Spring 2019 Professor James Vernon

**H190 Soccer. A Global History**

Whether you call it soccer, football or fútbol the beautiful game with the round ball is played and watched around the world. This class will explore how and why that came to happen. Along the way it will trace key developments in the game such as the formation of clubs, governing bodies, international tournaments, the development of stadiums, fan culture, violence, media coverage, formations and styles of play, gambling and corruption, as well as the working conditions of players. Although I am a massive fan the point of the class is not to nerd out but to locate these changes in broader historical processes – political, economic, social and cultural - that have transformed the game and made it a global commodity. Broadly speaking the class follows how since the middle of the nineteenth century the game was shaped by the history of capitalism and its alternatives, as well as by the formation of nation states, empires, internationalism, regionalism and globalization. Throughout the way the game was played and watched remained inseparable from our understanding of gender, class, ethnicity, race and religion. Ideally the class will teach you both a lot about the game and about thinking historically and how the world changes over time.

**Assessment**

There will be a mid-term (40%) on 5th March and either a final exam (60%) on 13th

May, 11.30am-1.30pm or a 10 page research paper on 10th May by 4pm. Those wishing to write a paper need to provide a one page pitch for it – complete with potential sources – by March 12. A schedule of assignments will be given to you to help you complete the paper.

Timelines will be available on bcourses. Video of clips shown in class are also available on my [youtube channel](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8g7OSBHLX00sB_rwhAtBceZpvvkcavEJ). Phones are not allowed in class but laptops and tablets can be used for taking notes if you sit in the first three rows. The class will be administered through a bcourse site and the hashtag #GlobalSoccer101 will be used to share additional materials on twitter.

**Instructors**

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**Readings**

There is an affordable and readable set text: David Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round: A Global History of Soccer* (US edn., 2008). While the Goldblatt book is required reading, it should be read judiciously – meaning, for instance, you can skim the parts that describe particular games. Some lectures will also be supported by additional short articles or chapters available online or on the bcourse site. Students are expected to come to lectures and sections having completed these readings.

Extended bibliographies of scholarship on the game are available on bcourse for those interested in reading further or those developing research papers in place of a final exam. Be warned that the vast majority of the work on the history of the game are written by white men like me.

Other great reads (some available as ebooks through the library):

Peter Alegi, [*African Soccerscapes: How a Continent Changed the World’s Game*](https://muse-jhu-edu.libproxy.berkeley.edu/book/598/)(2010)

Laurent Dubois, [*Soccer Empire: The World Cup and the Future of France*](https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.libproxy.berkeley.edu/lib/berkeley-ebooks/detail.action?docID=837249) (2011)

Roger Kittleson, [*The Country of Football. Soccer and the Making of Modern Brazil*](https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.libproxy.berkeley.edu/lib/berkeley-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1650800)(Berkeley, 2014)

Robert Edeleman, [*Spartak Moscow: A History of the People’s Team in the Workers’ State*](https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.libproxy.berkeley.edu/lib/berkeley-ebooks/detail.action?docID=3138387) (2009)

Brenda Elsey, [*Citizens and Sportsmen: Fútbol and Politics in Twentieth Century Chile*](http://ucelinks.cdlib.org:8888/sfx_local?genre=book&atitle=&title=Citizens%20and%20sportsmen%3A%20fútbol%20and%20politics%20in%20twentieth-century%20Chile&isbn=0292726309&volume=&issue=&date=20110101&aulast=Elsey,%20Brenda&spage=&pages=&sid=EBSCO:Book%20Review%20Digest%20Plus%20%28H.W.%20Wilson%29:110902844) (2011).

Jean Williams, *A Game for Rough Girls? A History of Women’s Football in England* (2003).

Eduardo Galeano, *Soccer in Sun and Shadow* (2013)

Jonathan Wilson, *Inverting the Pyramid: The History of Soccer Tactics* (2013)

Joshua Nadel, *Fútbol! Why Soccer Matters in Latin America* (2014)

Rick Eckstein, *How College Athletics Are Hurting Girls’ Sports: The Pay-To-Play Pipeline* (2017).

Brenda Elsey and Stanley Pugliese (eds.), *Football and the Boundaries of History* (2017).

Jaime Schultz, *Women’s Sports: What Everyone Needs to Know* (2018).

**Useful Web Resources**

[Football Scholars](http://footballscholars.org/)

[The Football Collective](https://footballcollective.org.uk/tag/the-football-collective/)

[NYU Library Soccer/Football/Fútbol/Calcio](https://guides.nyu.edu/c.php?g=276906&p=1846487)

[Soccer Politics – Discussion Forum About the Power of the Global Game](https://sites.duke.edu/wcwp/)

[Football is a Country – blog on the game in Africa, past and present](http://africasacountry.com/category/football-is-a-country/)

[Burn It All Down – Feminist Sports Podcast](https://soundcloud.com/burnitalldown)

**Lecture Schedule, 2040 VLSB, Tu/Th 2-3.30**

22 January: Introduction

24 January: The Birth of the Modern Game

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.2

29 January: Football and Industrial Britain

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.3

31 January: Nation Building with an Imperial Game

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chs.4&5

5 February: Football at War

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.7

7 February: Football and Mass Culture

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.6

12 February: The Soviet Experiment

Robert Edelman, "[A Small Way of Saying No: Spartak Soccer, Moscow Men and the Communist Party, 1900-1945](https://academic.oup.com/ahr/article/107/5/1441/28815)", *American Historical Review*, 107, 5 (2002): 1441-1471.

14 February: Latin America: A Different Game?

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.8

Claire and Keith Brewster, “[Football in Mexico: ‘A Paradise for Foreigners?”](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/blar.12600) *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, 37, 5 (2018), 539-552.

19 February: Looking East and the Empire of Football

Alon Raab, “[Soccer in the Middle East: An introduction](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14660970.2012.730766?src=recsys)”, *Soccer and Society*, 13 (2012), 619-38.

21 February: Europe: Football as War Again

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.9

26 February: Africa and the Anti-Colonial Revolt

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.12

Hikabwa D.Chipande, “[Mining for Goals: Football and Social Change on the Zambian Copperbelt, 1940s to 1960s](https://read.dukeupress.edu/radical-history-review/article/2016/125/55-73/22287)” *Radical History Review*, 125 (2016): 55-73

28 February: Unions and the Player Revolt

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, chs10&11

5 March: Midterm

7 March: Movie: *Pele: The Birth of a Legend*

12 March: The Long Sixties and Celebrity Culture

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.11

Kay Schiller, “Social Climbing, Cultural Experimentation and Trailblazing Metrosexual: Franz Beckenbauer in the 1960s and 1970s” in B.Elsey and S.Pugliese (eds.), Football and the Boundaries of History (2017), 205-225.

14 March: Globalization the FIFA way

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.13

19 March: The Crisis of the 1970s and the Fan Revolt

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.14

21 March: Football and Military Rule in Latin America

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.15

Brenda Elsey, [*Citizens and Sportsmen: Fútbol and Politics in Twentieth Century Chile*](http://ucelinks.cdlib.org:8888/sfx_local?genre=book&atitle=&title=Citizens%20and%20sportsmen%3A%20fútbol%20and%20politics%20in%20twentieth-century%20Chile&isbn=0292726309&volume=&issue=&date=20110101&aulast=Elsey,%20Brenda&spage=&pages=&sid=EBSCO:Book%20Review%20Digest%20Plus%20%28H.W.%20Wilson%29:110902844) (2011), epilogue, 242-253

26 & 28 March: Spring Break

2 April: Football and the Post-colony in Africa

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.16

\*Tamba E M’Bayo, “The Politics of Football in Post-Colonial Sierra Leone” in B.Elsey and S.Pugliese (eds.), Football and the Boundaries of History (2017), 267-93.

4 April: Soccernomics

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.17

9 April: No class

11 April: Soccer and the United States

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.18

16 April: The Return of the Women’s Game

\*A.S.Markovitis & S.L.Hellerman, “Women’s Soccer in the USA: Yet Another ‘Exceptionalism’” in Fan Hong & J.A.Mangan (eds.), *Soccer, Women, Sexual Liberation: Kicking off a New Era* (2004), 14-30.

18 April: Special Lecture; David Goldblatt, “Russia 2018: The Global Potemkin Village?”

23 April: The Business of Youth Soccer in the USA

Ilann S.Messeri, “*[Vamos, Vamos Aceirteros](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14660970802009031?scroll=top&needAccess=true)*[: soccer and the Latino community in Richmond, California](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14660970802009031?scroll=top&needAccess=true)” *Soccer and Society*, 9, 3 (2008), 416-27

25 April: Asia and the Neoliberal Revolution

Goldblatt, *The Ball is Round*, ch.19

30 April: The Body Politics of C21st Football

Shireen Ahmed, ‘[When women were forced to choose between faith and football](https://www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2018/apr/28/women-faith-football-hijab-fifa-ban)’ The Guardian, 28 April 2018.

2 May: Course Review