

SCS301 Sports, Culture and Society

School: School of Law and Society

2026 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast
UniSC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

Sports, Culture and Society explores the social, cultural and political aspects of sport beyond leisure. It critically examines how sports are not only shaped by society but also act as agents of social change. It explores how sports reflects and shapes cultural norms, power dynamics, and social identities. It examines media, globalisation, deviance, sporting bodies, as well as socialization and identity formation within sporting contexts. It considers the influence of factors such as gender, race, and class on sports as well as power, inequality, and stratification.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Online learning materials (e.g. videos, readings, activities, discussion board)	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Weekly in-person tutorial/workshop	2hrs	Week 2	10 times
ONLINE			
Learning materials – Weekly online learning materials (e.g. videos, readings, activities, discussion board)	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Weekly online tutorial/workshop	2hrs	Week 2	10 times

1.3. Course Topics

- Introduction to Sociology of Sport
- Social Construction of Sports
- Sports and Identity
- Gender, Sexuality and Sports
- Race, Ethnicity, and Sports
- Sports and Deviance
- Globalization and Sports
- Sports, Sports Fans and the Media
- Sporting Bodies
- Extreme Sports
- Sports, Politics and Social Change

2. What level is this course?

300 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES		GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...		Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1	Develop and communicate an understanding of conceptual and theoretical tools to understand how meaning is attached to sport in contemporary society.	Knowledgeable
2	Analyse and engage with key sociological themes, theories and debates relevant to understanding sport and sporting culture(s)	Knowledgeable
3	Explain and contextualise the personal and cultural aspects of sport in contemporary society	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker
4	Identify and apply relevant key sociological approaches, issues and debates regarding the nature and production of sport in contemporary societies	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Journal	Individual	30%	1500 words	Week 5	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Oral and Written Piece	Individual	30%	8 minute presentation and 2 minutes of questions	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Essay	Individual	40%	2000 words	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Reflective Journal

GOAL:	Critically reflect on weekly readings and course materials to demonstrate your understanding of and ability to apply key foundational concepts.		
PRODUCT:	Journal		
FORMAT:	Students will submit a 1500-word journal addressing their choice of 3 of the first 4 weekly topics (approx. 500 words per topic). The journal will integrate their personal reflections on the weekly topics with relevant scholarly literature to expand on and analyse these reflections.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Content: Relevant and critical reflection on readings and related study themes and theories at the intersection of sport, culture and society.	1
	2	Clarity and Expression: Clear quality of expression. Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	3
	3	Structure: Arguments are effectively presented and well-organised.	2
	4	Academic integrity: Evidence referenced and documented through the correct use of citations, quotations, and a reference list.	4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication		

All - Assessment Task 2: Topic, Theory and Case Study Presentation

GOAL:	To demonstrate knowledge of sociology of sport topics, concepts and theories connected to a specific sport case study, shared via oral and written communication.	
PRODUCT:	Oral and Written Piece	
FORMAT:	<p>Submit: Presentations are conducted live in tutorials in allocated times across Weeks 7, 8 and 9.</p> <p>Students will develop an 8 minute presentation on a sociology of sport topic, connected with relevant theories and a case study. Students will be guided in tutorials on selecting a topic from a provided list. Students will also be supported in tutorials to explore relevant theories and connect the topic to a suitable case study for the task.</p> <p>Following the presentation, the student will answer questions asked by the tutor about the presentation for 2 minutes.</p> <p>The Presentation must demonstrate active engagement in tutorial discussions, depth of reading and comprehension of sociology sport scholarly literature. academic integrity, using appropriate academic language and formatting.</p> <p>The Presentation should be engaging and professional in tone, well-illustrated, and referenced (images, quotes and ideas from other sources should be referenced on the slides with a reference list provided in the PPT and script).</p> <p>In addition to presenting during the allocated time/tutorial, students are required to submit a referenced Microsoft PowerPoint presentation and a referenced written script.</p>	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Breadth and Depth of Knowledge	1 2
	2 Depth of reading and critical analysis	4
	3 Connection of Theory to the Case Study	3
	4 Communication	1 3
	5 Academic Standards	1
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy	

All - Assessment Task 3: Research Essay

GOAL:	Demonstrate an advanced understanding of issues relevant to the sociology of sport. Critically examine and apply insights from the scholarly literature to analyse sport and culture in contemporary society.	
PRODUCT:	Essay	
FORMAT:	Students will submit a 2000 word research essay responding to a question from the list provided.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Breadth and Depth of Knowledge	1
	2 Creation of a Compelling Argument Drawing on Theory	2
	3 Quality of Scholarly Evidence	4
	4 Scholarly written communication and structure	3
	5 Academic Standards	1
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Organisation, Information literacy	

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au