

SPM 3012: Social Issues in Sport

3 Credit Hours / 6,000 Words

Summer C 2023

Section (Class #): SM91(13532); UF02(13531); UF99(19206)

(This section fulfills 6,000 words toward the UF writing requirement)

Instructor Information:

Course Instructor Meredith Flaherty, Ph.D.
Dept. of Sport Management
Yon 007
mflaherty@ufl.edu

Course TAs Jessica Brougham jessica.brougham@ufl.edu
Kelsey Garrison kelseygarrison@ufl.edu
Philip Kang philipkang@ufl.edu

Course Website <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/481487>

Required Materials / Textbooks

- Eitzen, D.S. (2016). *Fair and foul: Beyond the myths and paradoxes of sport*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield.
- Holstein, J.A., Jones, R.S., & Koonce, G.E. (2016). *Is there life after football?: Surviving the NFL*. New York: New York University Press.

*Other readings are posted on the course website.

Course Description

The course examines societal operations, arrangements of power, and practical implications in sport: in history and heritage, youth, college, and professional programs/contexts, and the business of the sport industry.

Purpose of the Course

Sport and Society is designed to position students to evaluate the operations, principles, and practices in the sport industry through the lens of a sport leader. The course examines sociological research that exposes the links between many of the major issues facing sports

organizations today. Specifically, the course content will require that students assess the intersection of race and sports, gender and sports, the treatment and behavior of athletes in sport, as well as the major social issues facing youth, college, and professional sports in American society.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Think critically and articulate how sports impacts society as well as how society impacts sports
- Articulate and explain the major sociological issues associated with gender, social class, race, and media in sport
- Describe the business of youth, college, and professional sport from a sociological perspective
- Describe how competition and the professionalized, commercial model of sport impact the sport system
- Evaluate the arrangements of power that produce and reproduce the delivery of sport
- Analyze the alignment of the purpose and delivery of sport across the conveyor belt of elite sport
- Provide clear solutions that sport leaders can use to improve many issues challenging sports in contemporary society

Course Format

This course is online and all class sessions (including discussion sessions) are delivered through E-Learning @ UF. The course is organized around 5 modules comprised of individual units:

1. Unit Videos and Readings
2. Unit Discussion Boards (Yellowdig Media Board in Module 5)
3. Unit Synthesis Paper Essays
4. Quizzes (after Modules 2 and 5)

Unit Videos and Readings

Key concepts and issues for the topics in each module are presented through several videos and readings. The unit readings include chapters from the required texts and other readings that are linked on the unit page. The videos presented in each module include short lectures, short documentaries and news reports, or full-length documentary films. The video presentations will provide an overview of the most central ideas and debates associated with specific concepts covered in the readings of the module. The primary purpose of the video presentations is to set the stage for high order thinking of the materials and concepts presented through the course readings. The study guides that accompany the readings and videos should be your primary source for what students should focus on as they move through the units.

Unit Discussion Boards

Discussion boards are used to weave key concepts presented in the videos and readings into an integrated whole to further develop an understanding of the phenomenon in sport. Each board will present questions and/or further information to consider and progress as a dialogue between small groups of students. First posts to the discussion boards are due on Thursday of each unit, replies are due on Friday. The Yellowdig Community Discussion Board in Module 5 runs on Tuesday and Wednesday in the last week of the course (see course outline).

Unit Synthesis Essay Papers

The Unit Synthesis Papers include a series of essays (graded for writing and content) on the topics and key concepts covered in the unit. Minimum word counts toward the writing requirement are assigned for each question to guide students when preparing their responses.

*These papers are the student submissions toward fulfilling the UF 6000 words requirement.

*In summary, each unit will include four tasks:

1. **Watch** the assigned videos
2. **Read** the assigned readings
3. **Participate** in the discussion board
 - a. **Read/view** the prompts/questions for the unit board
 - b. **Post** your responses to the prompt and **replies** to other students on the discussion board
4. **Prepare and submit** written responses to the Synthesis Paper prompts/questions

Module Quizzes

The quiz at the end of Module 2 covers the content from Modules 1 and 2, and the quiz at the end of Module 5 covers the content from Modules 3, 4, and 5. The practice quiz is not graded but is offered to allow students to assess the types of questions they will encounter in the module quizzes. The practice quiz consists of five questions and provides students an opportunity to experience the quiz environment in the class (i.e., the types of questions that they might encounter in future quizzes).

The quizzes cover the readings and the key concepts presented in the modules. The quizzes are open note. Students are required to download a lockdown browser to take the quizzes, so any notes or readings used for the quizzes should be printed or accessible via another device.

*If you cannot access a printer or do not have a secondary device for the readings, please contact the instructor.

Grading & Point Distribution

Video and Readings Quizzes (60 points each X 2 Quizzes)	120 pts
Canvas Discussion Boards (20 points each X 8 boards)	160 pts
Yellowdig Community Board – Module 5	30 pts
Synthesis Papers (X8 papers)	300 pts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1 Introduction to Social Issues in Sport: 30 pts (600 words) • Module 2 Class in Sport: 50 pts (1200 words) • Module 2 Race in Sport: 50 pts (1200 words) • Module 2 Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport: 50 pts (1200 words) • Module 3 Athlete Health and Safety: 30 pts (600 words) • Module 4 Youth Sport: 30 pts (600 words) • Module 4 College Sport: 30 pts (600 words) • Module 4 Professional Sport: 30 pts (600 words) 	

Total Possible Points **610 pts**

Grading Scale

A	=	93-100%
A-	=	90 – 92.9%
B+	=	87-89.9%
B	=	83-86.9%
B-	=	80 – 82.9%
C+	=	77-79.9%
*C	=	70-76.9%
D+	=	67-69.9%
D	=	60-66.9%
E	=	59.9 or lower

Writing Requirement

This section of SPM 3012 qualifies for 6,000 words toward the UF Writing Requirement (formerly Gordon Rule). More information can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/student-responsibilities/writing-requirement/>

***In order to fulfill the UF Writing requirement (6000 words), you must earn a 70% or above.**

See current UF Grading Policies for further details:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Honor Code Policy

“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

The following pledge is either required or implied on all work:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment”

It is the duty of the student to abide by all rules set forth in the UF Undergraduate Catalog.

Students are responsible for reporting any circumstances, which may facilitate academic dishonesty.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF [Student Honor Code](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/) (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>). *“The University of Florida holds its students to the highest standards, and we encourage students to read the University of Florida Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040), so they are aware of our standards. Any violation of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution and may result in academic sanctions and further student conduct action. The two greatest threats to the academic integrity of the University of Florida are cheating and plagiarism. Students should be aware of their faculty’s policy on collaboration, should understand how to properly cite sources, and should not give nor receive an improper academic advantage in any manner through any medium.”*

*Students are encouraged to review and discuss unit content with other students but are not permitted to collaborate with other students on any written submission or quiz in this course.

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<https://disability.ufl.edu/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

Attendance and Make Up Policy

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Getting Help

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning @ UF, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> or helpdesk@ufl.edu

Other resources are available at:

- [Counseling and Wellness resources](#)
- [Disability resources](#)

- [Resources for handling student concerns and complaints](#)
- [Library Help Desk support](#)

Statement of Inclusion

Education is transformative, and open intellectual inquiry is the foundation of a university education and a democratic society. In the spirit of shared humanity and concern for our community and world, the Department of Sport Management faculty celebrate diversity as central to our mission and affirm our solidarity with those individuals and groups most at risk. In line with our departmental goals, we disavow all racism, xenophobia, homophobia, sexism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, classism, ableism, and hate speech or actions that attempt to silence, threaten, and degrade others.

As educators, we affirm that language and texts, films and stories help us to understand the experiences of others whose lives are different from ours. We value critical reasoning, evidence-based arguments, self-reflection, and the imagination. Building on these capacities, we hope to inspire empathy, social and environmental justice, and an ethical framework for our actions. We advocate for a diverse campus, community, and nation inclusive of racial minorities, women, immigrants, the LGBTQ+ community, and people of all religious faiths.

SPM3012: Social Issue in Sport Course Outline

Module 1		
Introduction to Social Issues in Sport Unit		
Week 1	May 15-21	<p><u>Monday – Wednesday:</u> Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p><u>Wednesday:</u> Take Module 1 Practice Quiz (5 questions-20 minutes; *0 points – practice quiz is not graded)</p> <p><u>Thursday – Friday:</u> Participate in the Course Introduction Discussion Board</p> <p><u>Sunday:</u> Submit written responses for the Course Introduction Synthesis Paper</p>
Module 2		
Class in Sport Unit		
Week 2	May 22-28	<p><u>Monday – Wednesday:</u> Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p><u>Thursday – Friday:</u> Participate in the Class in Sport Discussion Board</p>
Week 3	May 30-June 4	<p><u>Sunday:</u> Submit written responses for the Class in Sport Synthesis Paper</p>
Race in Sport Unit		
Week 4	June 5-11	<p><u>Monday – Thursday:</u> Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p><u>Thursday – Friday:</u> Participate in the Race in Sport Discussion Board</p>
Week 5	June 12-18	<p><u>Sunday:</u> Submit written responses for the Race in Sport Synthesis Paper</p>
Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport Unit		
Week 6	June 19-25	<p><u>Monday – Wednesday:</u> Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p><u>Thursday – Friday:</u> Participate in the Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport Discussion Board</p>
Week 7	June 26 – July 2: Summer Break	
Week 8	July 3-9	<p><u>Sunday:</u> Submit written responses for the Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport Synthesis Paper</p>
		<p><u>Thursday – Sunday:</u> Quiz 1 (24 questions, 60 minutes)</p>
Module 3		

Athlete Health and Safety Unit		
Week 9	July 10-16	<p>Monday – Wednesday: Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p>Thursday – Friday: Participate in the Athlete Health and Safety Discussion Board</p> <p>Sunday: Submit written responses for the AHS Synthesis Paper</p>
Module 4		
Youth Sport Unit		
Week 10	July 17-23	<p>Monday – Wednesday: Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p>Thursday – Friday: Participate in the Youth Sport Discussion Board</p> <p>Sunday: Submit written responses for the Youth Sport Synthesis Paper</p>
College Sport Unit		
Week 11	July 24-30	<p>Monday – Wednesday: Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p>Thursday – Friday: Participate in the College Sport Discussion Board</p> <p>Sunday: Submit written responses for the College Sport Synthesis Paper</p>
Professional Sport Unit		
Week 12	July 31 – Aug 6	<p>Monday – Wednesday: Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p>Thursday – Friday: Participate in the Professional Sport Discussion Board</p> <p>Sunday: Submit written responses for the Professional Sport Synthesis Paper</p>
Module 5		
Reforming Sport Unit		
Week 13	Aug 7-11	<p>Monday: Read the unit readings and watch unit videos</p> <p>Tuesday – Wednesday: Participate in the Reforming Sport Yellowdig Community Board</p>
		Thursday – Friday: Quiz 2 (24 questions, 60 minutes)

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents the tentative plans and objectives for the course. As we go through the semester, plans may need to change to enhance a class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

SPM3012: Sport and Society

Readings and Videos by Module

Module 1

Introduction to Sport and Society Unit

Intro to Sport and Society Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 1: The Duality of Sport
- Eitzen, Chapter 2: Sport Unites, Sport Divides

Intro to Sport and Society Videos

- Lecture: Course Introduction and Syllabus
- [TED Talk: Are athletes really getting faster, better, and stronger?](#)

Module 2

Class in Sport Unit

Class in Sport Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 8: Class Inequities. (*pp. 148—149 only*)
- Eitzen, Chapter 11: Sports as a Path to Success?
- Holstein, Jones, and Koonce (2015) - Chapter 5- All that Dough: Where Did it Go?
- [Spaaij, R., Farquharson, K., & Marjoribanks, T. \(2015\). Sport and social inequalities. *Sociology Compass*, 9\(5\), 400-411. \(*pp. 406-407 only*\)](#)

Class in Sport Videos

- [Project Play: Harlem](#)
- [The Price of Youth Sports \(Full Segment\) | Real Sports w/ Bryant Gumbel | HBO](#)

Race in Sport Unit

Race in Sport Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 3: Names, Logos, Mascots, and Flags
- Eitzen, Chapter 8: Are Sports Played on a Level Playing Field? (*pp. 141- 148 only*)
- [Spaaij, R., Farquharson, K., & Marjoribanks, T. \(2015\). Sport and social inequalities. *Sociology Compass*, 9\(5\), 400-411. \(*pp. 402-404 only*\)](#)

- [Kareem Abdul Jabbar: what sports have taught me about race in America](#)

Race in Sport Videos

- [Undeclared: 'Dear Black Athlete' examines issues of race and sports in this moment of protest](#)
- [Howard Bryant: "The Heritage" and the Politics of Race, Sports, and Patriotism](#)

Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport Unit

Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport Readings

- Shaw, S., & Frisby, W. (2006). Can gender equity be more equitable?: Promoting an alternative frame for sport management research, education, and practice. *Journal of Sport Management*, 20(4), 483-509. (pp. 483-492 only)
- [Spaaij, R., Farquharson, K., & Marjoribanks, T. \(2015\). Sport and social inequalities. *Sociology Compass*, 9\(5\), 400-411. \(pp. 400-402 only\)](#)
- Staurowsky, E. (2011). Title IX Literacy: What Every Citizen Should Know about Title IX, Gender Equity, and College Sport. (pp. 107-123).
- [Yenor, Scott. \(2016\). A Sporting Difference: On Men's and Women's Athletics.](#)

Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Sport Videos

- [Nine for IX: Branded](#)
- [Title IX: Let em Play](#)
- [Where Are All the Women Coaches?](#)

Module 3

Athlete Health and Safety Unit

Athlete Health and Safety Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 5: Sport is Healthy; Sport is Destructive
- Holstein, Jones, and Koonce (2015)- Chapter 4- A Lifetime of Hurt
- [Is the US finally taking sexual abuse in sports seriously?](#)

Athlete Health and Safety Video

- [League of Denial](#)
- [I Was the Fastest Girl in America, Until I Joined Nike | NYT Opinion](#)

Module 4

Youth Sport Unit

Youth Sport Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 6: The Organization of Youth Sports
- [Aspen Institute Research Brief: What does the science say about athletic development in children?](#)
- [Aspen institute State of Play: Sport Participation Rates Among Underserved American Youth](#)

Youth Sport Videos

- [State of Play: Trophy Kids](#)
- [TED Talk: Why girls and boys should play sports together?](#)

College Sport Unit

College Sport readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 10: Big-Time College Sport
- Holstein, Jones, and Koonce (2015), Chapter 1- Pursuing the Dream
- [Knight Commission proposes principles to guide new name, image, and likeness rules for college athletes](#)

College Sport Videos

- [Knight Commission: An Introduction to Name, Image, and Likeness Rules for College Athletes](#)
- [The Business of Amateurs](#)

Professional Sport Unit

Professional Sport Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 12: Professional Sports
- Holstein, Jones, and Koonce (2015), Chapter 7: Playing Without a Playbook
- Holstein, Jones, and Koonce (2015), Chapter 8: Trials of Transition

Professional Sport Video

- [Why Hosting The Super Bowl Isn't Worth It](#)
- [Netflix: The Playbook. Doc Rivers: A Coach's Rules for Life](#)

Module 5

Reforming Sport Unit

Reforming Sports Readings

- Eitzen, Chapter 14: Changing Sport

Reforming Sports Video

- [Introduction to Sport for Development and Peace](#)
- [Transforming the NCAA D-I Model: What D-I Leaders Think: New Survey Findings about Reform](#)