Spring 2018 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, media coverage, formations, styles of play, gambling, corruption, the working conditions of players and hooliganism. 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 weekly quizzes (30%) and either a final exam (40%) on 10 May, 9-11am or a 10 page paper on how the history of a particular club shaped, and was shaped by, the global history of the game due on Friday 4th May. Those wishing to write a paper need to provide a one page pitch for it – complete with potential sources – by March 13. A schedule of assignments will be given to you to help you complete the paper. Section participation will account for the other 30% of the final grade. Attendance in section is compulsory, if students miss more than 3 unexcused sections they will receive 0% for their section grade. If you need to miss section you must inform the instructor why at least 24 hours in advance, or provide retrospective evidence (like a note from a doctor).

Timelines and lecture outlines 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). Laptops can only be used for taking notes and those using them will sit in the first two rows. The class will be administered through a bcourse site and the hashtag #GlobalSoccer101 will be used to share additional materials on twitter.

**Instructors**

James Vernon Office hours: 2-4 Tuesday, Dwinelle 2214

[jvernon@berkeley.edu](mailto:jvernon@berkeley.edu)

@James11Vernon

Eva Vaillancourt 101 Tuesday 4-5pm, Dwinelle 258

104 Wedenesday 9-10am, VLS 2030

e\_vaillancourt@berkeley.edu

Nina Haug 102 Tuesday 5-6pm, Dwinelle 235  
105 Thursday 5-6pm, Dwinelle 246

nina\_haug@berkeley.edu

**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.

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)

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).

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

Simon Kuper and Stefan Szymanski, *Soccernomics* (2014)

Juan Villoro, *God is Round: Tackling the Giants, Villians, Triumphs, and Scandals of the World’s Favorite Game* (2016)

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

José Sergio Leite Lopes, “[Class, ethnicity and color in the making of Brazilian football](http://worldcup2014pathfinder.weebly.com/uploads/1/2/8/5/12855981/class_ethnicity_and_color_in_the_making_of_brazilian_football.pdf)” *Daedalus*, 129, 2 (2000): 239-70

**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)

[BBC World Football Podcast](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p002vsyx/episodes/downloads)

**Lecture Schedule, 2040 VLSB, Tu/Th 11-12.30**

16 January: Introduction

18 January: The Birth of the Modern Game

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

23 January: Football and Industrial Britain

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

25 January: Nation Building with an Imperial Game

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

30 January: Football at War

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

1 February: Football and Mass Culture

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

Martin Johnes, “[Hooligans and barrackers: Crowd disorder and soccer in South Wales, c.1906-1939](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14660970008721263)” *Soccer and Society*, 1, 2 (2002): 19-35

6 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.

8 February: Latin America and Nation Building

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

Jeffrey Richey, “[The Macaquitos Affair: Soccer, Blacknes, and Brazil as Argentina’s Racial Other, 1919-1929](https://read-dukeupress-edu.libproxy.berkeley.edu/radical-history-review/article/2016/125/116/22296/The-Macaquitos-AffairSoccer-Blackness-and-Brazil)” *Radical History Review*, 125, (2016): 116-36.

13 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.

15 February: Europe: Football as War Again

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

20 February: Africa and the Anti-Colonial Revolt

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

22 February: Socialist Soccer and the Cold War

Allan McDougall, “[Whose Game Is it Anyway? A People’s History of East German Football](https://read-dukeupress-edu.libproxy.berkeley.edu/radical-history-review/article/2016/125/35/22284/Whose-Game-Is-It-Anyway-A-People-s-History-of-East)” *Radical History Review*, 125, (2016), 35-54.

27 February: Unions and the Player Revolt

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

1 March: Movie: *Pele. The Birth of a Legend*

6 March: The Long Sixties and Celebrity Culture

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

8 March: Globalization the FIFA way

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

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

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

15 March: Football and Military Rule in Latin America

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

\*Camilo Trumper, “The Politics of Public Space: Santiago de Chile's Estadio Nacional through a Historical Lens,” *Brújula* 4 (December 2006): 45–59.

20 March: Football and the Post-colony in Africa

In conversation with special guest Martha Saavedra

Hikabwa D.Chipande, “[The Structural Adjustment of Football in Zambia: Politics, Decline and Dispersal, 1991-1994](http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/ym6rT4YpUxRZpZYbb6S9/full)” *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 33, (2016): 1847-1865.

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

22 March: Movie: *Hooligans: The Untold Story of the 2006 World Cup*

27 & 29 March: Spring Break

3 April: Soccernomics

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

5 April: Soccer and the United States

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

10 April: A Woman’s Game

In conversation with special guest Martha Saavedra

\*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.

12 April: Asia and the Neoliberal Revolution

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

17 April: The Body Politics of C21st Football

19 April: World Cup 2018 and Whither US Soccer?

Ilann S.Messeri, “[*Vamos, Vamos Aceirteros*: 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

24 April: Student Presentations - My Team: The Local and Global

27 April: Course Review