



**UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH**  
**Department of Sociology**

**Oakland - Main**  
**Spring 2020 (2204)**  
**Various Locations**  
**Pitt Study Away – Spring Break**

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**SPORT TOURISM, HEALTH & SOCIETY**  
**One (1) Credit Study Away Panther Program**  
**Spring Break**  
**SOC 1234 (xxxxx)**

Sport Tourism, Health & Society is a Sociology course that integrates the substantive areas of sports and recreation, tourism and medical sociology. Combining lecture, class discussion, and experiential learning presentations at both the University of Pittsburgh and other ACC and/or Power 5 peer universities, we seek to engage everyone in this class with both the academic material and the material realities of sport and recreation of sport in the United States. The course will examine selected sport tourism, health and recreation & social topics of intellectual interest, at the community, university and professional levels. Studying sports and tourism through a sociological lens allows us to focus our attention on sports as a social institution. In contrast to other disciplines such as psychology or history, a sociological perspective on sport considers the ways in which the institution itself operates – who owns and controls sports, how resources and benefits are doled out – as well as how the institution of sport interacts with other social institutions such as the institution of higher education, tourism, the economy, the family, the labor market, systems of racial and gender inequality, etc. Some of the topics to be addressed are: 1) What is the structure of sports tourism, athletics and recreation in Power 5, Division I universities in the US? 2) Which social forces fuel sports as a business (the so-called Athletic Industrial Complex) at both the collegiate and professional levels? 3) How does a specific nation’s culture shape the sports that are played? What are “money-sports” that draw a paying audience or broadcast audiences on national TV? 4) US collegiate athletics and recreation: the concepts of student-athletes, amateurism and exploited labor; student body athletic and recreational resources, access to recreational and health and sports medicine resources on college campus, 5) Title IX and gender and race equality in sports. 6) the structure of big time US collegiate and professional sports.

## What You'll Accomplish

As an engaged and active participant in this program, you will have the opportunity to develop:

- Knowledge of how high level athletics and recreational opportunities work and are structured
- A critical understanding of the importance of physical recreation in Health Care and in US universities
- A sense of the impact of politics and economics in D-I universities, professional sports and the media on sports and tourism

Some potential areas of applied sociological research include:

1. The Study of Sport Tourism and Recreation in the Social Sciences
2. Sports as an integral Social Institution in the US and around the world,
3. Recreation and Athletics as integral for Public Health
4. The Sociology of Higher Education
5. Sports Media

## Required Readings

Epitropoulos, Mike-Frank G., Editor. 2020. *Reading Packet for Sport Tourism, Health & Society*. Available on CourseWeb.

Jamieson, Katherine M. & Maureen M. Smith. Editor. *Sociology of Sport and Physical Activity*. Human Kinetics : Windsor, ON, Canada. 2016.

Nocera, Joe and Ben Strauss. 2016. *INDENTURED: The Inside Story of the Rebellion Against the NCAA*. New York, NY: Portfolio/Penguin.

**\* These readings will be timed to coincide with Experiential Learning presentations and site visits both on the University of Pittsburgh campus and as part of a University of Pittsburgh Study Away – One (1) Credit – program, and will include other articles, lectures, videos, fieldwork and group work.**

## Evaluation

	<u>% of Grade</u>
Research Project / Paper	35
Presentation	35
Engagement	<u>30</u>
<b>Final Grade</b>	<b>100</b>

**Research Project / Paper (10%):** You will individually or collectively, in groups, propose a subject and/or applied example from our readings and experiential site visits and develop that, with the aim of applying a sociological / political economic analysis to that subject. You will have to have the Topic, Research Question, and Outline approved by me before proceeding with the paper. Approximately 8-10 pages, and details of the paper will be discussed in class.

### Points of Information for Class

CourseWeb / BlackBoard is where you can find your syllabus and other course-related material.

### **LATE WORK & PAPERS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

There will be **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS -- NO EXCEPTIONS.** Due to the size of the class this policy will be strictly enforced.

**IF you miss anything, or have extenuating circumstances, you have ONE (1) WEEK within which you MUST NOTIFY ME.**

This syllabus is SUBJECT TO CHANGE at the discretion of the professor.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the [University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity](#) Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

### **Statement on Classroom Recording\*:**

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students **MAY NOT RECORD** classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of

the instructor, **and** any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use. Violators will be dismissed from class.

### **Disabilities:**

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890/412-624-3346 (Fax), as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course. For more information, visit [www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drsabout](http://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drsabout).

### **Email policy in course syllabi:**

Each student is issued a University e-mail address ([username@pitt.edu](mailto:username@pitt.edu)) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address.

### **Engagement**

A significant portion of this course depends on class participation, which increases students' understanding of a given topic. The course involves both whole-class and small-group discussions, and it is crucial that students attend class and participate.

Due to the sensitive nature of some of the discussion topics, it is also crucial that each person treat others with respect. Everyone will agree to disagree on some topics in this class, but all discussions will be respectful. The classroom is a safe place to share ideas and understandings.

### **2020 STUDY AWAY ITINERARY – TBA**