

# RTV 4930: Communicating Sport Globally

Summer 25 Study Abroad

College of Journalism and Communications  
University of Florida

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Class meets online and on location in the United Kingdom

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## Instructors

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Course Text: NONE

\*\*\*Readings and Resources will be posted and available online.\*\*\*

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## **Course Overview**

This course examines the relationship between media and society through the global lens of sport. Students will explore how sports media reflect and influence issues like migration, capitalism, and political systems worldwide. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking, writing, and multimedia skills while analyzing how journalism frames sports and public perception. The course also introduces career paths in the global sport industry and highlights the impact of globalization on domestic sports media. By the end, students will understand the international diversity of sport coverage and be equipped to create content from a global, informed perspective.

## **Course Objectives**

1. Develop critical thinking skills about the impact media have had on societies (and vice-versa) through a unique lens: sport
2. Explain and think critically about international issues, including but not limited to the influence of media on societies, migration, the global economy, capitalism and other political systems, etc.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the careers that are available in the global sport industry
4. Demonstrate ability to generate content, including effective writing and multimedia skills, from a global perspective
5. Understand how sports journalism frames our understanding of sports.

6. Be able to critically analyze the impact of globalization on their domestic sports media industry, and have developed an understanding of the international diversity in coverage of sport

### **Course Grades**

The following table outlines the point-accruing components of the course. The total points earned from each component will be summed and divided by the total points possible in the course.

<b>Evaluation Components</b>	<b>Points Per Component</b>	<b>% of Total Grade</b>
<b>Class and Excursion Attendance, Participation and Citizenship</b>	30 points	15%
<b>Online Discussions</b>	30 points	15%
<b>Sport History Project</b>	45 points	22.5%
<b>Wimbledon Project</b>	45 points	22.5%
<b>Sports &amp; Culture Reflection Essay</b>	50 points	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200 points</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Assignment Descriptions**

**Class and Excursion Attendance, Participation and Citizenship (4 weeks, 7.5 pts per week)** – This includes, but is not limited, to the following: regular and on-time attendance for class and required group excursions; serious preparation of the assigned texts; active listening, including note-taking; involvement in classroom and outside of classroom activities; posting relevant content to Canvas, questions & comments on the course forums; being respectful of others; and, a program-long sustained effort at contributing to the program discussion through visible attention, helpful questions and worthwhile insights into the issues being discussed.

The following rubric will be employed to assign participation points:

<b>Preferred (5 pts)</b>	<b>Acceptable (4 pts)</b>	<b>Needs Improvement (2-3 pts)</b>	<b>Unacceptable (1pt)</b>	<b>Will Ask You To Leave (0pts)</b>
Arrives on time  Comments are relevant and reflect understanding and	Arrives on time  Comments are mostly relevant, but understanding may be slightly	Arrives no more than 5 minutes late  Comments are minimal (“yeah”, “uh huh”) and	Arrives more than 5 minutes late  No comments are made	Absent  Disruptive or rude comments are made

good preparation  Clear enthusiasm	lacking  Not overly enthusiastic, but positive	demonstrate poor preparation  Demeanor is sluggish	Sleeping, texting, disengaged	Drawing others into disrespectful behaviors (showing texts, shopping online, etc)
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**Online Discussion (4 weeks, 5pts per week)** – Through our class portal on Canvas we will hold online discussions surrounding various topics. You will be required to post your thoughts and respond to classmates as well. There will be a rubric for you to follow to ensure you participate properly.

Points	5	4-3	2	1	0
Quality of Post (5 pts)	Appropriate comments: thoughtful; reflective, and respectful of others posting	Appropriate comments and responds respectfully to others postings	Responds with average effort providing obvious information without further analysis	Responds, but with minimum effort. (e.g. "I agree with Bill)	No Posting
Relevance of Post (5 pts)	Post topics related to discussion topic; prompts further discussion of topic	Post topics that are related to discussion content	Posts topics which do no relate to the discussion content	Makes short or irrelevant remarks	No Posting
Contribution of the Learning Community (5 pts)	Aware of needs of community; attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents creative approaches to topic	Attempts to direct the discussion and to present relevant viewpoints for consideration by group; interacts freely	Makes little effort to participate in learning community as develops	Does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops	No feedback provided to fellow students (s)

**Projects** - All projects will be expected to be of high quality work. On days projects are due, students will present a report on their work in class and receive feedback from the instructor and classmates.

Projects will be posted on the course website.

- **History Project (45 points)** - Students will create a digital timeline about the history of soccer in a given area of the UK.
- **Wimbledon Group Project (45 points)** - Students will be assigned a subject around tennis/Wimbledon to research and present in class.

**Grading (grades are rounded up or down to the nearest whole number for grading purposes)**

93-100 points	= A	90-92 points	= A-		
87-89 points	= B+	83-86 points	= B	80-82 points	= B-
77-79 points	= C+	73-76 points	= C	70-72 points	= C-
67-69 points	= D+	63-66 points	= D	60-62 points	= D-
0-59 points	= E				

**Course Outline**

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Introduction<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Lecture/Discussion In Class</li><li>○ Online Discussion Due</li><li>○ History Project Due</li></ul></li></ul>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Tennis/Wimbledon<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Lecture/Discussion In Class</li><li>○ Tennis Wimbledon Project Due</li></ul></li></ul>
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● History of Sport<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Lecture/Discussion In Class</li><li>○ Online Discussion Due</li><li>○ History Project Due</li></ul></li></ul>
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Reflection Week<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Lecture/Discussion/Reflection</li><li>○ Online Discussion Due</li><li>○ Sports &amp; Culture Essay Due</li></ul></li></ul>

## Policies

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**Attendance Policy**

Attendance in the class and ALL excursions is required. Excused absences include approved UF attendance exceptions. In all instances of excused absences, the instructor and student will work out a plan for completing missed assignments.

Students are expected to participate in all class discussions. Please turn off cell phones prior to class.

In case of illness, the instructor should be notified in advance and a physician's note may be required. Unexcused absences will result in deductions from the students final percentage score. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work in this course are consistent with UF

policies which can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Attendance is recorded and you **WILL** lose attendance and participation points for absence from class or excursion time. This could affect up to 15% of your final grade. There are NO free absences from class. For each absence you will lose class participation points, unless you have a note and it is excused and approved by UF.

### **Absences and Make-up Work**

Students are expected to be in class on time and remain until the dismissal. Absences are unexcused when the professor has not been notified of an acceptable reason within 24 hours of the class meeting. When absent, please contact a fellow student to find out what was missed. You are responsible for all material covered or assigned during classes, even if you are not there. Your grade on late assignments will drop one letter grade for every day they are late.

### **Academic Integrity**

UF students are bound by the Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. For more information visit the Honor Code web page at

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/> or contact Student Judicial Affairs, P202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261.

### **AI Submission of Intellectual Property**

When submitting materials to AI tools, such as assignment instructions or other content, ensure you have the appropriate permissions for any copyrighted elements. Additionally, avoid sharing any information protected under FERPA, including personal data from educational records (provided via ChatGPT, 2024).

### **AI Policy for Student Work**

In this class I want you to produce all your own work without generative AI's assistance. It is important for me to be able to ascertain what you know and can produce unaided on your own. The use of generative AI for your assignments in this class is a violation of the honor code as you are presenting content as your own that was not fully created by you. There are various AI detection tools available (built within Canvas and externally such as ZeroGPT), and many AI platforms follow very formulaic response patterns. If I am concerned that your work is not your own, I will try to verify the originality of your work and if evidence is found that your work is AI-generated I will submit your assignment as violating the honor code.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this process as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

**Course Grading**

Students will be graded in accordance with UF policies for assigning grade points as articulated in the link that follows. <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**U Matter, We Care**

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

**\*NOTE: Topic schedule subject to change based on guest availability and other factors.**