

GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM (gec)  
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
REQUEST FOR COURSE APPROVAL

SUMMARY SHEET

Department(s) submitting request. Comparative Studies

Course name and number. Comparative Studies 294 Race and Sports: The Black Athlete in Contemporary America

GEC area(s) for which course is to be considered. Arts and Humanities: Culture and Ideas; Social Diversity in the United States

How does the course being proposed meet the general principles of the model curriculum and the specific goals of the category for which it is being proposed? Attach additional sheets as needed.

This interdisciplinary group studies course examines the role of race in American culture by studying sport as it reflects racism and racial conflict. The class considers the history of the black athlete in America and sport as a lens through which to view the political, social, and economic struggles of African Americans, both historically and in the contemporary U.S. The course will fulfill the requirements of the Social Diversity category within the GEC not only because of its clear emphasis on race. The class also addresses issues of class as they intersect with race, and, through its discussion of the construction of "black masculinity," it addresses questions of sexuality and gender as well. The texts to be studied focus on the analysis of sport in American society generally, and in relation to race, corporate power, advertising, history, educational institutions, popular culture, and science. In addition to the general goals of increasing interpretive, critical, and analytical skills in reading, writing, and speaking, the specific goals of the course are to increase students' awareness of the interweaving of racism with college and professional sports in America and to analyze sport as a reflection of broad conflicts related to race, class, gender, and sexuality within the U.S.

Proposed effective date. Spring 2006

If your unit has faculty members on any of the regional campuses, have they been consulted? N/A

APPROVALS:

Department/Center/School David Horn

College Paul S. Young

Colleges of the Arts and Sciences \_\_\_\_\_