

HH3025: The Cultural, Social and Economic History of Football

Seminar: Fridays 1430-1730

Venue: LHS-TR+40

Football is a global phenomenon and one of the most dynamic engines of the process commonly known, celebrated and feared as globalisation. Just as the multi-layered processes of industrialisation shaped the game, the subsequent industrialisation of football has been intertwined with profound social and cultural change. This course examines how, over the course of the twentieth century, football became one of the most significant cultural practices of the current global era.

In the first few weeks of the course we discuss how you do football history: whether football history is (for instance) the history of rules, matches, players or best understood as part of a longer anthropological history. After recess we turn our attention to a series of nationally and temporally specific case studies, including post-independence Africa, India and the USSR.

Over the course of the semester you'll also be prompted to develop your own research project. To help you develop this, as well as the selected reading – which will be posted on the course site – you should explore work in relevant journals as soon as you can, especially *Soccer & Society*, *The International Journal of the History of Sport and Sport in History*.

17 August – Week 1

Introduction

24 August – Week 2

Football history: core debates

Reading

David Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round: A global history of football* **Extracts**

Gavin Kitching, 'The Origins of Football: History, Ideology and the Making of "The People's Game"' *History Workshop Journal* (Spring 2015) 79 (1), pp.127-153

31 August – Week 3

Thinking about football

Reading

Roland Barthes, *What is sport?* **Extracts**

Steven Connor, *A philosophy of sport* **Extracts**

7 September – Week 4

Football as football

Reading

Jonathan Wilson, *Inverting the pyramid: The history of soccer tactics* **Extracts**

Neil Carter, *The Football Manager: A history* **Extracts**

14 September – Week 5

The football industry

Reading

Pierre Lanfranchi and Matthew Taylor, *Moving with the ball: the migration of professional footballers* **Extracts**

R. Domeneghetti, *From the Back Page to the Front Room* **Extracts**

21 September – Week 6

Football and the material world

Reading

S. Frank & S. Steets (Eds.) *Football, Space and the Built Environment* **Extracts**

J. Hughson & K. Moore, “‘Hand of God’”, *Shirt of the Man: The Materiality of Diego Maradona*, *Costume*, Vol. 46, No. 2 (2012)

28 September – Week 7

Footballers: Biographical stories

Reading

Hermione Lee, *Biography: A very short introduction* **Extract**

Ronald Reng, *A life too short: the tragedy of Robert Enke* **Extract**

Zlatan Ibrahimovic, *I am Zlatan, my story off the field (as told to David Lagercrantz)* **Extract**

RECESS

12 October – Week 8

South American football

Reading

Tony Mason, *Passion of the People? Football in South America* **Extracts**

Eduardo Galeano, *Soccer in sun and shadow* **Extracts**

19 October – Week 9

African football

Reading

P. Alegi, *African Soccerscapes: How a continent changed the world's game* **Extracts**

J. Dorsey, *The turbulent world of Middle Eastern soccer* **Extracts**

26 October – Week 10

European football

Reading

Laurent Dubois, *Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the future of France* **Extracts**

Robert Edelman, *Spartak Moscow: A history of the people's team in the workers' state* **Extracts**

2 November – Week 11

Asian Football

N. Kapadia, *Barefoot to Boots: The Many Lives of Indian Football* **Extracts**

Younghan Cho (Ed.) *Football in Asia: History, Culture and Business* **Extracts**

9 November – Week 12

Football and globalisation

Reading

S. Kuper & S. Szymanski, *Soccernomics* **Extracts**

16 November – Week 13

Essay writing workshop

Assessments

- 1) Leading class discussion (30%)
- 2) Essay outline (10%) guidelines given on 12 Oct, **due 1pm on 2 November**
- 3) Mini-research journal (20%) Final guidelines given on 9 Nov, **due 5pm, 23 November**
- 4) Research essay (40%) **due 5pm, 30 November**

//A note on attendance

You are expected to attend every class and keep up with the readings and between class tasks. This is especially important bearing in mind the hybrid nature of the course and its assessments. Please notify me if you are unable to attend a session.