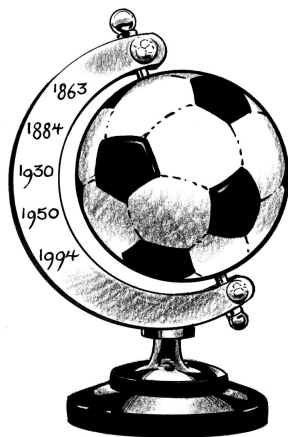


How the Global Game Explains the World, and the Garden State

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Dr. Thomas A. McCabe

Conklin 352/Monday-Thursday 10:00 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

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Office hours: Conklin 326, Monday and Wednesday, 9:00 A.M. – 9:50 A.M., and by appointment

Course Description: There is no other cultural practice more global than soccer; it is the most popular sport on the face of the planet. From its origins in 19th century England to the present day, the hold that “the global game” has on billions of people is profound. Through their everyday involvement in soccer, people define who they are as well as who they think others are. The economic, political, social and cultural histories of modern societies are incomplete without a thorough account of soccer’s impact. Sepp Herberger, former manager of West Germany, once commented, “The ball is round. The game lasts ninety minutes. This much is fact. Everything else is theory.” In the process of chasing the ball from one corner of the globe to the other, we will explore various explanations and theories for soccer’s global influence. Among other things, the categories of race, class, gender and ethnicity will be our guides. We will also explore New Jersey’s special connections to the game throughout the course.

Blackboard: The course syllabus and readings are posted on Blackboard. In lieu of a course packet, each reading assignment is available as a link, or as .pdf file and can be read and downloaded using Acrobat Reader. It is suggested that you purchase a 3-ring binder to organize these readings.

Grading:

- Participation 10%
- Quizzes 10%
- “Journal” 20%
- “Create” Assignments 20%
- Midterm Examination: 20%
- Final Essay: 20%

Attendance: Class attendance is mandatory and it is essential to performing well in this course. Students are responsible for all material presented and discussed in class. Toward the end of each class period, you will be expected to write down a comment or question relevant to the material covered that day. Cards will be collected at the conclusion of class and your attendance grade will be determined by the number of cards handed in by the end of the semester. *The overall course grade is lowered by a half letter for each unexcused absence starting with the third. Students who miss six (6) or more sessions for any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this course. Such students should withdraw from the class.*

Participation: Class attendance and participation in class discussion is mandatory and it is essential to performing well in this course. Students must be prepared to actively participate in class, and lead discussions at certain points during the semester.

Policy on Academic Integrity: Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses. The standard minimum penalties for students who cheat or plagiarize include failure of the course, disciplinary probation, and a formal warning that further cheating will be grounds for expulsion from the University.

Journals: Each student will be required to keep a “journal” during the course, and periodically write entries directly related to the readings and class discussions. Students will submit these journals every two weeks, indicating which entries they want the instructor to comment on (at least 3).

Quizzes, Mid-term Examination and Final Essay: There will be several unannounced reading quizzes during the session. The mid-term examination will include a combination of identification of key terms/ideas and essays. A study guide, including possible essay topics, will be handed out a week prior to the examination. The final essay will be due on the last day of class, July 8th, and it must be at least five (5) pages, double-spaced. We will discuss the nature of the assignment in class.

Course Materials:

Eduardo Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow* (paperback edition).

David Goldblatt, *The Ball Is Round: A Global History of Soccer* (2006).

- There is no course packet so it will be necessary to print out the readings from Blackboard.

Course Topics and Reading Assignments:

Tu, 6/1 ***KICK-OFF! Introduction to the World’s Most Popular Game***

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapters 1-3; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 1-27.
[Listen to Eduardo Galeano read his “Author’s Confession” at Vanity Fair’s Fair Play blog.](#)

W, 6/2 **Britain’s Most Durable Export, Industry and Empire**

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapters 4-5; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 27-29.

Th, 6/3 **An Attempt to Create Space: The Garden State & the Making of American Soccer**

Roger Allaway, *Rangers, Rovers and Spindles: Soccer, Immigration and Textiles in New England and New Jersey* (2005), 35-64; John Turnbull, “Remembering New Jersey’s Immigrant Soccer Past,” [The Global Game, March 2008](#); Mark Naison, “Why Sports History Is American History,” *History Now*, [Issue 23](#), March 2010.

Guided Tour of the “Cradle of American Soccer”—Newark, Harrison and Kearny.

M, 6/7 **Global Diffusion of the Global Game: The Case of Latin America**

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 8; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 30-34, 52-62. [Listen to Eduardo Galeano read "Creole Soccer" at Vanity Fair's Fair Play Blog.](#)

Tu, 6/8 **Global Diffusion of the Global Game: The Case of Africa**

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 12; Peter Alegi, “‘The White Man’s Burden’: Football and Empire, 1860s–1919,” in *African Soccerescapes* (Ohio University Press, 2010), 1-13.

W, 6/9 **Nazis, Fascists, Communists and Soccer in 1930s Europe**

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 7; Ulrich Hesse–Lichtenberger, *TOR! The Story of German Football* (2002), 60-86; Robert Edelman, “A Small Way of Saying ‘No’: Moscow Working Men, Spartak Soccer, and the Communist Party, 1900-1945,” *American Historical Review* (December 2002), 1441-1474.

Th, 6/10 **Waltz and Tango, and Fascism Killing the Coffee House: History of Soccer Tactics**

Jonathan Wilson, *Inverting the Pyramid: A History of Football Tactics* (London: Orion Books, 2008), chapters 2 and 4.

M, 6/14 **“A Flag That Rolls” and “Football is War!” – Soccer and the Second World War**

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 9; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 17-19, 81-95; Simon Kuper, *Ajax, The Dutch, The War: Football in Europe During the Second World War* (Orion, 2003), 67-89 (optional).

- Tu, 6/15 **Faith, Fatima and Futebol: Newark's Ironbound District and The Global Game**
- Paul Laity, "Cote d'Ivoire" and William Finnegan, "Portugal" in *The Thinking Fan's Guide to the World Cup* (New York: Perennial, 2002), 87-95, 223-240; Elizabeth Dwoskin, "On State's Fields, a World Cup in Miniature," *The New York Times*, [March 23, 2008](#).
- Viewing of Portugal vs. Ivory Coast at Sport Clube Português, 55 Prospect Street, Newark.
Guest Speaker: Assemblyman Albert Coutinho.
- W, 6/16 **Myth-making and *Escape to Victory*: Soccer on the Silver Screen**
- James Riordan, "The Match of Death: Kiev, August 1942," in *Soccer and Society* (Spring 2003), 87-93; Tony Taylor, "[The Game of Death: Playing Soccer with the Nazis](#)," Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 34-38.
- Th, 6/17 **In-Class Midterm Examination**
- M, 6/21 **Debating Post-War Identities: "National Character Studies" and Soccer**
- George Orwell, "The Sporting Spirit," [Tribune](#), December 14, 1945; David Winner, *Brilliant Orange: The Neurotic Genius of Dutch Football* (2000), 44-66; 85-115; Kuper, *Soccer Against the Enemy*, 4-18; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 90-100; J. Sergio Leite Lopes, "Transformations in National Identity through Football in Brazil: Lessons from Two Historical Defeats," David Wood, "Arriba Peru! The Role of Football in the Formation of a Peruvian National Culture," in Rory Miller and Liz Crolley, eds., *Football in the Americas: Futbol, Futebol, Soccer* (2007).
- Tu, 6/22 **Soccer in Sun and Shadow: Samba Soccer in 1960s Latin America**
- Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 10; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 38, 41-44, 74-80, 100-106, 132-137; View "The Two Escobars," [ESPN](#) 9:00 P.M. (optional)
- W, 6/23 **More Than a Game: Class, Religion and Nationalism in Soccer Rivalries**
- Kuper, "Celtic and Rangers, or Rangers and Celtic," and "Global Game, Global Jihad," in *Soccer Against the Enemy*, 4-18, 285-295; Phil Ball, *Morbo: The Story of Spanish Football* (2001), 17-42, 94-131; Franklin Foer, "How Soccer Explains Islam's Hope," in *How Soccer Explains the World: An Unlikely Theory of Globalization* (2005), 217-234.
- Th, 6/24 **Hooliganism at Home and Abroad: The Problem of Violence in Soccer**
- Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 14; Bill Buford, *Among the Thugs*, excerpt.
- M, 6/28 **Military Rule and Mothers of The Disappeared: Soccer in Latin America, 1975-1990**
- Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 17; Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow*, 138-146,

152-157; Joseph Arbena, "General and Goles: Assessing the Connection between Military Rule and Soccer in Argentina," *IJHS*, 7: 1 (1990), 120-130 (optional).

Tu, 6/29 **Race and Soccer: Apartheid, Multi-Cultural Brazil and the Browning of America**

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chapter 16; Peter Alegi, *Laduma*, 87-110; Jose Sergio Leite Lopes, "Successes and Contradictions in 'Multiracial' Brazilian Football," in Gary Armstrong and Richard Giulianotti, eds., *Entering the Field: New Perspectives on World Football (1997)*, 53-86; David L. Andrews, et al., "Soccer's Racial Frontier: Sport and the Suburbanization of Contemporary America, in *Entering the Field*, 261-282.

W, 6/30 **On Writing and Blogging About the Beautiful Game**

Vladimir Nabokov, "The Last Defender," *Speak, Memory* (1966) and Albert Camus, "What I Owe Football, *France Football* (1957) in *The Faber Book of Soccer* (1992); selections from *The Global Game: Writers on Soccer* (University of Nebraska Press, 2008).

Panelists: Shawn Francis, columnist, *MLSInsider* and *TheOffsidesRules.com*; and Adam Spangler, Nike and *ThisIsAmericanSoccer.com*

Th, 7/1 **"From the Beautiful Team to the Swamps of Jersey: Pele and the Cosmos**

Gavin Newsham, *Once in a Lifetime: The Incredible Story of the New York Cosmos* (2006), 95-138.

M, 7/5 **Independence Day Observed (NO CLASS)**

Tu, 7/6 **Future of Football is Feminine": The Feminization of the Global Game**

Dong Jinxia and J. A. Mangan, "Ascending then Descending? Women's Soccer in Modern China," *Soccer and Society*, Vol. 3, Issue 2 (Summer 2002), 1-18; Wangerin, *Soccer in a Football World*, 292-314; Martha Saavedra, "Football Feminine—Development of the African Game," *Soccer and Society*, Vol. 4, Issue 2/3, 225-253.

W, 7/7 **The Miracle on High Street: How Soccer Helped Save an American Prep School**

Th, 7/8 **Final Papers Due**

“CREATE” ASSIGNMENTS

During the course of the semester each student must submit two (2) “CREATE” assignments, one before halftime (otherwise known as the midterm) and the other before the final whistle, our last class together. Here are some suggested “CREATE” assignments, but I am always open to ones of your own design as long as we discuss it first.

Reviewing the Global Game: A review of one of the required full-length books or a movie review from the historian’s vantage point is due during the course of the semester. It must be between 3-5 typed pages, and eventually posted on an appropriate Internet site.

Soccer Culture Vulture: During the course of the semester, each student must attend a soccer-related activity outside the classroom and write-up a 3-5-page “field report.” For example, a student could watch a live game, view a World Cup match in a café, go to an “ethnic” sport club, etc. The nature of the assignment is to get your nose out of the books, and get out and experience the “global game”.

“Talking the Game”: Find a subject, craft appropriate questions, interview said subject, produce a transcript and a one-paragraph post-interview analysis. Preferably, the subject of your interview can provide source material for your research project.

Pitching Futbol Mundial: Watch at least two different episodes of the T.V. show “Futbol Mundial” before “pitching” an idea for a segment to the show’s producers based on your knowledge of soccer history. The format must be in the form of a business letter and discuss the potential shows themes, issues, interviewees and other sources. Be creative!

“More Than a Game”: In a regular feature in the acclaimed British soccer magazine, *FourFourTwo*, staff writers detail some of the world’s fiercest rivalries, club and country. After reading at least two such features (called “More Than a Game”), assume the identity of a freelancer looking to break into the world of soccer journalism, and author the newest version of this excellent feature. It must be a rivalry that encapsulates some form of power dynamic (race, class, gender, ethnicity, nationalism, etc.) and it must be 3-5 typed pages.