



The Anthropology of Sport: The World Cup Summer 2014

ANTH 4701 3.0 Hours

Life Sciences A419

June 2 - July 3

Monday – Thursday (and Friday, June 6th), 10-12

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Office hours: Thursdays 2-4pm; or by appointment

Course Description

Every four years, The FIFA Football World Cup evokes the passion of sport on a global stage like no other. This course will use this summer's 2014 World Cup in Brazil as a platform to study cultural issues that impact the entire world. In particular, students will explore the relationships between (1) the global popularity of football and the legacy of European colonialism; (2) the success of a few European and South American nations and the mechanisms of the global economy; (3) the political, nationalist, class, gender, and racial biases of football and cultural structures of inequality; and finally, (4) the secondary role of football (soccer) in American culture. Students will be asked to apply the above issues to specific case studies of countries participating in the 2014 World Cup. However, students need not enter the class with

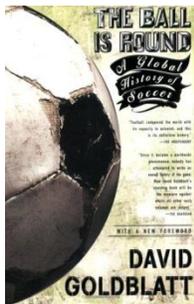
knowledge of or experience with the sport of football. All they need to be successful is an interest in the study of culture and globalization.

Learning Objectives

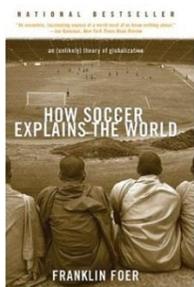
1. Students will gain an appreciation for an anthropological interpretation of sport.
2. Students will be able to identify linkages between European colonialism and the global spread of football.
3. Students will gain an appreciation for how global economic inequalities structure the conditions of success in inter-national and club football competition.
4. Students will be able to identify how sport both reflects and shapes culture, specifically through politics, nationalism, race, and gender.
5. Students will work in groups and individually to study case studies of the history, economics, and culture of football in a specific nation.
6. Students will be able to understand and reflect on the concept of American exceptionalism through American cultural indifference to soccer.

Required Materials

1. Goldblatt, David. *The Ball is Round: A Global History of Soccer*. American Edition (2008). Riverhead Books.



2. Foer, Franklin. *How Soccer Explains the World: An Unlikely Theory of Globalization*. 2nd Edition (2010). HarperCollins Publishers.



3. All other materials will be provided via Blackboard.

Course Requirements:

I. Attendance & Participation

Attendance and participation are obligatory components of this course. Students are expected to attend each and every class, complete required reading, and participate in class discussion. If students do not provide medical documentation of the inability to attend class, they will lose one point per absence.

II. Assignments

There will be four short assignments. Each assignment will vary in format including research papers (#1), scouting reports (#2), group presentations (#3), and policy papers (#4). Late work will not be accepted unless the student provides medical documentation of an inability to complete it.

III. Exams

There will be two exams. Exam questions will consist of multiple choice, T/F, matching and short responses. Each exam will cover only the material of given units of the course (Units 1/2 for Exam #1; Units 3/4 for Exam #2). Both exams will be given on-line via Blackboard outside of class during 36 hour intervals.

Grading

Grades will be determined according to the following weighted categories:

Category	% of final grade	Final grade % per graded submission
Attendance & Participation	20	20
4 Assignments	40	10
2 Exams	40	20

Students can learn their current grade in the course by going to My Grades and looking at the percentage score in the Current Grade/Weighted Total column.

Grading Scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D

Below 60 F
COURSE POLICIES

1. WITHDRAWAL: If you are unable to complete this course you must officially withdraw by the University-designated date (for a “W” with instructor approval). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that YOU must initiate. I cannot do it for you. If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an “F.”

2. Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu.

In this classroom, “**acceptable student behavior**” specifically means:

A. No cell phone usage. I will ask you to leave the classroom if I see you using your phone.

B. Maintain one classroom conversation. Sometimes topics in this class can get socially controversial and emotionally exciting, but please contribute only to the central conversation.

C. Engage in the classroom material, not in your computer. Computer users will be asked to sit at the front of the classroom.

D. Always be respectful of other students’ thoughts, opinions, and perspectives.

E. Do not come to class late. If you have arrive later than 10 minutes after class begins (10:10), you will be considered absent.

3. Coursework Submissions:

A. With the exception of assignment #3 group presentation, all assignments must be submitted **via Blackboard**. At the bottom of each Assignments page, you will find a link to turnitin where you will submit your paper.

B. Late work will not be accepted via email, so please do not send it. Late work will only be accepted for credit if accompanied by a note from a medical professional attesting to your inability to complete it. No other exceptions will be considered.

4. Extra Credit: There will be one opportunity for extra credit at the end of the semester. If you complete the SETE course evaluation (available in late June), one percentage point will be added to your final grade.

5. Submit Exams on time. You will be given 36 hours to complete one-hour exams on-line. Exam extensions will be granted only for one condition: If a medical professional documents that you are incapable of taking the exam during the allotted period of time. Mark the test dates on your calendar. **Exam #1: June 14th at noon until June 15th at midnight; July 2nd at noon until July 3rd at midnight.**

6. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: The Department of Anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic “F” in the course. For information on the University’s policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/>.

7. ADA: The Anthropology Department does not discriminate based on an individual’s disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or help to individuals with disabilities, and attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements. Please see me if you have a documented disability so that appropriate arrangements can be made to help you get the most out of this class.

8. E-MAIL 1.0: The best way to reach me is via email, and I require 24 hours to respond to any emails sent between Monday and Friday. Over the weekends and on holidays I require 48 hours to respond. Please include the name of the course you are taking with me in the body of your email. If you email me with a question that the syllabus answers, I will not reply to you.

9. E-MAIL 2.0: Make sure that you use your unt.edu e-mail address. If you do not regularly check this e-mail, make sure that it is FORWARDED to your preferred address (such as gmail, Hotmail, or yahoo). You will be held accountable for any information sent to your unt address. DO NOT use the message system within Blackboard Learn.

