



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Fall 2020

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT			
Course Number	399		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Sociology 201		
Instructor Name	Dr. Kevin Young	Email	kyoung@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Indicate your course number in your email's subject line, and include a respectful salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. All emails violating customary email conventions will be ignored. All other emails will be answered as quickly as possible. Questions that can be answered by consulting the course outline will not be responded to.		
Office Location	N/A	Office Hours	As above
Telephone No.	N/A		
Class Dates	Asynchronous learning – there are no set class times		
Class Times	N/A		
Class Location	Online		

Course Description

This course is organized around the theme of 'social problems and social issues in sport'. It begins by defining what is meant by the *sociology of sport* and by examining why sport is *sociologically* significant. It then looks at a number of theoretical approaches to the study of sport. The first two theories discussed -- structural functionalism and conflict theory -- are well-established sociological approaches. Each, in different ways, sees sport as a reflection of social institutions and social practices. The third approach, which can broadly be described as a form of critical theory, is introduced to show how sport can be understood as a phenomenon which is both a reflection of social structures, processes and

norms, but also an arena in which values, ideologies, and meanings are constantly negotiated, challenged and changed. Feminist, interactionist, figural as well as other theories are also implemented at various points of the course. Substantive topics closely examined include gender/body/sexuality, fitness/health, violence/law/social control, risk/pain/injury, sport/media, and sport/globalization. However, reference will also be made to numerous other sports-related issues such as political economy, race and ethnicity, Olympism, and children and sport. A sociological examination of these issues is intended to encourage students to think critically about the role, relevance and impact of sport in society.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

The main objective of this course is to introduce students to the subdiscipline of the sociology of sport and to encourage them to think about sport using a sociological imagination. The central teaching and learning goals for students are to:

- Become familiar with a now firmly established subdiscipline, but one which has traditionally been marginalized in the parent discipline.
- Critically read and understand theoretical and empirical literature on the sociology of sport.
- Recognize: that sport is organized socially; the social processes take place through sport; and the cultural significance of sport locally, nationally and globally.
- Apply course material to real life examples from the world of sport.

Course Format

This course will be delivered online asynchronously. This means that there will be no in-person meetings with the professor, nor any pre-arranged meetings via Zoom online. Narrated power point slides, arranged into three course phases (see lecture schedule below), will be posted on D2L. Students can access these materials at their convenience. Additionally, regular announcements and explanations regarding the purpose and content of these three main course phases and specific issues that arise will also be posted on D2L. It is thus imperative that students regularly check the course D2L site to keep pace.

Learning Resources

In addition to documents posted on D2L, the course is organized around two core sources:

Jay Coakley and Peter Donnelly (2009). *Sports in Society: Issues and Controversies*. New York: McGraw-Hill (Second Edition). *Coakley's originally American book has long been one of the most popular introductory texts on the North American market. It appeals to students because, in addition to being sociologically rigorous and covering a wide range of important topics, it is also written in a lively and accessible style. This is a version of the Coakley book adapted for Canadian readers.*

Kevin Young (2019). *Sport, Violence and Society* (Second Edition). Abingdon, UK: Routledge. *This publication by the instructor examines what we mean by 'violence' and 'sports violence' specifically. Adopting a panoramic and global perspective, the book shows how apparently disparate articulations of 'sports-related violence' are sociologically connected. NB: The SECOND edition of this book, not the first, is required.*

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course which contains all relevant class resources and materials (other than course books). In order to successfully engage with the course, students should have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
- Broadband internet connection.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

As an asynchronous course, the usual set times and dates for any given class do not apply. However, the three sections of the course (each culminating in an online exam) do represent a particular sequence and it is recommended that in order to keep pace students follow course content in the sequence set out below. Relevant readings for each of these three sections appear in the far right column ('C&D' = Coakley and Donnelly book, 'KY' = Young book).

DATE	SUBJECT	READING
Tues. Sept. 8	FALL SESSION CLASSES BEGIN Introduction to the course: objectives, topics, tests	
Thurs. Sept. 10 to Tues. Oct. 6	SECTION I: THINKING ABOUT SPORT SOCIOLOGICALLY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is <i>Sociology of Sport</i>? • Relationship between sport and history/culture/society • How is sport organized socially? • Social processes through sport • The importance of thinking theoretically • Explaining sport using sociological theory 	<i>C&D: Chaps. 1-3,9-11</i> <i>KY: Preface, Chaps. 1, 6</i>
Thurs. Oct. 8	EXAM #1 (30%)	
Tues. Oct. 13 to Tues. Nov. 3	Exam #1 feedback SECTION II: SPORT, GENDER, SEXUALITY, HEALTH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding sex and gender sociologically • Gender, stratification and power • Use of myth to exclude social groups • Sport and gendered body pathologies • Sport, sexuality, body 	<i>C&D: Chaps. 4, 8, 12</i> <i>KY: Chaps. 7-8</i>
Thurs. Nov. 5	EXAM #2 (30%)	
Tues. Nov. 17 to	Exam #2 feedback SECTION III: VIOLENCE, LAW, DEVIANCE, SOCIAL CONTROL	

Tues. Dec 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining sports-related violence (SRV) • Player and crowd violence: Manifestations/theories • Football hooliganism: Manifestations/theories • The authorities respond • Expanding the panorama of SRV • Hazing/Initiation: Socialization into sport identities • Risk, pain and injury: The 'sport ethic' <p>Course review, conclusion, and implications for further study in Sociology (of sport)</p>	<p><i>C&D: Chaps. 6, 7, 13</i> <i>KY: Chaps. 2-5, Conclusion</i></p> <p>C&D: Chap. 15</p>
Wed. Dec. 9	FALL SESSION CLASSES END	

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Three exams, dividing the course into three roughly equal sections, have been scheduled. They are based entirely on objective/multiple-choice questions. They are **not** cumulative. All three exams will be scheduled using Quiz Tool on D2L.

The respective dates and values of the exams, and the material to be tested in each, are as follows:

EXAM #1 – Thursday October 8 (30%) -- SECTION I examined

EXAM #2 – Thursday November 5 (30%) -- SECTION II examined

For exams 1 and 2, students will have a 24-hour window in which to start the exam (beginning at 2pm on the day of the exam (Oct. 8 and Nov. 5 respectively) and ending 2pm the following day). Students will have 90 minutes to complete Exams 1 and 2 once they begin.

EXAM #3 – Registrar-scheduled Final: TBA (40%) -- SECTION III examined.

Exam 3 will also have a 24-hour window in which students may start the exam, although the exact date and time is set by the registrar and is thus not yet known. This 'final' exam of the course will allow students 140 minutes from when they begin.

Final Exam Information

The last exam of the course will be scheduled by the registrar during the Final Exam period.

NB: In the build-up to each of the three exams, clear instructions and advice will be posted on D2L.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	95%>	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	85-94%	4.0	Excellent-superior performance
A-	80-84%	3.7	
B+	77-79%	3.3	
B	74-76%	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance
B-	70-73%	2.7	
C+	67-69%	2.3	
C	64-66%	2.0	Satisfactory - basic understanding
C-	60-63%	1.7	
D+	55-59%	1.3	
D	50-54%	1.0	Minimal pass - marginal performance
F	<49%	0	Unsatisfactory performance

Letter grades assigned at the conclusion of the course will be determined by this overall grading schema that will be applied in precisely the same way to everyone. Grade 'cut-offs' will be honoured in every case, including those where students miss the next letter grade by 0.1%. This is non-negotiable and, in the interests of fairness to everyone, no exceptions will be made.

Passing Grades

It is **not** required that students record a passing grade on any one assignment in order to pass the course overall.

Absences and Deferrals

Students who miss exams should inform the instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor will add the weight of a missed grade may to the following (or a previous) test.

Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Research Ethics

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 Faculty 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.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of

textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures

Note that the audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Note that publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here:

<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.