



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

### **Soccer and Politics**

46.321 SEC 061 FA11A

Fall 2011

Fully Online

10-Week Accelerated Course

### **Instructors: Steven Apostolov and Frank Dell'Apa**

#### Course Chat Schedule

Chat is voluntary, but highly recommended. For this course chat will take place on Tuesday evenings, from 8:00 until 10:00 p.m. EST. If nobody is online until 9 p.m., we will log out!

Note: Our first chat will take place on Tuesday, September 6 (last chat on Tuesday November 8, 2011).

#### Email Address

Please email us via Blackboard only! We check our Blackboard email accounts daily and respond within a reasonable amount of time to all students (usually during the next 24 hours after the reception of the message). For instructions on how to use Blackboard Vista's email tool, please visit:

<http://continuinged.uml.edu/online/tutorial/WebCT/>

#### Prerequisites for this course

There are no academic prerequisites for this course.

#### Course Description

The soccer World Cup is the most popular sporting event in the world. Every four years, billions of people watch the tournament on television and debate passionately about the outcomes of the



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

matches. In 1994, during the World Cup in the United States, the *LA Times* was dedicating more space to the tournament than was the *Times* of London. Before the start of each tournament, even in countries like the United States, where the sport has never really caught fire, the event is highly publicized and debated in the media. Each tournament is preceded by a series of documentaries on previous World Cups; sports journalists analyze different teams and try to predict the eventual contenders for the trophy.

However, rarely has anyone analyzed the social, cultural, political and business aspects of the World Cup. This course will follow chronologically the evolution of the World Cup. It will analyze how nationalism and fascism in the 1930s used the tournament to buttress their doctrines. It will also describe how the tournament helped an entire nation to get rid of the guilt, shame and humiliation that were inflicted by World War II. After that, we will examine how the change of leadership in FIFA affected the commercialization of soccer. Last, but not least, this course will deal with the most recent tournaments: the emergence of “new” soccer powers, such as the United States, and the organization of the first tournament on African soil.

### Lecture Notes “Release” Day

Each week of this course normally begins on Wednesday and ends on a Tuesday. The first week of this semester begins on Wednesday September 1 and ends on Tuesday September 11. Lecture notes will be released on Monday before the Tuesday chat.

### Student Requirements

Students will be required to do the following things in order for this to be a successful course:

- Read online lecture notes each week. (Required);
- Read assigned books or chapters and write 2-page reviews; **Worth 50% of the course grade** (Required);
- Answer the weekly discussion questions – **Worth 30% of the course grade** (Required);
- Write a 3-page précis about one of the movies/documentaries. Do not write about all of the movies/documentaries, just choose one! **Worth 20% of your course grade** (Required);
- Read *Street and Smith’s Sport Business Journal* and participate in the weekly drill (Required), you may use this exercise as a make up to improve your final grade;
- Participate in the weekly chat session. (**Not required** - Participation is Optional but highly recommended).



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

### Electronic Submission Guidelines

We will be using Blackboard Vista's "Assignment drop box" to submit all exercises. To find your weekly assignment, look under Course Tools, in the left hand side of the home page, and click on Assignments. You will find all assignments there (except Week 1, which has its assignment spelled out in the Ice Breaker, which is located in the "Start Here" Learning Module).

### Your final course letter grade will be determined as follows:

Numeric Grade	Letter Grade:
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
0-63	F

### Late papers policy

Unless excused, late papers will be penalized one grade for every calendar day late!

### Course Materials



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

The following books are **required** and are now available for purchase from the University bookstore. Alternatively, you can either borrow the books from libraries or buy them from online retailers such as Amazon.com.

### Books

- Alegi, Peter. *African Soccerscapes: How a Continent Changed the World's Game*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 2010.
- Martin, Simon. *Football and Fascism: The National Game under Mussolini*. New York: Berg, 2004.
- Markovits, Andrei and Steven Hellerman. *Offside: Soccer and American Exceptionalism*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001.
- Murray, Bill. *The World's Game: A History of Soccer*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1998.
- Smit, Barbara. *Sneaker War: The Enemy Brothers Who Founded Adidas and Puma and the Family Feud That Forever Changed the Business of Sport*. New York: Ecco, 2008.
- *Street and Smith's Sport Business Journal* \*

\*you may subscribe online by going to the following link:

<https://forms.sportsbusinessdaily.com/candu/subscribe/2233>

Click on and follow the instructions. If you prefer to receive a hard copy, contact Ted Hunt – the College Program Manager at [thunt@sportsbusinessjournal.com](mailto:thunt@sportsbusinessjournal.com)

### Films and documentaries

The following movies are available at different movie rental companies (a couple of them on Blackboard). You're required to keep up with the schedule and watch them when required.

- *The Game of Their Lives* (2002) by Daniel Gordon
- *The Game of Their Lives* (2005) by David Anspaugh (not to be confused with the documentary!)
- *Goal!* (2005) by Danny Cannon
- *History of Soccer: The Beautiful Game* (2003) by Richard Jones



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

- *Olympia 1. Teil – Fest der Völker* (1938) by Leni Riefenstahl
- *Olympia 2. Teil – Fest der Schönheit* (1938) by Leni Riefenstahl
- *Victory* (1983) by John Huston

### Summary of due dates

- Book reviews, answers to weekly discussion questions and answers to *Street and Smith's Sport Business Journal* weekly drill are due on Friday.
- Weekly discussion questions will be released on Wednesday morning.
- The deadline for the movie précis is the last course. However, we strongly advise you not to wait until the very end! You may submit your précis anytime during the course. Be advised that if you skip this assignment, you will lose 20% of your final grade!
- Graded material will be released on Monday.
- All chats will take place on Tuesday evening from 8:00-10:00 p.m. Again if we don't see any students online, we will wait until 9 p.m. and then log off.

### Interaction Guidelines

This is an "electronic classroom" and all of our communication and participation will be handled electronically. In order for an online course to be successful, participation by both the student and instructor is vital. In this course, there are three (electronic) methods of communication. They are the following: Email, Chat, and Discussion Board.

#### Email:

Email should be reserved for course-related issues. You may email us at any time, and we will try to respond promptly. Please note that Blackboard Vista works with its own internal mail system, which means that all messages are sent, stored and read within your course, not through your own external mail. To access mail, you have to log on and go to your course, and click on the mail icon on the menu at the top portion of your screen. It is recommended that you check your email daily, so that you don't miss important course information. For instructions on how to use Blackboard Vista's email tool, please visit:

<http://continuinged.uml.edu/online/tutorial/WebCT/>

#### Chat



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

Chat is voluntary, but we highly recommend it in order for you to get the most out of this course. It is a "real time" discussion of issues relating to the course. For this course, chat will take place on Tuesday evenings, from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Eastern time. Our first chat will take place on Tuesday, September 6. Each Learning Module (week) has its own chat room. For instructions on how to use Blackboard Vista's chat tool, please visit:

<http://continuinged.uml.edu/online/tutorial/WebCT/>

### Chat room guidelines

- Please keep subject matter related to course material.
- When you are "talking" to someone in particular, please begin your statement with that person's name, followed by a colon. For example, if you wanted to ask John Smith a question, your statement would look something like: "John: what do you think about..."
- No profanity! If profanity or any other type of harassment takes place, you will automatically be prohibited from entering any course-related chat rooms in the future.

### Discussion Board

Each Learning Module (week) has its own discussion board. Each discussion board consists of weekly questions. For the week when we are viewing DVDs, the Weekly Questions will be posted by the instructors and you are required to provide some answers. This will be graded. For the week when we are reading a book, we will post some other Weekly Questions to think about. And, this will be graded too. You are not required to respond to these questions in writing directly on the Discussion Board. However, we strongly advise you to share your thoughts about these questions with each other. Discussion Board is a wonderful tool for information sharing. You may also utilize it to test some of your hypotheses or hear different opinions. For instructions on how to use Blackboard Vista's discussion tools, please visit:

<http://continuinged.uml.edu/online/tutorial/WebCT/>

### Class Schedule

Class 1: Early football games, pre-modern football, football association and the foundation of the first professional soccer leagues in England and the United States.

Readings:



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

- Bill Murray (1998), pg. 1-41.
- Watch the first 4 chapters of *History of Soccer: The Beautiful Game* (2002).\*

\* We have transferred a snippet of the documentary (33 minutes) to our streaming server, and uploaded the link to this video into your course. To access this links, click on the Web Links tool in your Course Tools list on the left, and you will see it. Be advised that in order to see the movie you should use RealPlayer. Download it, if you don't have it on your computer!

Class 2: From the foundation of FIFA to Uruguay 1930; the rise of nationalism and fascism: Italy 1934, Olympic Games 1936 and France 1938.

### Readings:

- Simon Martin (2004), pg. 51-108 and 173-207.
- Barbara Smit (2008), pg. 3-14.
- Bill Murray (1998), pg. 65-86.
- Watch either *Victory* (1983) or *Olympia* (1938)

Class 3: Team USA 1950: the biggest upset of the history of the World Cup; Brazilian soccer; Switzerland 1954 and Sweden 1958.

### Readings:

- Bill Murray (1998), pg. 87-107.
- *Game of Their Lives* (2005), watch the movie (not to be confused with the documentary that you should see for class 4)!

Class 4: From Chile to England 1962-1966: the trophy finally goes to the cradle of soccer.\*

### Readings:

- Bill Murray (1998), pg. 108-128.
- *The Game of Their Lives* (2002), watch the documentary.\*



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

\* We have transferred the whole documentary (it's a very hard to find movie in the US) to our streaming server, and uploaded the link to this video into your course. To access this links, click on the Web Links tool in your Course Tools list on the left, and you will see it. Again, in order to see the documentary, you will need RealPlayer.

Class 5: Mexico and West Germany, 1970-1974.

Readings:

- Barbara Smit (2008), pg. 67-217 (read half of the material).
- Bill Murray (1998), pg. 129-151.

Class 6: 1978-1982, the coming of Joao Havelange, commercialization of the World Cup and the NASL (North American Soccer League).

Readings:

- Barbara Smit (2008), pg. 67-217 (read the other half).

Class 7: Mexico and Italy, 1986-1990.

Readings:

- Bill Murray (1998), pg. 152-175.
- *Goal!* (2005), watch the movie.

Class 8: The World Cup form 1994 to 1998: the foundation of MLS (Major League Soccer) and renaissance of pro soccer in the USA.

Readings:

- *New York Times, Boston Globe, LA Times, Washington Post* (1994), follow the coverage of the World Cup in one of these periodicals.
- Andrei Markovits (2001), pg. 3-51 and 235-263.

Class 9: World Cup 2002 and 2006: the emergence of new soccer powers.

Readings:



## University of Massachusetts Lowell

- Peter Alegi (2010), read pp. 1-53.

Class 10: Women's professional soccer and South Africa 2010.

Readings:

- Peter Alegi (2010), read pp. 54-132.

Sources and citations

**Do not plagiarize! Plagiarism will be dealt with harshly. We utilize very sophisticated and highly effective plagiarism software, so be advised and do not fall prey to temptations for easy opt-outs. Each paper/homework will be run through Turnitin. If you cheat, we will catch you and report you to the office of the Provost (you could be expelled from the University).** Provide citations to quotes and to any ideas that you use that are not your own. Any information which is not common knowledge and is taken from an outside source should be cited according to a standard citation system. The MLA, Chicago, or American Psychological Association style manuals are all acceptable guides. Just be consistent. If you need to cite information obtained online, give the URL of the web site. No more than one quarter of your sources may be from the web!

Change in the Syllabus

We reserve the right to modify our course schedule and activities depending on class size and unforeseen events. Changes in the course schedule will be communicated via email or announcements through Blackboard. Therefore, you will have to check your email on a regular basis. **Good luck and it is great to have you in our course!**