

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: SO 214: Introduction to Sports & Sociology

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: SO 201

Description: This course provides an introduction to the study of society, social groups, social institutions, and social change through the lens of sports. Students will study the role of sport and the relationships between sport and society, both historically and in contemporary society. The course will examine how sport arises from and can contribute to community; how sport might be a reflection of society; and whether it can shape society, sometimes toward a more level playing field. Special topics to be considered include; gender, race, national assimilation, competition, and role of the “individual” in sport. The course will explore both the ideals of and realities of sport, past and present. A range of readings about sport and society will be supplemented by video interviews with veteran athletes from the American sports scene.

Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the theoretical concepts which are the foundation for sociology
- Demonstrate the ability to assess social phenomena and recognize sociological research
- Explain the nature, significance, and components of culture
- Discuss the significance of human interaction and social institutions
- Discuss various cultures, ethnicities, socio-economic classes and minority groups, via their interactions within sports history
- Analyze the bases and consequences of marginalization and discrimination and be familiar with the experiences of various cultural groups in the United States as they experience the US field of work and play via sports.

Topical Outline:

- The Sociological Analysis of Sport in the North American Society
- Social and Cultural Transformations and the Rise of Sport in North America
- Sport and North American Culture and Value
- Social Problems and North American Sport; Violence; Substance Abuse; Eating Disorders; and Gambling
- Sport, Social Stratification and Social Mobility
- Racial-Ethnic Minorities and Sport
- Gender in North American Sport: Continuity and Change
- Youth and Change
- Youth and Sport

- Interscholastic Sport
- Intercollegiate Sport
- Sport and the Economy
- Sport and the Mass Media
- Sport and Politics
- Sport and Religion
- Contemporary Trends and the Future of Sport in North America

Text: Eitzen, D. Stanley & Sage, George, H. (2015). *Sociology of North American Sport* (10th ed.). Oxford University Press.

Glenn, Stanley (2006). *Don't Let Anyone Take Your Joy Away: An inside look at Negro League Baseball and its Legacy*. iUniverse, Inc.

Student Assessment: Essay exams and one presentation required. Additional assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or research papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Tutoring & Project Assist

If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

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Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.