

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Sociology
Sociology 399(L70) – Sociology of Sport
Course Outline, Summer 2009

Instructor: Steve Dumas
Email: sfdumas@ucalgary.ca
Phone: 220-6501
Classroom: SS 006

Office: SS1047
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 10-
11:00am or by appointment

Introduction

During their leisure time, people are free to do as they please. As such, what people do in sport settings is of interest to sociologists because they are an important component of leisurely pursuits. While participation in sports is expected to have positive effects upon people, many have noted that they often have negative, latent side-effects. How do sociological theories explain sporting behaviour? Why is deviance, including violence, common in some sports and not others? What role is played by gender, ethnicity, and social class? At both the micro-sociological and macro-sociological levels, this course will examine how these activities intersect with society and culture.

Required Text

In order to analyze these issues, the following text will be used:

Coakley, J., & Donnelly, P. (2009). Sports in society: Issues and controversies (2nd Canadian ed.). Toronto: McGraw-Hill.

Evaluation

You will be evaluated on the basis of two examinations, a group presentation, and class participation.

Examination 1 (25%) August 4th
Participation (10%) Ongoing.
Group Presentation (25%) Last week of class
Final Examination (40%) TBA by Registrar's Office

Grading Scheme

A+ > 90%	B+ 77%-79.99%	C+ 67%-69.99%	D+ 57%-59.99%
A 85%-89.99%	B 73%-76.99%	C 63%-66.99%	D 53%-56.99%
A- 80%-84.99%	B- 70%-72.99%	C- 60%-62.99%	F <53%

Reading Schedule

The reading schedule is offered to you as a general guide. It is expected that some topics and readings may deserve further treatment and consequently, additional class time.

Date	Topic	Reading to have completed
July 27	Introduction	1, 3
July 28	Social Theory	2
July 29	Sports and Socialization	4
July 30	Sports and Children	5
August 3	Deviance	6
August 4	Exam	None
August 5	Violence (Presentations)	7
August 6	Gender	8
August 10	'Race' and Ethnicity	9
August 11	Social Class	10
August 12	Commercialization	11
August 13	Media	12
TBA	Final Exam	None

The following policies were constructed by the Department of Sociology and apply to this course.

Exam Policies

You must provide advanced notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you must arrange to write a "make up" exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

***The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.**

Ethics Research

Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct

Cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk

The University of Calgary provides a "safe walk" service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.