COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

Sports and athletics are an important part of our society and culture. Many people are involved in sporting events as participants or spectators, and many of us are active in exercise and organized athletic programs. Sociologists study sports in several ways; from the individual perspective, the team perspective, and from the perspective of society as a whole. Sports reflect the values of society and culture, and we find in sports all of the issues we have in our society, both good and bad. Not only do we find incidents of racism, sexism, and violence in sports, but we also find positive aspects such as teamwork, leadership, and cooperation.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Professor: Grant Farr

Teaching Assistant: Danny Hannun

Course Email: You can contact either Danny Hannun at dhannun@pdx.edu or Grant Farr at farrg@d2l.pdx.edu

Office Hours: Virtual, using D2L email tool. We will respond most evenings. If a student would like to meet with the professor in person, please let me know and I will arrange a meeting.

COURSE DELIVERY

This class is fully online and available on D2L. There are no in class meetings.

TEXTBOOK

Title: Sports in Society

Authors: Grant Farr, Ian Farr, and Danny Hannun
This is an online book. Since many of the assignments and quizzes are in the book, all students must buy the book. The book is available at the bookstore or directly from the publisher.

For information on ordering the textbook see registrationdoc

**WORKLOAD AND CLASS PARTICIPATION**

As a general rule, in any 4-credit course, students would be expected to spend 4 hours per week in the classroom and about 8-12 additional hours per week doing coursework outside the classroom. Since this class does not meet in the classroom, you should be prepared to spend about 12 to 16 hours per week completing required coursework. The time commitment may vary from week to week, depending on the amount of reading and other assigned work.

You should logon to the class on D2L at least three times a week to check for announcements and email.

All coursework must be submitted in D2L. We will not accept coursework via email.

If you encounter problems with D2L, click on D2L Help at the top of the page. If you are unable to access D2L at some point during the term, outside the scheduled outages, contact the PSU Help Desk for assistance.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Students with accommodations approved through the DRC are responsible for contacting me prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through the DRC should contact the DRC immediately at 503-725-4150. DRC recommended accommodations are NOT retroactive.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Deadlines:** Students should complete all coursework prior to the date and time indicated in the syllabus and further assignment instructions found on D2L.

- **Computer Issues:** Problems with your computer or Internet connection are NOT acceptable reason for missing deadlines. If you encounter computer problems, use another computer to complete the work prior to the deadlines.
- **Quizzes:** The quiz deadlines are firm. One missed quiz will not impact your course grade and therefore may not be made up. Subsequent missed quizzes may only be made up if there is a legitimate reason. If you miss a quiz but have a legitimate excuse contact Danny Hannun as soon as possible.
- **Original Post:** Each student will be assigned to a discussion group and must submit an original post to that group by no later than 11:30pm Thursday night of each week. Posts must be written on the topic under of the week that they are assigned, so that other students may have adequate time to formulate responses. Discussion topics will be posted on D2L each week.
- **Discussion Posts:** Discussion posts are responses to original post made by others in your discussion group. Your discussion posts are die between Friday morning and 11:30 pm Sunday night.
- **Missed exams** Makeup exams are only allowed up to one calendar week after the closing date of the original exam. If you are ill during the exam availability period, you should contact Danny or me as soon
as possible so an extension can be negotiated. If you miss an exam for any other reason, 20% will be deducted from your score on a makeup exam.

**Conduct:**

It is required that you act appropriately and demonstrate mutual respect for everyone involved in this course, including the instructor, teaching assistant, and your classmates. Disruptive behavior including, but not limited to, allowing online access by unauthorized guests, profanity, verbal abuse or threats directed to others, general disrespect of others, will negatively impact your grade and may result in an F in the course.

We reserve the right to delete any posts that your classmates or I find to be non-academic and offensive.

Please review the University’s Student Code of Conduct and the [Acceptable Use Policy](#) that you agreed to when you received your PSU network access. These policies will be strictly adhered to and enforced should the situation arise.

**Plagiarism:**

It is extremely important that you do not represent another person’s work as your own (plagiarism), whether intentional or not. It is your responsibility to acquaint yourself with the intricacies of academic writing and the appropriate use of another person’s work and/or ideas.

Please review the University’s [Student Code of Conduct](#). These policies will be strictly adhered to and enforced should the situation arise. You will not receive credit for any coursework that is not your own, original work.

**GRADING**

Refer to [PSU’s Grading System](#) for an explanation of the letter grades and other grading policies. Note that a C indicates satisfactory work. Meeting minimum requirements in a satisfactory manner is C work, not A work! In other words, students must do work that is significantly above and beyond the minimum requirements to earn a grade higher than C.

Students taking the course with a Pass/No Pass grading option must earn a C- (70%) or better in the course in order to pass.

This course is organized in weekly learning modules. **The weeks begin at 7:00 am Monday morning and end at 11:30 Sunday night** This weekly structure may not be consistent with other online courses you have taken, or are currently taking, so please be sure to note this schedule so you can plan accordingly.

**Required online activities are described in the weekly modules, which are accessible in the Course Content area on D2L**

**READING ASSIGNMENTS**

The reading assignment will correspond with the book in the following manner.

1. **Week One** Chapter One: Introduction
2. **Week Two** Chapter Two: Intercollegiate Sports
3. **Week Three** Chapter Three: International Sports
4. Week Four  Chapter Four:  Race, Ethnicity in Sports
5. Week Five  Chapter Five:  Indigenous Nations and Mascots
6. Week Six  Chapter Six:  Gender and Title IX
7. Week Seven  Chapter Seven:  Social Stigmas and Homophobia
8. Week Eight  Chapter Eight:  Violence in Sports
10. Week Ten  Chapter Ten:  Drugs and Supplements

ONLINE VIDEOS AND READINGS FOR DISCUSSION POSTS

Each week there will be a number of online videos and readings these readings and videos cover topics related to the weekly discussion topics you are not required to read and watch all the material but should choose a number of them to add and enhance your discussion posts.

DISCUSSION POSTS

You will be assigned to a discussion group along with several of your classmates. Click on the Discussions link in the learning module to see the instructions.

Each week you will be required to discuss a particular topic in your group, then respond to other group members’ original postings in a way that moves along the conversation more details are available in the Discussion Prompt How To Folder on D2l

IMPORTANT: You should think of your original discussion posts as short, formal writing assignments. As in all academic writing, you should make sure the tone is professional and not too casual. AND, you must properly cite your sources. Here are a few rules that are sometimes forgotten:

- Any direct quote, whether a phrase or a full sentence or more, must be indicated with quotation marks.
- All direct quotes require that you cite the author and page number. (If you are referencing my lecture, just use (Farr, Week 5 Lecture)).
- Any and all ideas that are not your own, original ideas must be properly cited, indicating the author. This applies to both paraphrasing and quoting.

Failure to follow these rules will result in reduced scores.

If you are not familiar with these rules of writing, you should consult a writing manual or seek support from the PSU Writing Center or a tutor. Here is a good online resource you may use - https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/679/01/.

I expect you to submit work that is appropriate for an upper division college course. While content should be our main focus in these assignments, I cannot accept any form of plagiarism.

ORIGINAL POSTS: You must submit your original post by no later than 1130 pm Thursday night. (A maximum of one point will be awarded for original posts submitted between Thursday and Saturday.)

Each week, carefully read the discussion assignment instructions. In order to receive 5/5 points on your original post, it must be submitted within the required timeframe and answer all of the questions asked. Also, it must go above and beyond by contributing more analysis and thought to the discussion. A score of 5 not only shows that you put thought into your posting but also that you’ve introduced an original idea or ideas about the topic c. What
did you read about this week or see in the videos that you can add to the discussion? I am looking for you to make connections to the lecture material and/or the readings and videos. Be sure to reference the page numbers of the ideas you are tying into your post. Try to think a bit more analytically about the topic/topics at hand. What questions do you have? What qualms do you have? What is something that you can bring from the outside that is interesting to add to the conversation?

**RESPONSE POSTS:** Submit your response posts between **Friday** morning and 11:30 pm **Sunday** night. (A maximum of one point will be awarded for response posts submitted prior to Thursday.) Discussion posts are due during the week they are assigned, with no points given for submissions posted after midnight Saturday. In order to get a 5/5 on your response posts, respond thoughtfully to other people’s ORIGINAL posts. Perhaps you can help the other students think about an issue in a new or different way or probe them as to why they believe a certain idea. Provide your own insight. Again, make connections to the readings. Pull in a couple of points or ideas from the week’s assigned chapters and reference the page numbers.

Push yourselves, give things more thought, and remember that it's okay to question traditional thoughts if you see something differently. Your posts will be evaluated based on the evidence of thoughtful consideration of the course material and group members’ comments. If you earn 10 points, this means that you are making outstanding original posts AND outstanding responses to your classmates’ original posts.

**LEARNING EXERCISES AND END OF CHAPTER ESSAY QUESTIONS**

In each chapter there are a number of learning exercises. These include matching exercises, opinion polls, and writing exercises. These are for you to use to help learn about each topic and for you to participate in the material of each chapter. These should be completed, and we will check to make sure that you do them, but they will not be part of your grade. In addition, there are essay questions at the end of each chapter. Do them for your own benefit. We will look to see that you did them, but not grade them. You are only graded on the quizzes, the discussion group participation, and the final exam.

**QUIZZES**

Each week, you are required to complete a quiz covering the week’s course materials. The quizzes consist of 10 multiple choice and 10 true/false questions. The quizzes are in the textbook at the end of each chapter. Quizzes are open book and cover material from the textbook and online reading.

Quizzes are available beginning at 7am each **Monday** morning and must be completed prior to 11:30 pm on **Sunday** nights. Since the quizzes are about the assigned reading I suggest you complete the assigned readings before taking the quizzes,

**FINAL EXAM**

There will be a final exam at the end of the term. The final will be available from Sunday of week 10 through Sunday **Finals Week** (week 11).

**Final Exam:** Available from 7:00 am 12/4/2017 to 11:30 pm 12/9/2017. The exam covers chapter 1 through 10.
GRADING

FINAL EXAM 100 POINTS

WEEKLY QUIZZES 200 POINTS (20 EACH)

WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS 100 POINTS (10 EACH)

TOTAL 400 POINTS

QUESTIONS?

If you have trouble using any of the D2L tools, click on D2L Help at the top of the page. It is a very good idea to print a copy of the contact info found there in case you are unable to access D2L at some point during the term. If you are unable to access D2L, please contact the PSU Help Desk (503-725-HELP or help@pdx.edu).

If, at any time during the term, you have questions about any of the course requirements or other information in the syllabus, assignment instructions, or learning modules, please post your question in the Ask the Instructor Q & A area in Discussions, where I will answer your question so that everyone can see the response.

If you have a question please feel free to contact me at farrg@d2l.pdx.edu or Danny Hannun at dhannun@d2l.pdx.edu