

Sociology 114: Sport and Society

Instructor: Joel Domhoff

Summer Session I 2019
T-Th 6-9:30p*
Eng 2, Rm. 192

Office Hours: By Appt.
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This course will go beyond the box scores and the statistics of the sporting world and instead delve into the issues surrounding sport in society. Some of these issues include: race, gender, education, youth in sport, religion, homophobia, mass media, violence, sports and social mobility, deviance in sport, history, and politics. While many may be surprised that these issues exist in the world of sports, this class will debate whether sport is a reflection of society. We will also attempt to answer the more general question of, what is the nature and history of sport?

Requirements: Attendance! Class discussion. There will be reading responses, written responses to movies and guest lectures, and a term paper. **Reading requirements:** A reader that MUST be purchased, without exceptions, price \$25. Cash or check.

A **tentative** schedule follows:

Week One: Defining the sociology of sport: What is it, why study it?
Drugs in sport---does it even matter? Can it be policed?
Reading: Intro, Drugs and Sport
Videos: 20-20 video/"Bigger, Stronger, Faster**"
Writing Assignment: Sports Autobiography

Week Two: Youth sports---Parents and Coaches out of control?
Why do kids quit PE/Sports so early? Why is PE phased out in school?
Reading: Youth and Sport
Video: Hoop Dreams
Writing Assignment: movie review

NOTE: NO CLASS THURSDAY OF THIS WEEK, JULY 4TH

Week Three: Gender issues---Do sports cause violent sexual behavior?
Should women athletes be treated the same as men?
Title IX: Why so much controversy?
Reading: Women & Sport/Deviance/Masculinity
Videos: Sports and Sex, Title IX debate
Writing Assignments: guest speaker write up, movie review

Guest Speaker: Eva Twardokens, 2-time Olympic skier, 6-time national champion

Week Four: Race and Sport---Is the playing field level?
Have conditions improved?
Reading: Race and Sport
Video: Fists of Freedom
Writing Assignments: reading write up, movie review
Guest Speaker: Reggie Stephens, NFL/NY Giants, AFL/Nashville Kats

Week Five: Business and Politics of Sport---Good or bad?
Could sports and the media live without each other?
NCAA---Educator or exploiter?
The positive side of sport---Is there one? Ali
Reading: Finish reader
Videos: One Day in September, Not Just A Game
Writing Assignments: term paper due, movie review

The writing assignments will be discussed in further detail, as we get closer to them. The prompt for the term paper will be handed out during week two. The reading assignments should be completed at the **start** of the week. For example, for week three, the readings on Women and Sport should be done by July 9th. By July 23rd, you should have all of the reading done, with the exception of Positive/Ali in the reader, which must be done by the 25th. Please feel free to ask questions about anything that is unclear as the class progresses. I am here to help and make this an educational and enjoyable five weeks for both you and me.

Important Note: This is a **tentative** schedule that is subject to change. Not all of the guest speakers have been confirmed.

IMPORTANT DATES:

DROP DEADLINE: JULY 1st (tuition refund)
WITHDRAW DEADLINE: JULY 12th (no tuition refund)
NO CLASS: JULY 4th (holiday)

If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me as soon as possible, preferably within the first week of the Summer Session. Contact DRC by phone at 831-459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu for more information.