SYLLABUS

Discovery Seminar
Soccer and Globalization

TuTh 1-2:15 / Pierce Hall 209

(DSC_OX 101Q – 18)

Instructor: Pablo Palomino / pablo.palomino@emory.edu

Office Hours: T&Th, 11am to 1pm and by appointment, Pierce 215

Description

Why is soccer/ fútbol/ football the most popular sport worldwide? What can it teach us about economic globalization, migration, identity, and culture? What does it mean in different parts of the world—Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas? How does gender play into this game? The seminar will explore how historians and social scientists approach this global practice, and will pay special attention to its importance in Atlanta.

At the end of this course students will be able to a) approach soccer and other sports through a multidisciplinary analytical lens, combining sociology, economics, history, anthropology, and gender; b) consider processes of globalization from the perspective of different actors and places; c) understand the articulation of a specific place—the Atlanta metropolitan area—with those global processes.

Assignments

Students will be expected to actively participate in classroom discussions, present the weekly readings following the instructor guidelines, take notes on the several in- and off-campus activities (guests speakers, fieldwork, online research), and finally elaborate a short paper (8 pages, double space) analyzing a meaningful aspect of current soccer practice in Atlanta from the perspective of the global processes and structures discussed in class.

Grading

Class attendance and participation  50 %
Paper elaboration and presentations  50 %
Grade Scale
A   = 94-100    A- = 90-93    B+ = 87-89    B   = 83-86    B- = 80-82    C+ = 77-79
C   = 73-76    C- = 70-72    D+ = 67-69    D   = 63-66    F  = 0-62

Office hours: Students are required to attend office hours at least once within the first two weeks of class.

Absences: Only one unexcused absence is permitted. After that, one point per absence will be discounted from the final grade.

Accessibility and Accommodations: Students can contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) to receive a letter outlining specific academic accommodations and should discuss them with me as early in the semester as possible: (770) 784-4690 oas_oxford@emory.edu / http://equityandinclusion.emory.edu/access/students/index.html

Honor code: Plagiarism and academic dishonesty will automatically result in an F grade.

Laptops are allowed in class ONLY under specific instructions

Smartphones must be silent and out of sight

Schedule of Classes

Week 1  Introduction
Aug 29 Description of the class, syllabus, expectations, and assignments
The Milestone Project
Playing, watching, studying soccer: expertise and enjoyment

Week 2  Main traits and concepts
Sep 3  Sociology of Sports
Reading(s):

Sep 5  Anthropology of Soccer
Reading(s):

Week 3  Globalization
Sep 10 British empire in the 19th century
Reading(s):
Sep 12  Chinese expansion in the 21st century  
Reading(s):  
- Digication Workshop, by Scott Foster

Week 4  Soccer as Business  
Sep 17  Traditional associative clubs vs. UK Premier League  
Assignment: Investigate and bring to class data on financial aspects of stadium’s revenues; players’ markets; advertising; TV and online viewership; any other economic dimension of soccer.

Sep 19  Manufacturing soccer  
Reading:  

Week 5  Soccer in the US  
Sep 24  A history of US soccer  
Reading:  

Sep 26  Atlanta immigrant leagues  
Reading:  

Week 6  Atlanta United  
Oct 1  Guest speaker Oxford alum Mariana Guerrero  
Reading:  

Oct 3  Research Workshop, I  
Assignment: navigate the ATL UTD and the MLS websites, and US online media, searching for data and insights into the specifics of ATL’s business model

Oct 6 ATL vs NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTIONS, Sunday 4pm at Mercedes Benz Stadium
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Fieldwork and Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>De-briefing the fieldwork</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Research Workshop, II</td>
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<td>Toward the final paper</td>
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<td><strong>Guest speaker: Oxford librarian Anne Le-Huu Pineault</strong></td>
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---Fall Break---

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<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Soccer and Race</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>France 1998: <em>Blanc, Beur, Black</em></td>
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<td>Reading:</td>
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<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Fandom</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>Guest speaker: Oxford Coll. faculty <strong>Erin Tarver</strong></td>
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<td>Reading(s):</td>
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<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Fandom: sonic analysis</td>
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<td>Reading(s):</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Soccer and Media Representation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Soccer in TV, radio, and online networks: languages, formats, and audiences</td>
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<td><strong>Assignment:</strong> choose a game and take notes on relevant aspects of TV or online narrative (languages, advertising, players, the game, rituals, and events within and outside the field). <em>The instructor will provide guidelines.</em></td>
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<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>Who’s watching? Justice, referees, and Video Assistant Referee (VAR)</td>
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<td>Reading(s):</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- “Keeping Control: Refereeing the Game.” <em>Soccer &amp; Society</em> 9, no. 5 (December 1, 2008): 727–49.</td>
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<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Women’s Soccer: Patriarchy and Professionalism</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>Women and Fútbol in Latin America</td>
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<td>Reading:</td>
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<td>Nov 7</td>
<td><strong>Guest: Brenda Elsey</strong></td>
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**Week 12**  
**FIFA and Global Organizations**  

Nov 12  
**FIFA history**  
Reading:  

**Assignment:** navigate the FIFA website and understand its governing mechanisms, membership, rules, research programs, and social outreach.

Nov 14  
**Regional bodies: CONCACAF, CONMEBOL, UEFA, AFC, CAF**  
Reading(s):  

**Week 13**  
**The World Cup and the global 20th century**  

Nov 19  
**A global history of the World Cup**  
Film: FIFA official World Cup documentary film (selection TBA)

Nov 21  
**Key moments of the World Cup in global perspective**  
Reading(s):  
Divided in three groups, you will present on either:  
- Alan Burdick, “The World Cup for Forgotten Nations.” *The New Yorker*, June 1, 2018 (online)  
- Google Scholar research on “Qatar FIFA 2022”  
- Eduardo Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow* (selection on Argentina’s genocide and 1978 World Cup)

**Week 14**  
**Soccer in Films**  

Nov 26  
**Film discussion:** John Huston’s *Escape to Victory* (1981) (Or another movie TBD). In groups of 4 people, upload to Canvas a reflection on how the movie confirms or challenges the concepts and histories discussed so far in the class.

---THANKSGIVING RECESS---

**Week 15**  
**Discussion and revision workshops**  

Dec 3  
**Research Workshop, III: organizing the final paper**  
**Guest speaker:** Oxford librarian Anne Le-Huu Pineault

Dec 5  
**Research Workshop, IV: writing strategies**

**Week 16**  
**Conclusion**  

Dec 10

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**Paper due on Monday 16, noon**


———. “Política, deporte y diplomacia cultural: la Nueva Argentina de Perón y Los Juegos Panamericanos de 1951.” *Anuario del Instituto de Historia Argentina - Universidad Nacional de La Plata* 17, no. 1 (February 21, 2017).


