



Arcadia University January Term Program

AUJT ISCS 310

The Power of Australian Summer: Integrating Sport, Culture and Society Program Syllabus

Course Description

This course has been designed for students who wish to gain an understanding of the significance of sport and recreation in Australian culture. The course will include lectures, guest speakers, field trips and activities which focus on a range of sporting/recreation pursuits from professional elite sports to informal community events.

Topics will include: sport in pre-colonial Australia; sport in Australia as a form of social education; elite sport versus sport for all; violence and gender issues; The World Cup, the Commonwealth and Olympic Games and the globalization and commodification of sport; sport and the construction of regional and national identity; emerging trends in Australian recreation; sport and the media.

An exciting feature of this course is that it provides an opportunity for students to travel and study in three major Australian cities, including the capital, Canberra. It also affords the chance to experience the Australian bush firsthand on the three day recreation field trip.

Learning Outcomes and Expected Student Competencies

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Discuss the evolution of sport and recreation in Australia
- Situate sport and physical recreation in a broad historical context
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of sport in the construction of national identity
- Recognize and discuss the representation of sport in the media
- Identify and participate in selected unique Australian sports and recreational activities
- Describe the hierarchy of sport in Australia from school through to elite institutions
- Recognize and identify current and emerging recreational activities in Australia
- Demonstrate an understanding of the rules and strategies of cricket, netball and Australian rules football

Rationale and Impact of the Course

- An understanding of sport and leisure is central to an understanding of Australian culture and Australian's sense of who they are in the world. Australia's biggest cultural events are sporting events and sport and recreation is an integral part of day-to-day discourse.
- A critical analysis of the practice and meaning of sport and leisure in Australian culture, however, provides a deeper understanding of not only the unique nature of Australian sport/leisure, but also of Australian culture and society. This course provides students

with a socially critical perspective from which to appreciate the meaning, practice and place of sport and recreation in Australian society.

- The course examines the practice of sport/leisure at levels ranging from elite, international competitions to grassroots, community-based and school sport. Students will examine the processes of globalization and commodification in sport and the implications this has for social and cultural development. This course will provide valuable socio-cultural insights into Australia for international students; encourage more critical thinking about the role of sport and recreation in all societies; and allow all participants to develop an understanding of the global forces that operate in sport and recreation, including the impact these forces exert on local cultures.

Course Requirements

Required Texts

Stewart, B., Nicholson, M., Smith, A., Westerbeek, H. (2004) Australian Sport – Better by Design? : The evolution of Australian sport policy. Abingdon: Routledge
ISBN: 0415340470

Bloomfield, J. (2003) Australia's Sporting Success: the inside story. Sydney: UNSW Press
ISBN: 0868405825

These books will be made available for students to borrow at the start of the course at no cost.

Evaluation and Grading

- Satisfactory participation 10%
- A reflective journal 30%
- 1x class presentation 20%
- A class paper (3000 words) 40%

Students will undertake a number of field trips: a half day excursion to Manly surf lifesaving club; a half day viewing of a cricket Test Match in Sydney; a two day excursion to the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra; a half day excursion to a professional Australian Rules Football club; a half day excursion to the Victorian Institute of Sport followed by entry to an interstate netball match; a one day excursion to Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative Academy of Sport Health and Education in Shepparton; a half day visit to the Melbourne Cricket Club Museum of Sport followed by entry to a 20/20 international cricket match; a three day excursion to coastal and wilderness recreation areas

Guest speakers will include:

Perry Crosswhite, Olympic athlete and Head of the Commonwealth Games Association; Stephen Moneghetti, Olympic athlete and Chairman of the Victorian Institute of Sport; Director, Australian Institute of Sport; Director, Aboriginal Academy of Sport Health and Education.

Satisfactory participation requires students to engage in the range of lectures and field experiences, and actively contribute to a daily review. The reflective journal will record all lectures, field trips, experiences and reviews, and present them in a cognitive and affective manner.

The 30 minute oral presentation requires students to research a prescribed topic by accessing the literature provided in the course/on-line resources, and present the material in an interesting, engaging and informative way.

Finally, the course paper allows students to choose a course related topic which particularly interests them. The paper should reflect academic rigor and be appropriately written according to accepted academic standards.

Learning Outcomes

Discuss the evolution of sport and recreation in Australia

Lecture content and guest speakers will address this outcome

Situate sport and physical recreation in a broad historical context

Lectures and excursions will address this outcome

Demonstrate an understanding of the role of sport in the construction of national identity

Lectures, guest speakers and field trips will address this outcome

Recognize and discuss the representation of sport in the media

Lectures, recorded observations in the field and directed tasks will address this outcome

Identify and participate in selected unique Australian sports and recreational activities

Active participation in sports and activities will address this outcome

Describe the hierarchy of sport in Australia from school through to elite institutions

Lectures and field trips will address this outcome

Recognize and identify current and emerging recreational activities in Australia

Lectures, directed observation tasks and field excursions will address this outcome

Demonstrate an understanding of the rules and strategies of cricket, netball and Australian rules football

Practical classes, observations on field trips and lectures will address this outcome

The course is at undergraduate level

Course Outline

The lecture series below outlines fifteen x 2 hour lectures

Week 1

Students will arrive in Sydney and undergo a one day general orientation to Australia followed by a city tour whilst recovering from jet-lag

Course introduction; readings/assignments

Lectures:

The hierarchical nature of sport in Australia

Governmental involvement in Australian sport: nationalism and politics

The development of meaning in sport and recreation in Australia

Women's sport and recreation in contemporary Australia

Readings:

Struna, Nancy L. "Social History and Sport." In Handbook of Sport Studies, edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning, 187-203. London: Sage, 2000.

Phillips, Murray G. "Remembering Sport History: Narrative, Social Memory and the Origins of Rugby League." The International Journal of the History of Sport 21, no. 1 (2004): 50-66.

Phillips, Murray G., Mark O'Neill and Osmond, Gary, 'Broadening Horizons in Sport History: Films, Photographs and Monuments'. Journal of Sport History 34, no 2 (2007): 401-21.

Students will visit a Sydney surf lifesaving club and have the opportunity to engage in various beach culture activities. Students will also be addressed by Dr. Kellie Burns, a leading sports sociologist at the University of Sydney. During the course of the Sydney stay, a cricket Test Match will be played at the Sydney Cricket Ground and students will have the opportunity to spend a half day watching this culturally significant and very exciting match.

After 3 days in Sydney students will fly to Melbourne, arguably the sporting capital of the nation, on the next stage of their sporting Odyssey.

Remainder of WEEK 1 and WEEK 2 in Melbourne

Lectures:

The globalization and commodification of sport

Sport and the media in Australia

The development of outdoor recreation in Australia

Theoretical approaches to the use of nature in recreational activities

Models of sport and recreation in Australian health promotion
Sport education in Australia: A new model
The rules, skills and tactics of cricket, netball and Australian rules football

Readings:

Phillips, Murray G. "An Athletic Clio: Sport History and Television History", *Rethinking History* 12, No. 3 (2008): 399-416.

Jaggard, E. "Bodysurfers and Australian beach culture", *Journal of Australian Studies* Vol. 31, Issue 90 (2007): 89-98

Hughson, John. "Sport and History on the Ground: Documentary and the Feature Film", *Sport in Society* 12, No. 1 (2009): 118-133.

Research papers: Dickinson, S. et.al. Booklet provided

Students will spend a half day at the Victorian Institute of sport followed by observation of an interstate netball match and learning to play the game. A visit to the Melbourne Cricket Ground Sports Museum for a half day will be undertaken followed by a spectacular evening 20/20 international cricket match. A half day excursion to a professional Australian Rules Football to experience professional athletes in pre-season training.

Students will spend 2 days at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra where they will live with elite athletes and engage with sports scientists and coaches.

Week 3

Lectures:

The Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games and the World Cup from an Australian perspective

Coaching and Training of elite athletes in Australia

Sport and regional and national identity

Sport in pre-colonial Australia and contemporary Indigenous sport and recreation

Readings:

Mandle, William F. *Going it Alone: Australia's National Identity in the Twentieth Century*. Melbourne: Allen Lane, 1978.

A 1-day excursion to Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative Academy of Sport, Health and Education will be undertaken and students will have the opportunity to engage with Aboriginal Elders, educators and sports officials.

A 3-day field trip to coastal wilderness recreation areas will also be undertaken. Students will travel along the Great Ocean Road, one of the world's most beautiful scenic routes, and visit famous and remote surf beaches, hike through coastal rainforests and encounter magnificent waterfalls. Australian wilderness culture will be experienced and native flora and fauna introduced in situ.

Bibliography

Research papers: A booklet of readings and research papers will be given to students at the commencement of the course.

- Bloomfield, J. (2003) *Australia's Sporting Success: the inside story*. Sydney : UNSW Press
- Stewart, B., Nicholson, M., Smith, A., Westerbeek, H. (2004) *Australian Sport –Better by Design? : The evolution of Australian sport policy*. Abingdon : Routledge
- Driver, B. L., Baltre, T. Dustin, D. Elsner, G. Peterson, G. (Eds.). (1996) *Nature and the Human Spirit*. State College PA : Venture Publishing
- Driver, B.L., Brown, P. J., Peterson, G. L. (Eds) (1991) *Benefits of Leisure*. State College PA : Venture Publishing, Inc.
- Struna, Nancy L. "Social History and Sport." In *Handbook of Sport Studies*, edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning, 187-203. London: Sage, 2000.
- Phillips, Murray G. "Remembering Sport History: Narrative, Social Memory and the Origins of Rugby League." *The International Journal of the History of Sport* 21, no. 1 (2004): 50-66.
- Phillips, Murray G., Mark O'Neill and Osmond, Gary, 'Broadening Horizons in Sport History: Films, Photographs and Monuments'. *Journal of Sport History* 34, no 2 (2007): 401-21.
- Phillips, Murray G. "An Athletic Clio: Sport History and Television History", *Rethinking History* 12, No, 3 (2008): 399-416.
- Jaggard, E. "Bodysurfers and Australian beach culture", *Journal of Australian Studies* Vol. 31, Issue 90 (2007): 89-98
- Hughson, John. "Sport and History on the Ground: Documentary and the Feature Film", *Sport in Society* 12, No. 1 (2009): 118-133.
- Mandle, William F. *Going it Alone: Australia's National Identity in the Twentieth Century*. Melbourne: Allen Lane, 1978.

These publications will be made available to students upon arrival in Australia.