General Course Information:

instructor:
Dr. John N. Singer, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Health and Kinesiology
Division of Sport Management
355B Blocker
singerjn@hlkn.tamu.edu
979-845-5497
Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday, 10am-12noon

Teaching Assistants:
Zack Damon (zack55damon@tamu.edu)

Course Orientation:
Please see and READ the SPMT 319 “course orientation” document on the course website at http://elearning.tamu.edu

Required Course Materials:
The following textbook is REQUIRED for the course and can be purchased from the student book store on campus:

- Cunningham, G.B., & Singer, J.N. (Eds.) (2012). Sociology of sport and physical activity (2nd Ed.). College Station, TX: Center for Sport Management Research and Education. (Note: the book is blue)

- Video lectures for the course are available on the course website:
  http://elearning.tamu.edu

Nature of the Course

SPMT 319: Sociology of Sport is taught online. Students are expected to A) read the chapters in the book, and B) listen to the lectures accessed through the course website. In addition, students are encouraged to print the PowerPoint slides associated with the lecture so that they can take notes while reading the chapter and watching the video lectures. The PowerPoint slides are also available on the course website. Students can listen to the lectures anywhere they have computer access (e.g., campus, home, etc.). Questions concerning the course should be directed FIRST to the teaching assistant at the appropriate email address above; and if for some reason your question or concern is not addressed after you’ve done this, then you should contact the instructor at the email address listed above or in person during office hours.
Correspondence related to the course is sent to your TAMU email account. Consistent with Student Rule 61.2.3 (http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule61) students are expected to regularly check their TAMU email account for course-related communications.

Course Objectives:
As a result of this course, students should be able to understand and thoroughly discuss the following topics:
- an overview of the sociology of sport and the major principles of sport in society;
- the meaning and importance of social theories and research in sport;
- the ethical dilemmas, choices, and behaviors in sport and physical activity;
- the relationship between sport and health outcomes;
- the impact sport has on the economy;
- the nature and scope of sport on an international level;
- the symbiotic relationship between sport and the media;
- the impact of sport production and consumption on the environment;
- how sport can be used for social change and development in society;
- the types of deviant behavior in sport and ways to address its consequences;
- youth sport and its impact on children and adolescents;
- problems and issues in college sport;
- the significance of race and ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation and social class in sport;
- the role of power, politics, and religion in sport

Course Policies and Expectations
Any exams/assignments missed without prior arrangements being made with the instructor and graduate teaching assistant MAY NOT BE MADE UP. The only exception to this policy is written documentation of a situation that absolutely prohibits you from completing that assignment in a timely manner.

Attendance. The attendance policy for this class will be administered in accordance with Student Rule #7: http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07.

Plagiarism Statement. As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own ideas, words, writings, etc., those which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the permission of that person. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic sins, for plagiarists destroy the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated. If you have questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the latest issue of the Texas A&M University Student Rules, http://student-rules.tamu.edu, under the section “Scholastic Dishonesty.”
**Email Professionalism.** Consistent with Student Rule 61, email is an official means of communication. As such, you are expected to follow simple guidelines of professionalism. You should: (a) use a subject line that is relevant to your message; (b) clearly state your question or concern; (c) use standard English and complete sentences, as opposed to using abbreviations and texting-style communications; (d) include a signature block containing your name, phone number, and email address; and (e) proofread your email prior to sending it. You can also find additional information about writing emails at the University Writing Center website: http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/2010/how-to/business/emails/.

**Aggie Honor Code.** "An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do." Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Texas A&M University community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit: www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/. On all course work, assignments, and examinations at Texas A&M University, the following Honor Pledge shall be preprinted and signed by the student:

"On my honor, as an Aggie, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policy statement.** The following ADA Policy Statement (part of the Policy on Individual Disabling Conditions) was submitted to the University Curriculum Committee by the Department of Student Life. The policy statement was forwarded to the Faculty Senate for information. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination 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 the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Room B118 of Cain Hall or call 845-1637. Additional information is available at http://disability.tamu.edu.

**Copyright Statement.** The materials used in this course are copyrighted. These materials include, but are not limited to, the syllabi, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless permission is expressly granted.

**Extra Credit Policy.** There is NO EXTRA CREDIT available in this course; any decision to deviate from this policy will be left solely to the discretion of the instructor for the course!
Point Structure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Point</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>350</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Structure:

90-100% A  
80-89% B   
70-79% C   
60-69% D   
≤ 59% F

ASSIGNMENTS

Exams:
Three exams will be held throughout the semester. The first covers material from chapters 1-6; the second covers material from chapters 7-12; the third covers material from chapters 13-18 (see course calendar at end for details). Exam questions will be true-false and/or multiple-choice. ALL exams will be taken online at the elearning website; students can take each exam as soon as they desire from the time the instructor makes each available to the students (so as long as you take each by the respective deadline). Students can use their notes and books during the exam. However, students are NOT to work in groups in completing the exams, or receive outside help from other people in taking the exam (e.g., tutors, advisors, peers, etc.); students found to be doing so will be in violation of the honor code and will be reported!!

Socialization Paper:
Socialization has been described as the process of interacting with other people and learning the social customs, morals, and values of a society or community. This description implies that we as human beings are born into a social environment that influences how we think and view the world, and the decisions that we make concerning our lifestyles and the activities that we engage in as members of a particular society. With this in mind, students should address the following things in this paper: a) provide a brief overview of your experiences as a sport participant and/or spectator; b) discuss some of your most important sporting experiences, and how they have impacted you to this point in your life; c) discuss who some of the most important people have been as it relates to your socialization into sport; and d) reflect upon the effect that your involvement with sport over the years has had on your self-concept and social identity (see the sport socialization assignment guidelines on the course website for more details)
Tentative Course Calendar

Unit I: Chapters 1-6

Foundations of the sociology of sport and physical activity
Sociological theory and research
Ethics
Sport and health
Sport and the economy
International sport

Exam 1: Due Date: Thursday, February 14, 2013

Unit II: Chapters 7-12

Sport and the media
Sport, physical activity, and the environment
Sport for social change and development
Deviant behavior and sport
Sport and community
Youth sport

Exam 2: Due Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013

Sport Socialization Paper Due Date: Friday, March 29, 2013

Unit III: Chapters 13-18

Intercollegiate sport
Race matters in sport and physical activity
Gender issues in sport and physical activity
Social class and sport

Power and politics

Religion, sport, and physical activity

Exam 3: Due Date: Thursday, April 25, 2013