

ANTHROPOLOGY 4BB3 – Current Problems in Cultural Anthropology II: “The Anthropology of Sport and Spectacle”

Winter 2019

Course Instructor: Dr. Karen McGarry

E-mail: mcgarry@mcmaster.ca

Office: CNH 531

Office Hours: Mondays 5:15-6:15 p.m. or Tuesday 11 a.m.-noon

Class Time: Wednesdays 8:30-11:20 a.m. in KTH B109

****Note: The best way to get in touch with me is via e-mail.**

Course Description: This course explores various forms of sport and sporting spectacles (eg. the Olympics) from a cross-cultural perspective within both past and present societies. Topics covered include analyses of identity production and performance within sport, including race, class, gender, sexuality, and nationalism, the commodification of sporting bodies within globalized contexts, sport and cultural appropriation, and issues surrounding sport and health.

Course Objectives/Expected Learning Outcomes:

Through this course, you will:

- learn critical thinking, reading and writing skills in anthropology
- learn a variety of different theoretical approaches to the study of sport
- understand how contemporary sport is intertwined with the negotiation of individual and collective identities

Required Course Text:

The Anthropology of Sport: Bodies, Borders, Biopolitics, by Niko Benier, Susan Brownell and Thomas F. Carter. University of California Press.

Class Format: Weekly 3 hour seminar.

Course Evaluation:

1. **In-class test: (15%)** – On, we will have an in-class test on Feb. 27
2. **Presentation: (20%)** – Various due dates. By the second week of classes, you will be asked to sign up for a group presentation date/topic. More information will be provided during the first class.
3. **Final paper: (25%)** – due April 3. You will have a choice of topics for this question.
4. **Participation: (15%)** – Weekly class attendance and relevant contributions to discussion are expected. 7.5 marks are allocated to weekly attendance, and 7.5 marks are

for active participation (answering and asking questions, showing evidence of engagement with readings, participation in group activities, etc.).

6. Peer Review Session (5%) – Bring two copies of your final paper to class on March 27.

7. Individual Research Presentation (20%): This is a 13-20 minute presentation that summarizes your research for the class.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, Appendix 3, <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrate only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one’s own for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES E-MAIL COMMUNICATION POLICY

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Email Forwarding in MUGSI:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>

*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link

(Approved at the Faculty of Social Sciences meeting on Tues. May 25, 2010)

Policy on the Submission of Assignments - Assignments submitted by e-mail **will not be accepted**. No extensions will be given unless written certification, approved by your Faculty office, is provided. Please note that policies concerning the use of MSAFs (McMaster Student Absence Forms) have changed (see <http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>). Late assignments without appropriate documentation will be penalized **10% per day** late, including weekend days. No assignments are accepted after 72 hours of the submission deadline, and you will receive a 0.

MSAF (McMaster Student Absence Form)

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. Please note these regulations have changed beginning Spring/Summer 2015.

Missed Assessments or Exams -Students are responsible for arranging make-up exams/assignments with the instructor. A makeup exam/assessment will be granted on a case-by-case basis, and documentation from a physician is required. **Please note – make-up exams will be in essay format.**

Course Materials and Avenue to Learn (ATL) -Lectures will be presented using Power Point, an abbreviated version of which will be posted weekly on ATL. You must be registered in the course to have access to the 4BB3 site. **Please familiarize yourself with the Avenue to Learn system.** You can access ATL at:
<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/?logout=1>

Correspondence - I will check my email regularly throughout the week, so you can expect a response within approximately **48 hours**. Please put **4BB3 in the subject line** of your email and **include your name and student number** at the end of all correspondence.

Student Behavior and Responsibilities –

Your learning – it is your responsibility to **keep up with the readings** – do not leave them until the night before the exams. Attendance in this class is **essential** if you want to do well in this course. You are expected to think about the readings and integrate them into the information and concepts presented during lecture.

Classroom behavior – Please **do not be afraid to ask questions** or provide constructive comments! If you do not understand something, or if I have gone over a concept too fast, stop me and ask a question. Chances are if you do not understand something, other people in the class are in the same position.

Please ensure that cell phones are turned “off”(including text messaging, Twitter, etc...) and **arrive on time for class**. If you have to leave class early, please sit near one of the exits. **Laptop computers** may be used in class for taking notes, but students using their computers for any other purpose (e.g., checking Facebook) will be asked to turn their computers off. Please be polite to your neighbors and **keep conversation to a minimum**.

Student Accessibility Services: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca> MUSC-B107 905-525-9140 x28652

NOTE: Disclosure of disability-related information is personal and confidential.

Student Accessibility Services offers various supports for students with disabilities. We work with full time and part time students. SAS provides or assists students with their academic and disability-related needs, including: Learning Strategies, Assistive Technologies, Test & Exam Administration, Note-Taking Programs, Classroom Accommodations. Please inform the instructor if there are disability needs that are not being met.

McMaster University Policy on Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities & McMaster University Anti-Discrimination Policy

• <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicAccommodation-StudentsWithDisabilities.pdf>

Special Accommodations -

Any student with special learning needs should contact Dr. McGarry by the end of the **second week** of classes at the latest. You must have written confirmation from Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Center for Student Development). Students can contact SAS to arrange assistance in the completion of exams. <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>

Student Success Centre: <http://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca> GH-110 905-525-9140 x24254 Provides the following services: student orientation, academic skills, leadership, service-learning, volunteerism, educational planning, employment and career transition.
Student Wellness Centre <http://wellness.mcmaster.ca/> MUSC-B101& B106 905-525-9140 x27700 Provides services in: Personal and Psychological Counseling, Mental Health Support, Medical and Health Services

Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student’s religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Please review the [RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences](#) about how to request accommodation.

Class Schedule:

January 9: Introduction to the course

Readings: Please read the course syllabus carefully.

January 16: The Development of an Anthropology of Sport

Reading: Chapters 1 and 2 of Benier et al.

January 23: Sport, Health and the Natural Body

Readings: Chapter 3 of Benier et al.

January 30: Sex, Gender and Sexuality

Readings: Chapter 5 of Benier et al.

February 6: Sport, Class, Race and Ethnicity

Readings: Chapter 4 of Benier et al.

McDonald, Mary G. "Mapping Whiteness and Sport" (available on Avenue)

February 13: Sport and Nationalism

Readings: Chapter 7 of Benier et al.

Hogeveen and Spencer, "Pride, Shame and Canadian Sporting Identities" (posted on Avenue to Learn)

February 20: Reading Break. No class.

February 27: In-class Test

March 6: Sporting Spectacles

Readings: Hubbert, Jennifer, "Spectacular Productions: Community and Commodity in the Beijing Olympics" (posted on Avenue to Learn)

March 13: Individual Research Presentations

March 20: Individual Research Presentations

March 27: Peer review session. Please bring a draft of your final paper to class today.

April 3: Final papers due, along with the peer review forms and workshop review sheet.