ETHNIC STUDIES 310: RACE, GENDER, & SPORTS  
FALL 2011 SYLLABUS  
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Thursday, 2-4:50, Room: 146 HED, CRN: 17139

Professor Daniel Martinez HoSang  
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Email: dhosang@uoregon.edu  
Phone: 346-4861  
Office Hours: Tu 1:30-3:00, F 12:30-2 or by appointment.

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the way amateur and professional athletics shape and construct our ideas, perceptions and assumptions about race and gender, and how dominant ideas about race and gender influence the way we experience and view sports. We will draw upon films, academic articles, sports journalism, discussions, group projects and other activities to consider these relationships and connections.

B. Required Texts

The following required texts are available for purchase at the DuckStore. Both are compelling, quick reading accounts written by sports journalists.


In addition, there will be required readings posted on the course’s Blackboard website.

C. Assignments

1. THREE QUIZZES. On October 6, November 10, and December 1, three in class quizzes based on the course discussions, readings, films, and lectures. The questions will require you to demonstrate your engagement with this material. (45% of final grade).

2. SPORTS OPINION COLUMN. You will write a 500-750 word sports column on a current topic related to sports and race and/or gender, posting it to the course Blackboard site by Monday November 21. You must also leave comments on at least 4 other columns posted by classmates. Instructions are posted on Blackboard. (15% of final grade).

3. CLASS PRESENTATION. During the first course meeting, you will divide into small groups and select a topic from Weeks 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 10. You will provide a brief overview of the
selected topic and a presentation that analyzes representations of that topic. Instructions are posted on Blackboard. (20% of final grade).

4. READING, PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE. Participation and attendance are important to the success of the class, and will be a critical component in calculating your final grade. Participation includes the more familiar forms of contributing to class discussion, but also posting comments and articles on the class discussion board and attending outside events and sharing observations with the class. Attendance will be taken in every class. Missing any classes or frequent tardiness may result in a full letter grade deduction. You are expected to come to class having finished all of the assigned reading (20% of final grade).

D. OTHER COURSE POLICIES

1. CLASSROOM CONDUCT. We are all accountable to create a climate of mutual respect in the classroom. While differences of opinion and perspective are vital and will be encouraged, common courtesy as well as University policy prohibit personal attacks and discriminatory conduct.

2. INCOMPLETES. No incompletes will be given for this course.

3. ATTENDANCE. You are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class. Regular tardiness, early departures or absences can result in your final grade being lowered by up to a full letter grade. You must see the instructor during the first week if you have any university-approved absences (e.g. for athletics or other university-approved reasons).

4. EMAIL CORRESPONDANCE. Please identify yourself and the name of our course in all correspondence with the professor. Do not expect an immediate response to your email—it is not appropriate to ask a question about an assignment or exam on the night before it is due.

5. ELECTRONIC DEVICES. Wireless devices and cell phones must be turned off prior to class. I strongly prefer that laptops not be used during class. You must see me personally if you would like to be exempted from this rule.

6. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGARISM. All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with the instructor before you complete any requirement of the course. Please review the University’s policies at: http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/judicial/conduct/sai.htm

7. DISABILITY SERVICES. The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability related barriers to your participation, please notify me as soon as possible. You may also wish to contact the Accessible Education Center (Disability Services) in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155, disabsrv@uoregon.edu or http://ds.uoregon.edu/DS_home.html
**E. Readings and Assignments Schedule**
(Other readings posted on course Blackboard site. For some weeks, additional readings will be assigned.)

**WEEK ONE—September 29—Rethinking Sports and Politics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Zirin, <em>What’s My Name Fool?</em> Pgs 11-55</td>
<td>*Course overview</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Course overview</em></td>
<td><em>Select pairs and articles/topics for group presentations</em></td>
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**WEEK TWO—October 6—Race, Gender and Sexuality in Women’s Basketball**

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<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class</th>
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- Friday Oct. 7 opening of “Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience, featuring a talk by Arnold Rampersad, of Stanford University, in Knight Library at 3 p.m. titled “The Pride and Passion of Jackie Robinson.”
### WEEK THREE—October 13—Sports and Representation

**Reading**


**In Class**

Film: *In Whose Honor?*

Group 1 presentation

### WEEK FOUR—October 20—Ali and the Meaning of Resistance

**Reading**


*View the documentary film When We Were Kings (1996) 89 minutes. Can be viewed on YouTube or in library.*


**In Class**

Guest speaker—Larry Salomon

Group 2 presentation

### WEEK FIVE—October 27—Athletes as Commodities?

**Reading**

*Rhoden, Forty Million Dollar Slaves, pgs ix-146*


**In Class**

Film: *Fab Five*

Group 3 presentation
### WEEK SIX—November 3—Athletes and Political Expression

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Rhoden, <em>Forty Million Dollar Slaves</em>, pgs 147-270</td>
<td>*Film: By the Dawn's Early Light: Chris Jackson's Journey to Islam</td>
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<td>Group 4 presentation</td>
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*On November 4 at 6 p.m. baseball scholar Lee Lowenfish will give a talk “Conservative Revolutionary: How Branch Rickey’s Signing of Jackie Robinson Jump-Started the Modern American Civil Rights Movement” at the Downtown Eugene Public Library, 10th and Olive.

### WEEK SEVEN—November 10—Whiteness and Sports

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<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class</th>
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<td>Group 5 presentation</td>
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### WEEK EIGHT—November 17—Representations of the Female Athlete

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<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class</th>
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<td>Group 6 presentation</td>
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### WEEK NINE—November 24 (no class)

### WEEK TEN—December 1—Sports and Resistance in the Future

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<th>Reading</th>
<th>In Class</th>
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<tr>
<td>*Zirin. What’s My Name, Fool! Chapters 9, 10, Afterword, pgs 219-293</td>
<td>Quiz #3</td>
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