

Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2019

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area African American & African Std
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org African-Amer & African Studies - D0502
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences
Level/Career Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog 2275
Course Title Blackness and the Politics of Sports
Transcript Abbreviation Blackness & Sports
Course Description This course considers the role of Black athletes in society, the racial politics involved, and the global implications of race on courts, playing fields, tracks, and other athletic arenas. The course is concerned about how Black athletes have responded to their own racialization; how a market has developed around Black athletics, who profits, and the costs and benefits; how intersections of gender
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No
Grading Basis Letter Grade
Repeatable No
Course Components Lecture
Grade Roster Component Lecture
Credit Available by Exam No
Admission Condition Course No
Off Campus Never
Campus of Offering Columbus

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites
Exclusions
Electronically Enforced No

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 05.0201
Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course
Intended Rank Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Requirement/Elective Designation

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- For students to think about how the social construction of race informs role and function of Black athletes globally.
- For students to consider the implications of profit in relationship to Black athletes.
- For students to analyze how various ideas and attitudes about race that circulate in society inform cultural productions.
- For students to think about how multidimensional identities—the coupling of race with other identities—affect Black athlete's experiences.

Content Topic List

- Rebel Athletes
- Black Markets
- Black Women and Sports
- Visualizing Black Athletes

Sought Concurrence

No

Attachments

- 2275_ Blackness and the Politics of Sports final.docx
(Syllabus. Owner: Workman, Mollie-Marie)
- Curriculum Map for New Program.docx
(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Workman, Mollie-Marie)
- WGSST_ Concurrence Request_ AAAS 2275, _Blackness and the Politics of Sports_.pdf
(Concurrence. Owner: Workman, Mollie-Marie)
- EHE Concurrence Request_ AAAS 2275, _Blackness and the Politics of Sports_.pdf
(Concurrence. Owner: Workman, Mollie-Marie)
- Economics_ Concurrence Request_ AAAS 2275, _Blackness and the Politics of Sports_.pdf
(Concurrence. Owner: Workman, Mollie-Marie)

Comments

- This course looks really fascinating. For that reason and its overlap with other fields, I would seek concurrence from Political Science, Economics, WGGS and EHE given the sports context. All of these departments might be willing to encourage their students to consider this class. *(by Heysel, Garrett Robert on 01/30/2018 06:58 PM)*

COURSE REQUEST
2275 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
Chantal
06/19/2018

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Workman, Mollie-Marie	01/30/2018 03:34 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Skinner, Ryan Thomas	01/30/2018 03:40 PM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Heysel, Garrett Robert	01/30/2018 06:58 PM	College Approval
Submitted	Skinner, Ryan Thomas	06/19/2018 11:42 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Skinner, Ryan Thomas	06/19/2018 11:43 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel, Garrett Robert	06/19/2018 12:02 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen, Dawn Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal Oldroyd, Shelby Quinn Hanlin, Deborah Kay Jenkins, Mary Ellen Bigler	06/19/2018 12:02 PM	ASCCAO Approval

The Ohio State University
AFAMAST 2275: Blackness and the Politics of Sports
Department of African American & African Studies
Class Meeting Days/Times
Class Location

Instructor
Email

Office Location
Office Hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course considers the role of Black athletes in society, the racial politics involved, and the global implications of race on courts, playing fields, tracks, and other athletic arenas. The course is concerned about how Black athletes have responded to their own racialization; how a market has developed around Black athletics, who profits, and the costs and benefits; how intersections of gender and sexuality function within the world of sports; and the ways in which the Black athlete is represented in culture. It is, therefore, an interdisciplinary course that draws upon such fields as history, sociology, film, and literature. It is also global in content, as it is invested in exploring the global fact of blackness in sports in the United States, as well as abroad.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- For students to think about how the social construction of race informs role and function of Black athletes globally.
- For students to consider the implications of profit in relationship to Black athletes.
- For students to analyze how various ideas and attitudes about race that circulate in society inform cultural productions.
- For students to think about how multidimensional identities—the coupling of race with other identities—affect Black athlete’s experiences.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Martha Ackmann, *Curveball: The Remarkable Story of Toni Stone*

Neil Lanctot, *Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution*

William C. Rhoden, *40 Million Dollar Slaves: The Rise, Fall and Redemption of the Black Athlete*

***Books are available at the OSU Barnes and Noble Bookstore at 1598 N. High Street.** All other texts include URL links in the syllabus or will be available for downloading on Canvas/Carmen.

GRADING & ASSIGNMENTS

Participation (10%): Regular and engaged participation is expected. Students are expected to arrive to class having completed all assigned reading and be ready to participate in thoughtful and lively discussion. Unexcusable absences and any accrued absences beyond four (4) will adversely affect your participation grade and potentially your final course grade. Tardies and early departures are disruptive and should be avoided; they, too, will affect your participation grade. Documented excusable absences include: bereavement, hospitalization, contagious illness, or severe injuries.

Sports Blog (20%): Students are required to write two (2) 650-850 blog-styled reports or analysis of a specific sporting event, controversial issue/event in sports, a specific athlete's public profile or athletic performance, etc. Students are encouraged to review various academic and mass media blog sites attending to sports in order to help them shape their content, style, and tone.

Research Paper (50%): This 6-8 page paper will be on a topic approved by the instructor. The purpose of this paper is to allow students to pursue a topic not on the syllabus that is related to the course material. The topic can be historical or contemporary. Once a topic is selected and approved students can develop a paper using historical, sociological, and/or theoretical/cultural analysis methods to address the racial politics involved in the sports case being studied.

Annotated Bibliography (20%): The annotated bibliography will help students evaluate and assess research material. Students will annotate five (5) out of ten (10) sources. Sources must be from reliable sources, which might include: books published by academic or trade presses; trade magazines; national or local newspapers; online news sources, such as ESPN, CNN, NYT, etc.; and documentaries or other news video clips. A bibliography must be included that includes both the annotated and un-annotated sources.

OSU Standard Grade Scheme

93 - 100 (A)

90 - 92.9 (A-)

87 - 89.9 (B+)

83 - 86.9 (B)

80 - 82.9 (B-)

77 - 79.9 (C+)

73 - 76.9 (C)

70 - 72.9 (C-)

67 - 69.9 (D+)

60 - 66.9 (D)

Below 60 (E)

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Policy on Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

SCHEDULE

Rebel Athletes

WEEK ONE:

- ESPN Films, The Fab Five (documentary)
- Grant Hill’s Response to Jalen Rose
http://thequad.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/03/16/grant-hills-response-to-jalen-rose/?_r=0

WEEK TWO:

- Theresa Runstedtler, *Jack Johnson, Rebel Sojourner: Boxing in the Shadow of the Global Color Line* (Chapters 4 and 7)
- 1968 Olympics Black Power Salute (article plus video interview with John Carlos)
<http://time.com/3880999/black-power-salute-tommie-smith-and-john-carlos-at-the-1968-olympics/>

Black Markets

WEEK THREE:

William C. Rhoden, *40 Million Dollar Slaves: The Rise, Fall and Redemption of the Black Athlete*

WEEK FOUR:

Neil Lanctot, *Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution*

WEEK FIVE:

- Ben Carrington, *Race, Sport and Politics: The Sporting Black Diaspora* (Introduction and Chapters 1 and 4)
- Beamon, Krystal K. "'Used Goods': Former African American College Student-Athletes' Perception of Exploitation by Division I Universities." *The Journal of Negro Education* (2008): 352-364.
- Cunningham, George B. "Understanding the under-representation of African American coaches: A multilevel perspective." *Sport Management Review* 13, no. 4 (2010): 395-406.

WEEK SIX:

- CNN, "Black in America: German-born soccer stars choose to play for the United States" October 31, 2012.
<http://startingpoint.blogs.cnn.com/2012/10/31/black-in-america-german-born-soccer-stars-choose-to-play-for-u-s/>.
- ESPN, Inside: U.S. Soccer's March to Brazil, 2014.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TGOKG2KjBA>
- *Boston Globe*, "High School Soccer Players Plant the Seeds of Harmony"
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2016/08/20/soccer-team-helps-unite-maine-city/ENq0ef9x8c1HIICKA7ZvDI/story.html>
Sports Blog 1 DUE

Black Women and Sports

WEEK SEVEN:

Martha Ackmann, *Curveball: The Remarkable Story of Toni Stone*

WEEK EIGHT:

Newhall, Kristine E., and Erin E. Buzuvis. "(e) Racing Jennifer Harris Sexuality and Race, Law and Discourse in Harris v. Portland." *Journal of Sport & Social Issues* 32.4 (2008): 345-368.

AUTUMN BREAK

WEEK NINE:

- Cynthia Fabrizio Pelak, "Negotiating Gender/Race/Class Constraints in the New South Africa: A Case Study of Women's Soccer"

- Michael Awkward, *Burying Don Imus: Anatomy of a Scapegoat* (Chapters 7-9)

Annotated Bibliography DUE

Visualizing Black Athletes

Week TEN:

Love and Basketball (film)

WEEK ELEVEN:

Remember the Titans (film)

WEEK TWELVE:

42 (film)

WEEK THIRTEEN:

August Wilson, *Fences* (play)

Denzel Washington, *Fences* (film)

WEEK FOURTEEN:

Hank Lewis Thomas (visual art)

Sports Blog 2 DUE

THANKSGIVING

WEEK FIFTEEN: Wrap-Up

Final Paper DUE during Finals Week

From: [Skinner, Ryan](#)
To: [Workman, Mollie-Marie](#)
Subject: FW: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"
Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018 1:30:02 PM

Another concurrence for 2275

From: Treva Lindsey [doctadiva@icloud.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 1:28 PM
To: Skinner, Ryan
Subject: Fwd: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Treva Lindsey <doctadiva@icloud.com>
Date: April 26, 2018 at 10:14:01 AM EDT
To: "Stotlar, Jackie" <stotlar.1@osu.edu>
Cc: "Winnubst, Shannon" <winnubst.1@osu.edu>
Subject: Re: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

Hello Ryan,

Your concurrence has been approved. My sincerest apologies for the delayed response.

Warmly,
Treva

On Apr 26, 2018, at 9:54 AM, Stotlar, Jackie <stotlar.1@osu.edu> wrote:

Hi Treva and Shannon,

Concurrence is the correct term; Dr. Skinner is merely seeking to ensure the class does not delve too far into "our" subject matter expertise, not to cross-list it or even have it as an approved-related course. UGSC approved the concurrence request on March 19. Unfortunately in our action steps it looks like we failed to clarify who was going to alert Dr. Skinner of the approval. Treva if you'd reach out to him to let him know the request was approved, he can use the email as confirmation of concurrence.

Please let me know if I can provide additional clarification!

Best,
Jackie
<image001.png>
Jackie Stotlar, MA
Pronouns: she, her, hers
Academic Program Coordinator

College of Arts and Sciences Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
286G University Hall, 230 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-1268 Office
stotlar.1@osu.edu wgss.osu.edu
President, [AGPA](#)

From: Treva Lindsey <doctadiva@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 9:12 AM
To: Winnubst, Shannon <winnubst.1@osu.edu>
Cc: Stotlar, Jackie <stotlar.1@osu.edu>
Subject: Re: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

Hello,

Jackie, is there a process of which I am unaware that may be the issue? Is concurrence not the right term? Is this a cross-list? I am open, but don't want to email him until I am absolutely clear on the meaning.

Warmly,
Treva

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 26, 2018, at 9:09 AM, Winnubst, Shannon <winnubst.1@osu.edu> wrote:

Good morning, Treva—

I wasn't clear on the concurrence request, since we don't currently have a course on sports. But I'm happy UGS is approving.

Please let Ryan Skinner know directly.

All best,
Shannon

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 26, 2018, at 8:59 AM, Treva Lindsey <doctadiva@icloud.com> wrote:

Hello Shannon and Jackie,

In my head, we had moved forward with this. My apologies.

It looks solid to me. I think my one concern was the lack of an explicit mentioning of gender/sexuality in the description or course objectives. But it's definitely present in the course material.

I believe we can move forward on the concurrence request.

Warmly,

Treva

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 25, 2018, at 4:53 PM, Winnubst, Shannon
<winnubst.1@osu.edu> wrote:

Hi Treva,

I hope you're doing well, as we all slide
into the end of this year!

I'm sorry to see this has fallen through the
cracks and hope we can get it turned
around this term. Please let me know if
there are substantial concerns holding this
up.

all best,
Shannon

Shannon Winnubst
Professor & Chair
Department of Women's, Gender
& Sexuality Studies

Co-Editor of *philoSOPHIA: A Journal
of Continental Feminism*

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Skinner, Ryan"
<skinner.176@osu.edu>
Subject: RE:
Concurrence Request:
**AAAS 2275, "Blackness
and the Politics of
Sports"**
Date: April 25, 2018 at
3:36:10 PM EDT
To: "Lindsey, Treva B."
<lindsey.268@osu.edu>,
"Winnubst, Shannon"

<winnubst.1@osu.edu>
Cc: "Stotlar, Jackie"
<stotlar.1@osu.edu>,
"Workman, Mollie-Marie"
<workman.77@osu.edu>

Dear Treva,

Following up on this concurrence
request for AAAS 2275.

Many thanks,

Ryan Skinner

[Ryan Skinner](#)

Associate Professor
Ethnomusicology
School of Music
Department of African American
and African Studies
The Ohio State University

Director of [Undergraduate
Studies](#) (AAAS)
Director of the [Lectures in
Musicology](#) (Music)

Author of [Bamako Sounds: The
Afropolitan Ethics of Malian
Music](#) (University of Minnesota
Press, 2015)

From: Winnubst, Shannon
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018
3:19 PM
To: Skinner, Ryan
Cc: Stotlar, Jackie; Workman,
Mollie-Marie
Subject: Re: Concurrence
Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness
and the Politics of Sports"

Dear Ryan,

I have forwarded your request
to our Chair of Undergrad
Studies, Treva Lindsey.

Best,
Shannon

Shannon Winnubst
Professor & Chair
Department of Women's,
Gender & Sexuality Studies
Ohio State University

On Mar 11, 2018,
at 7:37 PM,
Skinner, Ryan
<skinner.176@osu.edu>
wrote:

To: Shannon
Winnubst (Chair)
and Jackie Stotlar
(Program
Coordinator), WGSS

I am writing to
request that your
department
consider offering
concurrence for a
new course in
African American
and African Studies,
"Blackness and the
Politics of Sports."

Please find the
syllabus attached.

You may respond to
me directly with
your response.

Many thanks,

Ryan Skinner

[Ryan Skinner](#)

Associate Professor
Ethnomusicology
School of Music
Department of
African American
and African Studies
The Ohio State
University

Director
of [Undergraduate
Studies](#) (AAAS)
Director of
the [Lectures in
Musicology](#) (Music)

Author of [Bamako
Sounds: The
Afropolitan Ethics of
Malian
Music](#) (University of

Minnesota Press,
2015)

<AAAS_2275_BlacknessAndThePoliticsOfSports_final.docx>

From: [Skinner, Ryan](#)
To: [Workman, Mollie-Marie](#)
Subject: FW: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"
Date: Thursday, March 22, 2018 1:06:46 PM

And, second, from the Dept. of Human Science in the College of Education and Human Ecology:

(P.S. What do we do with the concurrences? Send them along to Garrett Heysel? Could you compile a list of those--four in total, so far, by my count--that have come in?)

From: Folden, H
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Skinner, Ryan
Cc: Focht, Brian
Subject: FW: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

Hello Ryan,

Two KNSISM faculty members reviewed the syllabus for the proposed course in the Department of African American and African Studies, AFAMAST 2275: Blackness and the Politics of Sports, and have determined there is little overlap with the courses taught in our department related to sport. Thus I am happy to provide concurrence for the proposed course.

Thank you and best wishes,

Dr. Folden

H. Eugene Folden, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Clinical
Associate Chair, Curriculum
Chair, Graduate and Undergraduate Studies
Department of Human Sciences
College of Education and Human Ecology
1787 Neil Avenue
129 Campbell Hall
Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-5676
Folden.1@osu.edu

From: Skinner, Ryan
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 7:39 PM
To: Focht, Brian <focht.10@osu.edu>
Cc: Workman, Mollie-Marie <workman.77@osu.edu>
Subject: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

To: Brian Focht (Chair), EHE

I am writing to request that your department consider offering concurrence for a new course in African American and African Studies, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports."

Please find the syllabus attached.

You may respond to me directly with your response.

Many thanks,

Ryan Skinner

[Ryan Skinner](#)

Associate Professor
Ethnomusicology
School of Music
Department of African American and African Studies
The Ohio State University

Director of [Undergraduate Studies](#) (AAAS)
Director of the [Lectures in Musicology](#) (Music)

Author of [Bamako Sounds: The Afropolitan Ethics of Malian Music](#) (University of Minnesota Press, 2015)

From: [Ye, Lixin](#)
To: [Logan, Trevon](#); [Skinner, Ryan](#); [Hughes, Matthew R.](#); [Ramirez, Ana](#)
Cc: [Workman, Mollie-Marie](#)
Subject: RE: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"
Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 3:41:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Ryan,

Economics Department would like to offer concurrence for your proposed course, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports".

Best regards,

Lixin

Lixin Ye
Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies
Department of Economics
The Ohio State University
Tel.: 614-292-6883
<http://econ.ohio-state.edu/lixinye/>

From: Logan, Trevon
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 12:07 PM
To: Skinner, Ryan; Hughes, Matthew R.; Ramirez, Ana; Ye, Lixin
Cc: Workman, Mollie-Marie
Subject: RE: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

Ryan:

I have forwarded this to the Director of Undergraduate Studies and will get back to you soon.



Trevon D. Logan, Ph.D.

Hazel C. Youngberg Trustees Distinguished Professor
College of Arts and Sciences Department of Economics
410 Arps Hall | 1945 N. High Street Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-0762 Office | 614-292-3906 Fax
logan.155@osu.edu osu.edu

From: Skinner, Ryan
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 7:34 PM
To: Logan, Trevon <logan.155@osu.edu>; Hughes, Matthew R. <hughes.1159@osu.edu>; Ramirez, Ana <ramirez.159@osu.edu>
Cc: Workman, Mollie-Marie <workman.77@osu.edu>
Subject: Concurrence Request: AAAS 2275, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports"

To: Trevor Logan (Chair), Matthew Hughes (Assistant to the Chair), and Ana Ramirez (UG Coordinator),
Economics

I am writing to request that your department consider offering concurrence for a new course in African American and African Studies, "Blackness and the Politics of Sports."

Please find the syllabus attached.

You may respond to me directly with your response.

Many thanks,

Ryan Skinner

[Ryan Skinner](#)

Associate Professor
Ethnomusicology
School of Music
Department of African American and African Studies
The Ohio State University

Director of [Undergraduate Studies](#) (AAAS)
Director of the [Lectures in Musicology](#) (Music)

Author of [Bamako Sounds: The Afropolitan Ethics of Malian Music](#) (University of Minnesota Press, 2015)

Program Learning Goals			
	Goal A: Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural, socio-political, and historical formations, connections, Conditions, and transformations evident throughout the African World.	Goal B: Identify, critique, and appreciate the intersections between race, class, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality from the historical and existential perspectives of African and African-descended peoples.	Goal C: Implement interdisciplinary research methods and methodological perspectives applicable to advanced study, community development, and public service.
Core Courses			
2201	Beginning	Intermediate	
3310	Intermediate	Intermediate	
3440	Intermediate	Advanced	Beginning
4921	Intermediate	Advanced	Intermediate
Elective Courses			
2000-Level (Max of 3 courses)	Beginning	Beginning	Beginning
3000- Level (Max of 3 courses)	Beginning/Intermediate	Beginning/Intermediate	Beginning/Intermediate
4000-Level	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced
5000-Level	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced