

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	RIASA
Programme:	Study Abroad
FHEQ Level:	3
Course Title:	Football: Society, Culture and Events
Course Code:	SPRT 3301
Total Hours:	40
Timetabled Hours:	12
Guided Learning Hours	8
Independent Learning Hours:	20
Credit	4 UK CATS credits 2 ECTS credits 1 US credits

Course Description:

This course explores the rich social, cultural, and organisational dimensions of football, with a particular focus on fandom, fan communities, and football events. Students will examine the historical development and significance of football fandom, analyse the structure and impact of football events, and evaluate how football cultures shape identities and communities across diverse contexts. Through interdisciplinary perspectives, the course encourages critical reflection on the role of football in society and its influence on collective and individual experiences.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

Aim: The aim of the course is for students to develop understanding of the social, cultural, and organisational aspects of football, with a focus on fandom and fan communities, football events, and the influence of football cultures on society.

Objectives

- Explore the history, growth, and characteristics, and significance of football fandom.
- Examine the organisation, impact and meanings of football events.
- Evaluate the role of football culture in shaping identities and communities.

Programme Outcomes:

A3 (I), C3 (I), D3 (I)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	Programme Outcome
Disciplinary Knowledge and Understanding Explain the historical development and contemporary forms of football fandom, including sociological perspectives on supporters.	A3 (I)
Communication Skills Communicate complex ideas related to sport studies in a variety of written and both oral formats.	C3 (I)
Transferable Skills Apply critical thinking and analytical skills to evaluate the ways in which football culture influences and reflects society.	D3 (I)

Indicative Content:

Introduction to Football Studies

- Overview of football as a global sport
- Key concepts in fandom, events, and culture

History and Sociology of Football Fandom

- Development of supporter groups
- Fan rituals, chants, and stadium atmospheres

Planning and Managing Football Events

- Event organisation and logistics
- Case studies of major football tournaments (World Cup, Champions League)

Cultural Impact of Football Events

- Tourism, broadcasting rights, and sponsorship
- Cultural legacy and city branding

Football Culture and Identity

- Football's role in community cohesion and nationalism
- Representation in film, music, and literature

Future Trends in Football Fandom and Culture

- Changing fan demographics
- Innovations in event presentation and fan engagement

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

This course will be delivered face-to-face through a combination of lectures and interactive sessions. In addition to classroom activities, there are guided learning elements that are tutor led and arranged through Blackboard. These activities can be asynchronous online sessions, flipped classrooms, set readings with discussion boards or set guest lectures for example. Set activities are monitored by the instructor to ascertain student engagement. Students are encouraged to prepare for class and to play an active part, to raise questions, following-up ideas and interact with a wide range of provided material.

Indicative Text(s):

Brooks, O. (2020) *Football, Fandom and Consumption* (Critical Research in Football). London: Routledge

Millar, S. et al. ed. (2023) *Football and Popular Culture*. London: Routledge

Nosal, P. et al. ed. (2024) *Football, Fandom and Collective Memory*. London: Routledge

Journals

Soccer and Society

See syllabus for complete reading list.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
Guided Learning Hours menu updated	October 2025	
Total Hours Updated	October 2025	
