

Course Syllabus:

Course Title: Globalization and International Sport

Instructor: George Wright

Course Description: The course will discuss the effect that the Globalization stage of historical capitalism (1970-present) has had on International Sport, with a focus on the International Federation of Football Associations (FIFA) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The course objective is to use International Sport as a case study to understand the pervasiveness of Globalization. The course will, first, define the meaning(s) of Globalization; second, discuss the history of Modern Organized Sport; third, explain the structure of Globalized International Sport as well as its societal impact; fourth, examine the influence that Globalization has had on FIFA and the IOC; fifth, discuss the effect post-2008 global economic and geo-political instability has had on the IOC and FIFA; and, sixth, speculate on the future of Globalization and International Sport.

Week by Week Outline:

Week One: International Sport and Globalization

Introduction

Globalization: A Definition

Week Two: The History of Modern Organized Sport

Physical Activity, Play, Recreation and Organized Sport

Origins and History of Modern Organized Sport, 1750- 1970

Week Three: The Meaning of Globalized International Sport

Origins of Globalized International Sport

Outline of the Structure of Globalized International Sport

Globalized Sport, Politics, Identify and Society

Week Four: Globalization and FIFA

Background History of FIFA

FIFA, Joao Havehange and Globalization

FIFA's Revenue Streams and Distribution

FIFA, Sepp Blattner, Corruption and Institutional Crisis

Week Five: Globalization and the IOC

Background History of the IOC

The IOC, Juan Antonio Samaranch and Globalization

The IOC's Revenue Streams and Distribution

The IOC, Corruption and Reform

Jacque Rogge, Thomas Bach, the IOC and Institutional Stability

Week Six: Globalization, Crises and International Sport

Brazil, Political Crisis and the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games

The “New Cold War,” Russia and the 2018 FIFA World Cup
The Future of Globalization and International Sport

Course Objectives:

- 1.) To understand the meaning of Globalization.
- 2.) To understand the relationship of International Sport to Globalization.
- 3.) To understand the organizational structure of Globalized International Sport.
- 4.) To understand the impact of Globalization on the FIFA and the IOC.
- 5.) To understand (Human) Agency in relationship to the Globalization of International Sport.
- 6.) To understand the role of corruption in Globalized Sport.
- 7.) To understand the impact post-2008 global economic and geo-political instability has had on FIFA and the IOC.
- 8.) To understand the prospects for the future of FIFA and the IOC.
- 9.) To understand the prospects for the future of Globalization.

Selected Bibliography:

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- Richard Giulianotti and Roland Robertson, eds. (2007) *Globalization and Sport*.
- David Harvey (2005) *Neoliberalism: A Brief History*.
- Ankie Hoogvelt, (1997) *Globalization and the Postcolonial World: The New Political Economy of Development*.
- Helen Jefferson Lenskyj (2000) *Inside the Olympic Industry: Power, Politics, and Activism*.
- Andrew Jennings (1996) *The New Lords of the Rings: Olympic Corruption and How to Buy Gold Medals*.
- Richard Pound (2004) *Inside the Olympics: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Politics, the Scandals, and the Glory of the Game*.
- George H. Sage (2010) *Globalizing Sport: How Organizations, Corporations, Media, and Politics are Changing Sports*.
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- George Wright (2014) “The IOC’s Ruling Class,” *Socialist Register 2015*.

Dr. George Wright
gwright@csuchico.edu