Scope of the Course:
The course is a socio-cultural and historical perspective on the Olympic Games and the main individuals involved in them. We discuss issues, events, and participants as they have influenced the games. As well, we will emphasize that this relationship presents many levels of interaction. In fact, it is a close relationship in which the Olympic Games, international events and athletes influence and affect each other.

More specifically, the course will focus on the Summer Olympic Games beginning with the 1936 Berlin Olympics and finishing with the 2016 Rio Olympics. This course attempts to place the modern Summer Olympic Games in a social, historical and political context. It is in this context that the athletes have displayed their athletic prowess either embracing the Games and the social issues around it or attempting to perform in a political vacuum. Furthermore, athletes have at times even attempted to change the games and/or society with mix results.

Suggested Readings:
The Nazi Olympics by Richard Mandell
Made in America by Peter Ueberroth
The Billion Dollar Game by Nick Auf der Maur
The Struggle That Must Be by Harry Edwards
My Olympic Years by Lord Killanin

Method of Evaluation:
Attendance/Participation 10%
Summary of Olympia I 20%
Mid-term 35%
Final Exam 35% (exam period)
**Calendar**: This calendar is to help you with your organization. Be diligent with your readings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Thu Jan 5</td>
<td>Introduction and Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Tue Jan 10</td>
<td>Role and Importance</td>
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<td>3. Thu Jan 12</td>
<td>The Unfinished Symphony</td>
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<td>4. Tue Jan 17</td>
<td>Olympia I – by Leni Riefenstahl (film)</td>
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<td>5. Thu Jan 19</td>
<td>1936 Berlin Olympics</td>
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<td>6. Tue Jan 24</td>
<td>1948 London Olympics</td>
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<td>7. Thu Jan 26</td>
<td>1952 Helsinki Olympics</td>
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<td>8. Tue Jan 31</td>
<td>1956 Melbourne Olympics <em>(Olympia’s Assignment)</em></td>
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<td>9. Thu Feb 2</td>
<td>1960 Rome Olympics</td>
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<td>10. Tue Feb 7</td>
<td>1964 Tokyo Olympics</td>
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<td>11. Thu Feb 9</td>
<td>1968 Mexico City Olympics</td>
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<td>12. Tue Feb 14</td>
<td>1972 Munich Olympics</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Thu Feb 16</td>
<td>1976 Montreal Olympics <em>(Mid-term paper)</em></td>
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<td>14. Tue Feb 28</td>
<td>1980 Moscow Olympics</td>
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<td>15. Thu Mar 2</td>
<td>1984 Los Angeles Olympics</td>
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<td>16. Tue Mar 7</td>
<td>1988 Seoul Olympics <em>(March 4th, drop date)</em></td>
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<td>17. Thu Mar 9</td>
<td>1992 Barcelona Olympics</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Tue Mar 14</td>
<td>1996 Atlanta Olympics</td>
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<td>19. Thu Mar 16</td>
<td>2000 Sydney Olympics</td>
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<td>20. Tue Mar 21</td>
<td>2004 Athens Olympics</td>
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<td>21. Thu Mar 23</td>
<td>2008 Beijing Olympics</td>
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<td>22. Tue Mar 28</td>
<td>2012 London Olympics</td>
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<td>23. Thu Mar 30</td>
<td>2016 Rio Olympics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Tue April 5</td>
<td>Future of Olympics and Review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Final Exam**: During exam period (April 7 to 24, 2017)

**Drop Date**: March 10th, 2017

*(Sydney Olympics – Bill Walton, former NBA star)*
Learning Objectives:
Following this course, students will be able to:
- understand the modern Olympic Games evolution
- explain the main political issues that have affected the Games
- identify the main culprits that have shaped the Games
- understand the discriminatory character of the Games
- propose changes to make the Games more inclusive

Readings:

1. Role and Importance: [file:///Users/hhumana/Desktop/hhumana/Politics%20of%20Olympics/Why%20Are%20The%20Olympic%20Games%20So%20Important%20To%20Many%20of%20Us%3F%20Nansy%20Damianova.html](file:///Users/hhumana/Desktop/hhumana/Politics%20of%20Olympics/Why%20Are%20The%20Olympic%20Games%20So%20Important%20To%20Many%20of%20Us%3F%20Nansy%20Damianova.html)


9. 1964 Tokyo Olympics: [http://aboutjapan.japansociety.org/content.cfm/japans_rebirth_at_the_1964_tokyo_summer](http://aboutjapan.japansociety.org/content.cfm/japans_rebirth_at_the_1964_tokyo_summer)


Assignment: Film Olympia I by Leni Riefenstahl

Purpose: To critically examine this historical video

Task: Write a brief comment on the film (1-2 pages). Then, give your personal feelings and impressions as you watch the various scenes in the film. Finally, attempt to place the film in a historical context, i.e., briefly explain what was going on in Germany at the time.

As well, write a couple of paragraphs about Leni Riefenstahl. Include some references about her life, accomplishments, and fate after WWII. Was she a Nazi propagandist or a consummate and oblivious genius?

Due date: Thursday, January 31st, 2017 in class. Have fun!

Note: This assignment is worth 20% of final mark and should be a minimum of three and a maximum of four pages. Use APA format.
Mid term paper

Due: Thursday, February 16th, 2017

Select one Summer Olympic Games from 1948 to today. Once selected, you will have to answer the following questions:

1. **List** the main international political issues and individuals that **affected** the Olympic Games you selected? Point format is required.

2. **Select** one or two main issues identified in question 1. How did the main individuals (IOC, host city/country, athletes, sponsors, citizens) react to them?

3. Briefly **describe** the aftermath of one international political situation and/ or individual you identify in answer 2?

To answer questions 2 and 3 you can write separate answers or write an essay in which you address the questions. Submit your paper in class on February 23rd, 2016. This is a mid-term exam and should be between 6 to 8 pages long. The exam will be evaluated on the basis of how well you have understood the material and applied it to the questions at hand, and on the organization, writing and thoughtfulness of your answer. Use APA style, double space.