00-10:50
LCOB Room 1204
Lutgert College of Business
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY
Department of Management

Spring 2016

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Office Location:  OSC, room 213   Office Hours: Thursday, 9-10am, & by apt.
Phone:                  (239) 590-1492

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** – This course is the study of sport as it relates to our social institutions with an emphasis on contemporary social and legal issues. The place of sport in community-based programs, our commercial culture and our educational system will be emphasized. Arguments for and against the inclusion of sport in our social institutions will be made. Relevant legal issues will be addressed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES** –
By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Interpret the views of sport authorities, legal communities, and business constituencies as they pertain to the world of sport.
- Develop a solid foundation from which to interpret society’s values in sport.
- Understand the current problems and controversies that exist in the world of sport.
- Contrast how culture, race, sex, religion, economics and nationalism influence sport participants
- Apply the body of knowledge of the social sciences to the management of sport-related activities.
- Have empathy for sport participants of various sub-cultures and thus improve performance and increase their sense of self-worth.
- Minimize conflict between all persons associated with a sporting event by anticipating in advance the needs and problems of the constituencies involved.
- Establish priorities for administering sport events that will enable long-range growth of sport consistent with goals of society.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING** –

This book is available at the bookstore, as well as an e-text available online from McGraw Hill. There may also be other assigned readings, but these will be placed online and/or announced as we proceed.

Your final grade = maximum of 100 points to be earned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams: 2 @ 20 pts</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays: 3 @ 10 pts</td>
<td>30 pts</td>
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</tbody>
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Total points = 100 pts

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-93</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>84-86</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>74-76</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-73</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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Exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Everything included in reading assignments and power points are fair game to be included in exam content. As a matter of principle, I rarely offer extra credit opportunities but I am always happy to review the material at any time throughout the semester during scheduled office hours, at other times by appointment, and/or by email.

Essays explore topics covered in the chapters and provide an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the course concepts. Papers must be typed, double spaced, and be a minimum of 2 pages. Grades will be based on clarity, originality, and how well you incorporate course concepts into your paper. Hint: start early! Waiting until the last minute guarantees you will turn in a first draft. First drafts are rarely any good. Grammar and spelling count. Essays handed in after the due date will be docked 10% for every day it is late.
Participation will consist of a variety of opportunities to demonstrate your knowledge of the information and gather feedback. There is one CANVAS course content quiz and four discussion board postings. Read the instructions carefully. Presentation will be explained in class in greater detail. It will be a group presentation but adequate time to meet with your group will be allotted.

**MY RESPONSIBILITY** – You can expect me to post assignments and grade them promptly. You can also expect me to convey information in a clear, concise manner, to challenge you, and to provide you with opportunities to experience the joy of sociology.

**CANVAS** – FGCU provides us with the CANVAS system. CANVAS vastly improves my ability to communicate with each of you and to post important information. CANVAS allows you to view your grades and to always know your current grade in the course. I will endeavor to make this as personal and enjoyable an experience as I can for each of you, and CANVAS helps me achieve this goal. However, you have a role in making this course a success for both of us.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY** – You are expected to read assigned material and complete assignments (essays and exams) by the deadlines posted. Please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance if you are having difficulty with the material.

**A Few Notes on Academic Integrity** – Academic freedom is a fundamental right in any institution of higher learning. Honesty and integrity are necessary preconditions to this freedom. Academic integrity requires that all work be wholly the product of an identified individual or individuals. Joint efforts are legitimate only when the assistance of others is explicitly acknowledged. Any handouts used in the course are copyrighted. By “handouts” I mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, quizzes, exams, and review sheets. Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy or reproduce the handouts, unless granted permission.

As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the ideas, words, writings, etc. which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic practices since plagiarists destroy the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated. Penalties for plagiarism range from a zero for the assignment to being dismissed from the university, in the case of repeated offences.

**Note on Sexist and/or Racist Terminology** – People used to use the generic male to refer to both sexes: mailman, the nature of man, the condition of man in modern society. But there no longer exists a wide-spread agreement that the word “man” includes women as well and, since women constitute more than half of the world’s population, it is important to include women in our ideas and our language. Thus, as an imprecise term it is sloppy thinking to use the generic male in writing and speaking. Begin to be aware when writing and speaking to use the terms “man” and “men” only when you specifically mean to refer to males. The exception is if you are quoting someone else who uses the generic male you should not change their language.
It is also unacceptable to use terminology that others may find offensive in terms of race, ethnicity or sexual orientation. This includes slang terms, ethnic or racial references or slurs, even if the person you are speaking about gives you permission.

I. ACADEMIC BEHAVIOR STANDARDS AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
All students are expected to demonstrate honesty in their academic pursuits. The university policies regarding issues of honesty can be found under the “Student Code of Conduct” and “Policies and Procedures” sections in the Student Guidebook. All students are expected to study this document, which outlines their responsibilities and consequences for violations of the policy. The FGCU Student Guidebook is available online at http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/judicialaffairs/new.html. Plagiarism and/or cheating on exams/assignments is the ultimate sign of disrespect to the academic institution. Therefore, exams/assignments where evidence of cheating is found will be given a grade of zero. Please cite your sources for information even if you are unsure how to properly write the citation.

J. DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS SERVICES
Florida Gulf Coast University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the university’s guiding principles, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you need to request an accommodation in this class due to a disability, or you suspect that your academic performance is affected by a disability, please contact the Office of Adaptive Services. The Office of Adaptive Services is located in Howard Hall 137. The phone number is 239-590-7956 or TTY 239-590-7930.

K. STUDENT OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
The University will reasonably accommodate religious observances and practices. Students, upon prior notification to instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence for religious observances. Where practicable, major examinations and major assignments will not be scheduled on a major religious day. A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.