GSWS 318/830: Sport through a Feminist Lens

Professor: Dr. Tiffany Muller Myrdahl  
Email: tmullerm@sfu.ca  
Office: AQ 5092  
Office hours: TBA  
Lecture: Mondays 9:30 – 13:20; WMC 2503  
Graduate seminar: 13:30 – 14:20

Course Description:
Consider the following sport “moments”: the persistence of sex-testing that targets female athletes; US athletes kneeling during the national anthem to demonstrate support for the Black Lives Matter movement; continued efforts to change racist team names and mascots; disputes over inequitable resource allocations for men’s and women’s teams; protests in Brazil during the World Cup and Rio Olympics. Analyzing these disparate examples requires asking how relations of power inhabit and become manifest in sport: in its institutions, spaces, media coverage, and popular discourse. This course addresses this and related questions to interrogate the social investment in sport as a “neutral” site where athletic excellence is performed and consumed. We will examine a variety of case studies to elicit discussion and analysis of the role that sport plays in: reinforcing and challenging social relations; urban economies (especially related to leisure and tourism); and nationalism and globalization.

Educational Goals:
Students will explore the values embedded in sport as a social institution and will examine how these values become manifest and are disrupted. Students will develop an understanding for how scholars critically examine and interpret the role of sport and leisure in society. Students will use qualitative research methods and analytical writing to interpret and interrogate sport and leisure through a feminist lens.

For more detailed information please see the GSWS website: http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/courses/Educational_Goals.html

Course Texts and Courseware:
Various texts (journal articles, book chapters) and similar content (memoirs, podcasts, etc.) available on Canvas and/or via SFU library databases.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Evaluation: 318</th>
<th>Course Evaluation: 830</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Participation and short writes (25%)</td>
<td>1. Participation and facilitation (25%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fieldwork analysis (25%)</td>
<td>2. Fieldwork analysis (25%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Leisure/athlete interview (20%)</td>
<td>3. Leisure/athlete interview (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Exam (cumulative) (30%)</td>
<td>4. Policy analysis (30%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prerequisite for GSWS 318: 30 units, including 3 units in GSWS or WS or GDST. Students who have previously taken GSWS 319 (Spring 2017) may not take this course for further credit.