

FALL 2013
HISTORY 280W:
THE HISTORIAN'S CRAFT (SOCCER IN HISTORY)

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Course Meeting Time and Location:

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:35-10:50
Glasscock 206

Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday, 11 AM - noon

Course Description:

By any measure, soccer is the most popular spectator sport in the world. Roughly 50% of the world's population watched at least some of the most recent World Cup in South Africa. Soccer, called football in most of the rest of the world outside of the United States, has become a nexus of global culture, media, and politics, and provides an extraordinary lens through which we can understand the forces that shaped our modern world. This course will explore the rise of this global game as a way to study phenomena like globalization, migration, the shifting geopolitics of the 19th and 20th centuries, and the formation of national identities.

This course will ask students to consider the complex relationship between soccer and modern world history, while at the same time learning about different approaches that historians take toward the human past. We will also discuss career options for students of history and visit a number of sites around Texas A&M where the skills learned in the history classroom are put to use every day.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Through this course, students will be able to:

- 1) evaluate and synthesize primary and secondary historical writings.
- 2) express their own ideas effectively in written and oral form.
- 3) identify historical and social contexts that created diversity in past and present human cultures.
- 4) apply knowledge about the human condition - in the past and present - to their personal lives and studies.

Required Texts:

All of the books listed below are available at the MSC Bookstore, through various online booksellers, and at the Reserve Desk on the 4th Floor of the Evans Library Annex.

Brundage, Anthony *Going to the Sources: A Guide to Historical Research and Writing* (5th ed)
 Goldblatt, David *The Ball is Round: A Global History of Soccer*
 Kuper, Simon and Stefan Szymanski, *Soccernomics*
 MacMillan, Margaret *Dangerous Games: The Uses and Abuses of History*

Please note that the Brundage volume is available as an electronic publication through the TAMU libraries' website.

In addition, the following assigned readings are available through electronic reserves (ereserves.tamu.edu):

Brüggemeier, Franz-Josef, "Das Wunder von Bern: The 1954 World Cup, the German Nation, and Popular Histories," in Sylvia Paletschek, ed. *Popular Historiographies in the 19th and 20th Centuries* (New York: Berghahn, 2010), 188-200.

Efron, Jonathan, "When is a Yid not a Yid?: The Strange Case of Supporter Identity at Tottenham Hotspur," in Michael Brenner and Gideon Reuveni, eds., *Emancipation Through Muscles: Jews and Sports in Europe*, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2006, 235-256.

Geertz, Clifford, "Deep Play: Notes on a Balinese Cockfight," *The Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays* (New York: Basic, 1977), 412-454.

Students will also need to view the film *Das Wunder von Bern* (2004). It is available through Evans Library, as well as any number of other venues. A screening has been scheduled for the class on Thursday, October 24 from 7:00 – 9:30 PM in Evans Annex room 417B. The film can also be viewed through mediamatrix for those registered for this class (<https://mediamatrix.tamu.edu/>)

Graded Assignments:

This is a writing intensive course. Students will be expected to complete two short (approximately 500 words) papers and one long seminar paper (approximately 2,500 words). The final paper will incorporate both primary and secondary sources. It is not possible to pass this course without passing the writing component.

More information about the seminar paper will be provided shortly after the beginning of the semester. The other two papers will be brief responses to prompts based on the reading by Clifford Geertz and the films and readings related to the 1954 World Cup.

Each student will submit a draft of their seminar paper. I will return drafts with comments, which should then be incorporated into the final version. Completion of a draft totaling not less than 1,500 words, and which makes a good-faith effort to address the assignment by using primary and secondary sources, is required. Drafts meeting these requirements will receive full credit. Failing to meet this requirement will result in a grade of 0.

Course grades will be assigned on the following basis:

50%: Seminar Paper

15%: Geertz Paper

15%: 1954 World Cup Paper

10%: Final Paper Draft

10%: Attendance and Participation

Attendance will be taken during each class session. Attendance will be administered according to the terms of Student Rule 7 (<http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>). Students who miss more than three class sessions without a university-approved excuse will be penalized 20% of their participation grade (2% of their overall grade) for each subsequent unexcused absence.

All graded assignments will be submitted through www.turnitin.com. I will NOT accept emailed submissions or hard copies. The Geertz and 1954 papers are due no later than 9:35 AM on the due date indicated in the schedule below. The seminar paper draft is due on November 5 by 9:35 AM. The final paper is due by 9:35 AM on December 3. Please note that turnitin.com does not allow the submission of late papers. Except in cases in which a student has a university-approved absence on the day the assignment is due, late papers will not be accepted.

Students will need to register in advance on turnitin.com. Please use the following information to complete your enrollment:

Class ID: 6837682

Enrollment password: soccerhist

Schedule and Readings:

Please note that guest speaker and site visit sessions are subject to change. The dates and times of graded assignments will not change.

- 27-Aug Introduction
- 29-Aug Thinking about History #1 (READ: Brundage, 1-33, 59-88)
- 3-Sep Thinking about History #2 (READ: Geertz article)
- 5-Sep Paper project introduction
- 10-Sep Using the Library - Joel Kitchens, Evans 204B
- 12-Sep Soccer's and 19th century globalization (READ: Goldblatt, 1-170)
- 17-Sep Soccer panel
- 19-Sep No class
- 24-Sep Soccer and war (READ: Goldblatt, 171-260, 297-356)
- 26-Sep Soccer and the Cold War (READ: Goldblatt, 396-478, 513-605)
- 1-Oct Soccer after 1989 (READ: Goldblatt, 681-829)
- 3-Oct No class
- 8-Oct Careers Panel #1 (**GEERTZ PAPER DUE**)

- 10-Oct Writing Center Presentation
- 15-Oct Careers Panel #2
- 17-Oct Citation and writing for historians
- 22-Oct No class
- 24-Oct Film: *Das Wunder von Bern*, Evans Annex Room 417B, 7-9 pm
- 29-Oct Film discussion (READ: Brüggemeier article) (**1954 WORLD CUP PAPER DUE**)
- 31-Oct Bush library
- 5-Nov Soccer in the Contemporary World (READ: Kuper and Szymanski, 1-208) **DRAFTS DUE**
- 7-Nov Graduate student panel
- 12-Nov Soccer in the Contemporary World (READ: Kuper and Szymanski, 293-410) **DRAFTS RETURNED**
- 14-Nov Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center
- 19-Nov Soccer and identity (READ: Efron Article)
- 21-Nov The politics of history (READ: Macmillan, 1-78)
- 26-Nov The politics of history (READ: Macmillan, 79-170)
- 28-Nov Thanksgiving
- 3-Dec Lunch. **FINAL PAPER DUE**

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity Statement and Policy:

Students in this course are expected to act according to the Aggie Honor Code: *"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."* Violations of the Honor Code will be referred to the Honor Council. For information about the rules and procedures of the Honor Council, see <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>.