

# AN346 01: **Sports, Leisure, and Society**

Spring Term, 2002: Monday, Wednesday 2:00 – 3:15 , JH 387



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This seminar is a survey of social and cultural studies and leisure throughout the world. Topics include the commodification of sports, the relationship between sports and gender, identity, public policy, the media, social organization, and popular culture. As a seminar, students will be expected to be prepared to present ideas and lead discussion of the readings.

The three ethnographies that will provide the starting point for our examination of sports focus on three different sports: American football, baseball, and track and field. Other sports, however, will be discussed throughout the term, and students are encouraged to bring in their own experiences in sports to seminar discussions. Our emphasis will be on using sports as a lens to understand wider social changes and cultural meanings in different societies throughout the world, including our own American society. Throughout the term, we will try to address the following questions: Why is sports such a marker of individual and social identities? How has the increased commodification of sports shaped people's attitudes towards participation in sports, as athletes and fans? How has globalization shaped local sports practices in different parts of the world?



## **Course Readings**

Blanchard, Kendall 1995. *The Anthropology of Sport*. Bergin and Garvey. ISBN: 0897893301.  
Brownell, Susan 1995. *Training the Body for China*. University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 0226076466.  
Klein, Alan 1997. *Baseball on the Border*. Princeton University Press. ISBN: 0691011982.  
Sands, Robert 1999. *GutCheck! An Anthropologist's Wild Ride into the Heart of College Football*. Rincon Hill Books. ISBN: 0967297303.

In addition to the above books, various articles will be required. These articles are available on Blackboard.

### Course Requirements

The most important work in this course is to be prepared for each seminar meeting; this means having **thoroughly read the material** and **being prepared to discuss** particular points from the reading. Readings are due on the day listed in the class schedule. I will not lecture on the readings, but will discuss the implications and difficult points in the material.

*Response papers:* Each student will write five (5) response papers, no more than two pages and double-spaced. **Response papers are worth 15%** of the final grade. I will say more about response papers in class, but in general they are individually ungraded and require only timely submission for full credit. **LATE RESPONSE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

*Web/Library Project:* This project of no more than 3 pages will be a brief examination of the structures of a particular sport in a particular country/region or international agency – i.e., FIFA, soccer in Brazil, United States Tennis Association. More information on this project will be distributed in class. The **web/library project is worth 10%** of the final grade, and is due **4 February 2002.**

*Fieldwork Project:* This project of between 3-5 pages will require attendance/participation in an athletic event (i.e., Butler lacrosse game, USTA-sanctioned tournament, Indianapolis Indians game, Pacers game). The **fieldwork project is worth 10%** of the final grade and is due by **18 March 2002.** This project can also be incorporated into the short research paper.

*Short Research Paper:* The short research paper (around 10 pages) will be due in class on **17 April 2002**, and is worth **50%** of the final grade. Topics for the short research paper will be selected by each student, but must be discussed with the instructor prior to **4 March 2001.**

*Class Participation:* **Participation in classroom discussions is worth 15%** of the final grade. Active participation requires that each student come to class prepared, having read the assigned material before class.

It is the policy and practice of Butler University to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Disability Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow two weeks notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. If you have questions about Student Disability Services, you may wish to contact Michele Atterson, JH 136, ext. 9308.

### Schedule of Class Meetings (subject to change)

14 January Monday	Introduction to the seminar
16 January Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Blanchard, p. 1-26 Dyck essay (article on Blackboard)
21 January Monday	Martin Luther King Day: No Classes
23 January Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Blanchard, p. 27-60

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28 January Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Blanchard, p. 61-94 Alter essay (article on Blackboard) <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
30 January Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Blanchard, p. 95-128
4 February Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Blanchard, p. 205-262 <b>Assignment:</b> Web/Library Project Due
6 February Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Sands, p. 1-28
11 February Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Sands, p. 31-96
13 February Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Sands, p. 97-152 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
18 February Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Sands, p. 155-202
20 February Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Sands, p. 205-246
25 February Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Sands, p. 251-291
27 February Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 3-64
4 March Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 67-119 <b>Assignment:</b> Research Paper Topic Due
6 March Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 67-119 continued <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
11-15 March	<b>Spring Break:</b> No Classes Have a safe and rewarding vacation
18 March Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 120-152 <b>Assignment:</b> Fieldwork Project Due
20 March Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 155-209 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
25 March Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 213-262
27 March Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Brownell, p. 265-311
1 April Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Klein, p. 1-31
3 April Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Klein, p. 32-113 <b>Assignment:</b> Response Paper Due
8 April Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Klein, p. 32-113 continued
10 April Wednesday	<b>Reading:</b> Klein, p. 117-169
15 April Monday	<b>Reading:</b> Klein, p. 173-238

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17 April Wednesday	<b>Assignment:</b> Short Research Paper Due
22 April Monday	Presentations of Research Projects
24 April Wednesday	Presentations of Research Projects
29 April Monday	Seminar Overview

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