



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code SPSC-220	Course Title Sports Sociology	ECTS Credits 6
Department Sports Science	Semester Spring or Fall	Prerequisites None
Type of Course Required	Field Social Sciences of Sports	Language of Instruction Greek
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 2 nd -4 th	Lecturer Dr Papadopoulou Fotini
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None
Recommended Optional Programme Components: N/A		

Objectives of the Course:

This course examines the institution of sport from various sociological perspectives. It is designed to provide students with an opportunity to critically analyze the assumptions surrounding the social significance of sport through a process of reflective thought. The course will focus on the relationship between sports and various social institutions, specifically, political economics, education, and the family. Special emphasis will be paid to issues involving race, class, and gender. In particular concepts such as stratification, discrimination, norms, mobility, violence and social structure in professional and amateur athletics will be discussed in some details. Discussion topics will include:

1. Discrimination in sport; is racial discrimination diminished by the profit margin? Are sports racist? Do sports discriminate against women? Do sports have value for the middle aged, the elderly, and the disabled?
2. Player and crowd violence; is our society a violent society? Do sports serve as a catharsis?
3. Delinquent and deviant sport behaviour; is cheating the inevitable outcome of the serious pursuit of success in sport by those without the resources to succeed? Are sport participants less deviant (that is, more conventional) than non-participants? What are the strains on the coach and administrator that may promote deviance?
4. The commercialization of fitness activities; how have mass participation activities such as road running, triathlon and aerobic dance been corporatised?

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the module students should be able to:

1. Understand the sociological issues in physical activity and sport.
2. Recognize the value of studying sociological phenomenon (content knowledge & communication).
3. Describe and critique major perspectives used to study sociological aspects of sports experience.
4. Identify and evaluate inequalities within sport including key issues relating to gender, social class, ethnicity, and sexuality.
5. Critically evaluate selected current issues in sport from a sociological perspective.
6. Distinguish and apply theoretical models and concepts of the sociology of physical activity and sport (content knowledge, discovery and critical thinking, & communication).

Course Contents:

1. The student will be aware of the following general areas of sport sociology:
 - a. Theories of Sport Sociology
 - b. Traditional and Twentieth Century Theories of Play
 - c. Historical Evolution of Sports
 - d. Social Stratification within Sport
 - e. Social Mobility within Sport
 - f. Sport and (European) Education
 - g. The Role of Women in Sport
 - h. Ethnic Groups in Sport
 - i. The Impact of Religion on Sport
 - j. The Interaction of Politics and Economics on Sports
 - k. Sport and Group Process
 - l. Sport and the Mass Media
 - m. Interscholastic, Intercollegiate and Professional Sport Organizations
2. Physical Education related topics: The students should be able to demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of socio-psychological dimensions of physical activity and sport.
3. The student will be aware of the different methods utilized to conduct research in the area of sport sociology.
4. The student will be aware of the importance of sport in the European society by reading newspapers, journals, and popular press articles on this topic.
5. The student will participate in several social games to learn the values of communication and trust building.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures

Assessment Methods:

Midterm Examination, Final Examination, Course work , attendance/participation .

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Coakley, Jay J	Sports in Society:	McGraw:	2008	007337654X

	Issues & Controversies (10 th Edition)	Hill Boston		
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Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Yiannakis, Andrew, Thomas D. McIntyre, Merrill J. Melnick, and Dale P. Hart	Sport Sociology: Contemporary Themes (3 rd Edition)	Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company.	2003	0840339844
Eitzen, D. Stanley	Sport in Contemporary Society: An Anthology (7th Edition)	Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers	2006	1594513031