



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 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. Questions regarding course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues are best dealt with during office hours.		
Office Location	SS 932	Office Hours	10 am Tuesday or by appointment
Telephone No.	403-220-6509		
Class Dates	Tuesday and Thursday		
Class Times	11 am – 12.15 pm		
Class Location	ICT 122		

## 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, figurational 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, time permitting, 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.

### Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

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.*

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings

This is designed to be a flexible schedule. When and how certain topics are covered in class may change, and we will complete the following *only* if time allows. Students are strongly advised to attend class to keep informed of any changes that may occur. Video material, which may include content not identified below, will be used to complement lectures where relevant and available.

DATE	SUBJECT	READING
Mon. Jan. 13	<b>WINTER SESSION CLASSES BEGIN</b>	
Tues. Jan. 14	Introduction to the course: objectives, topics, tests	
Thurs. Jan. 16	<u>SECTION I: THINKING ABOUT SPORT SOCIOLOGICALLY</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is <i>Sociology of Sport</i>?</li> <li>• Relationship between sport and history/culture/society</li> <li>• How is sport organized socially?</li> <li>• Social processes through sport</li> <li>• The importance of thinking theoretically</li> <li>• Explaining sport using sociological theory</li> </ul>	<i>C&amp;D: Chaps. 1-3,9-11</i> <i>KY: Preface, Chaps. 1, 6</i>
Tues. Jan. 21	SECTION I (continued)	
Thurs. Jan. 23	SECTION I (continued)	
Tues. Jan. 28	SECTION I (continued)	
Thurs. Jan. 30	SECTION I (continued)	
Tues. Feb. 4	SECTION I (continued)	
Thurs. Feb. 6	SECTION I (continued)	
Tues. Feb. 11	SECTION I (continued)	
Thurs. Feb. 13	<b>EXAM #1 (30%)</b>	
Feb. 18/Feb. 20	<b>READING WEEK: NO CLASS</b>	
Tues. Feb. 25	<b>Exam #1 feedback</b>	
	<u>SECTION II: SPORT, GENDER, SEXUALITY, HEALTH</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding sex and gender sociologically</li> <li>• Gender, stratification and power</li> <li>• Use of myth to exclude social groups</li> <li>• Sport and gendered body pathologies</li> <li>• Sport, sexuality, body</li> </ul>	<i>C&amp;D: Chaps. 4, 8, 12</i> <i>KY: Chaps. 7-8</i>
Thurs. Feb. 27	SECTION II (continued)	
Tues. Mar. 3	SECTION II (continued)	
Thurs. Mar. 5	SECTION II (continued)	
Tues. Mar. 10	SECTION II (continued)	
Thurs. Mar. 12	SECTION II (continued)	
Tues. Mar. 17	SECTION II (continued)	
Thurs. Mar. 19	<b>EXAM #2 (30%)</b>	
Tues. Mar. 24	<b>Exam #2 feedback</b>	

SECTION III: VIOLENCE, LAW, DEVIANCE, SOCIAL CONTROL

- 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'

*C&D: Chaps. 6, 7, 13*  
*KY: Chaps. 2-5, Conclusion*

Thurs. Mar. 26	SECTION III (continued)
Tues. Mar. 31	SECTION III (continued)
Thurs. Ap. 2	SECTION III (continued)
Tues. Ap. 7	SECTION III (continued)
Thurs. Ap. 9	SECTION III (continued)
Tues. Ap. 14	SECTION III (continued)
	Course review, conclusion, and implications for further study in Sociology (of sport)

C&D: Chap. 15

Wed. Ap. 15      **WINTER SESSION CLASSES END**

**Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights**

Three exams, dividing the course into three roughly equal parts, have been scheduled. They are based entirely on objective/multiple-choice questions. They are **not** cumulative. The respective dates and values of the exams, and the material to be tested in each, are as follows:

1. EXAM #1 – Thursday February 13, 2020 (30%) -- SECTION I examined.
2. EXAM #2 – Thursday March 19, 2020 (30%) -- SECTION II examined
3. EXAM #3 – Registrar-scheduled Final: TBA (40%) -- SECTION III examined.

**Final Exam Information**

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

## 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 an overall grading schema and letter scale that will be (i) discussed in class and (ii) 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.

## Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date of an exam, students seeking reappraisal must submit a written request to the instructor explaining the basis for reappraisal. The instructor will consider the circumstances, check the scoring, and communicate his decision to the student. In all cases a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

## Technology Use

Please note that the use of laptops, tablets, cell phones or other electronic devices are **only** permitted during lectures for class-related purposes. Where cell phones in particular are concerned, please be respectful and remember to mute your cell phone and refrain from using it during class.

## Handing in Papers and 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 provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
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.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.

## 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>

## Absences and Deferrals

### Deferrals

When possible, please provide advance notice if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student. If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

### 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 also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at:

[https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred\\_termwork15\\_0.pdf](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf)

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

## 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/](http://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.

## 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

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/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/) or email [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).

## Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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.