

SPAN 3650 The Transnational Game: Soccer, Social Justice, and National Identity

2023

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OFFICE HOURS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Soccer is the most popular sport in the world. In Latin America, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, soccer is inextricably connected to national identity, and thus to politics and the economy. This course will use short stories, essays, poems, film, documentaries, chants and rituals, music, social media, and other cultural artifacts to examine soccer not as just a sport, or in isolation. Rather, democracy, dictatorships, economics, gender inequality, racial and social inequalities, LGBTQ+ rights, inclusion, and violence are examined through the lens of national fervor for this transnational sport. Prerequisite: SPAN 3001/3005 or department consent.

REQUIRED

2. Evaluate stereotypes and misconceptions regarding soccer to understand its broader societal impact.
3. Reflect on the potential role of soccer and other sports in promoting social justice.
4. Acquire critical thinking and cross-disciplinary problem-solving skills that are useful in both professional and academic contexts now and in the future.
5. Develop skills in Spanish narration to discuss and support opinions about issues that are of importance to individuals and society at large.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is organized around ten units. Methods of instruction include lecture, small and large group discussion, inquiry, discovery, hands-on activities, and problem-based learning.

Note: Use of cell phones, laptops or other electronic devices is not permitted during class without instructor approval.

by the assigned due dates and has not notified the instructor, the instructor may withdraw the student from the course.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Academic Honesty: You are expected to complete your own work. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, individual violations, helping another student with any form of academic misconduct, failing to report any form of academic misconduct, or intentionally interfering with the educational process in any manner. Faculty, staff, or students who are aware of academic misconduct and fail to report it are considered complicit in these actions. See the undergraduate bulletin for descriptions of four forms of academic misconduct: [cheating, plagiarism, academic fraud, and research misconduct.](#)

Students with Special Needs: Your success in this course is important to me. If there are circumstances that may affect your performance in this course, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can work together

(A to A-, A- to B+, etc). See the Arts and Sciences [Academic Regulations](#) in the Bulletin for more information.

Mental Health: If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, contact the Counseling Center at (414) 288-7172 during business hours or visit their [webpage](#). For help outside business hours, contact the Department of Public Safety at (414) 288-6800 and ask to speak to the on-call counselor.

