

**O.P. Jindal Global University
Jindal School of International Affairs**

**Course Manual
Sports and International Relations
Course Code: M.A. (DLB) 0583
JSIA Elective
Academic Year 2025- 2026
Spring 2026
45 Hours, 4 Credits**

**Tuesdays, 13:00 p.m. to 16:00 p.m.
T4- S113A**

**Location: O.P. Jindal Global University Campus,
Sonipat**

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**Office Hours: Tuesday, 11:15 am to 12:15 pm (by
appointment)**

Meetings: As Appropriate

Course Description

This course is *not* about sport as pure sport. It interrogates the intersection of sports and international relations. If you are looking for a course on how sport is played, this is *not* that course. Please do *not* confuse the content with a study of sport as an activity. This course is *not* about actual games, who did what, who scored a goal, and so on. That is the task of a sports writer. One single theme permeates this course: how sport affects inter-state ties and the distribution of power in the international system. This course is about foreign affairs, *not* sports.

Sport can be warlike. It can be retribution for the wrongs of history. It can be a struggle against discrimination based on race, gender, religion, culture, and political beliefs. Sporting success secures soft power influence. But without hard power, a state does not make lasting gain in the international system. We will discuss these themes and famous sporting rivalries such as between India and Pakistan, England and Australia, and more.

Course Instructor

Drawing upon his experience as a former Indian ambassador who is also a sports administrator and columnist, the course will address key questions. The instructor has served as an advisor to the government of Odisha on sports, and attaché to the Indian contingent at the Manchester Commonwealth Games 2002. Currently he is the vice president of Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society and has served as a member of the managing

committee of Mayo College Alumni Association with responsibility for sports. This course is a *unique* opportunity to gain a practitioner's perspective from a "sports diplomat." It offers a *double novelty*- as a subject, and as an introduction to the real world.

As a scholar-diplomat with a 34 years' diplomatic career the instructor will bring rich experience of working in a multinational and multicultural environment, combining a practitioner's perspective with academic rigour. Professor (Dr.) Misra has the required academic credentials having previously taught at Georgetown University; University of Lisbon; University of Social Sciences and Humanities-Vietnam National University, and Jamia Millia Islamia University. Most recently he was Distinguished Fellow, and then Adjunct Professor and Distinguished Fellow, in the Jindal School of International Affairs of O.P. Jindal Global University. Currently, he is deployed as Professor of Diplomatic Practice in the School, Distinguished Fellow in Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies, and Senior Fellow in Jindal India Institute. Professor (Dr.) Misra is the author of *Radhaland and Worlds Beyond*. He has 28 book chapters and journal articles, and over 150 op-ed publications, including over 100 on sports, published globally. He is working on the book *The Sport of Pace and Grace: A Biography of Indian Hockey* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne). He has about 120 appearances on television and radio all over the world, as well as being interviewed in the print media.

The class will meet once a week for three hours. The sessions will be interactive, with guest speakers, role- play exercises, case studies, debates, and a visit to an embassy or a sports institution. Students will be assigned a few major topics each week for discussion the following week. One guest speaker will be invited to speak on Sports.

Course Requirements

Students will need to complete the required reading before each class, prepare for discussions on topics assigned to them, and make presentations on those topics. They will need to write three memos not exceeding 750 words on topics discussed in class and on role- play exercises. There will be an in- class mid- term exam, and an in- class final exam.

Course Readings

Readings for each topic are listed under the session in which they will be discussed. They have been compiled from *a variety of sources to provide a range of views*. Each reading has been carefully selected to focus on issues covered in the lesson of the day and has been kept short for quick understanding. The readings *will be within a limit of 50 pages per week*. It is essential to complete the required reading to participate effectively in class discussions, to ensure that students comprehend core issues. Readings should be in the sequence listed. Students need to access readings on their own.

Course Content

The primary objective of this course is to make students aware of sport as power. Too often we regard sport as just sport. We need to look beyond. Does sport promote conflict or co-operation? Is it recreation or diplomatic messaging? Is it political theatre? Is it merely a means to earn revenue or something more lofty? How do nations use sport to meet diplomatic and political objectives? Do sporting boycotts help change state behaviour? Do protests by athletes advance racial and gender equality? Do athletes suffer for such protests? Why do sports officials jostle for positions on international sporting bodies? There will be discussion of real world situations involving athletes, officials and governments.

Does the hosting of events promote international tourism and profiles of cities, communities and regions? Does it promote the political interests of governments and leaders? We will do a case study of the 2018 Hockey Men's World Cup in Bhubaneswar. Did the 2023 Hockey Men's World Cup held in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela better integrate the coastal and tribal belts of Odisha? Did it promote Naveen Patnaik's political interests? As a former advisor to the government of Odisha on sports the instructor will frame this case study from a practitioner's perspective, with role play exercises.

We will also discuss sports management in India. Why do politicians hold most of the senior positions on Indian sports federations? How does this affect them politically? How does it affect performance? Conversely, how do

athletes perform when Indian sports federations are managed by professionals?

There will be case studies and role plays on rivalries: India-Pakistan, Argentina- England, India- Australia, Australia-England, Korea- Japan, and the 2019 elections to the Commonwealth Table Tennis Association (the instructor was a participant in the process).

Koreans have bitter, sad, hurtful memories of Japanese atrocities during the occupation (1910- 1945). They consider Japan's contrition incomplete. Korean athletes playing against Japan draw motivation from perceived wrongs, with little apparent pushback from Japanese rivals. This reflects in sport. The Ashes is regarded as the greatest rivalry in cricket. The Australia- India cricket rivalry matches The Ashes. The greatest hockey rivalry is between India and Pakistan. Argentina and Canada have an intense hockey rivalry. We will study these rivalries.

We will study Iran's use of sport to meet diplomatic objectives, Pakistan's use of religion in sport, and the hyper- nationalism of Indian athletes competing against Pakistan.

At the end of the course students will have a clear understanding of the use of sports by states and individuals to meet a range of objectives, from increase in state power and influence, to individual dignity and enrichment. We will assess sport's impact on politics, society and culture.

Crucially, case studies and role play exercises will provide a real- world view of sports in international relations.

Themes to be covered:

Boycotts

1. State- to- state boycotts- Moscow Olympics 1980 and Los Angeles Olympics 1984.
2. Diplomatic boycotts - Beijing Olympics 2022.
3. Individual boycotts- Iranian athletes forfeiting matches against Israeli athletes. No Indian athlete has boycotted a Pakistani athlete or vice versa (although Indian cricketers have refused handshakes with their Pakistani counterparts).

Sanctions

1. Sporting sanctions against Russia after its invasion of Ukraine.

Protests

1. Race- Black power salutes by John Carlos and Tommie Smith. Black shorts worn by Wyomia Tyus.
2. Gender- Wyomia Tyus.
3. Political Beliefs- Věra Čáslavská.
4. Religion- Danish Kaneria, Mohammed Yusuf.
5. Culture: Heena Sidhu.

6. Hyper nationalism- Indian cricketers wearing khaki caps and Indian hockey players wearing black arm bands for fallen soldiers in Jammu and Kashmir. Iranians forfeiting matches against Israeli athletes.

On Field Violence

1. India- Pakistan.

Fan Violence

1. Gallery violence.

2. Public demonstrations.

Peace Messaging

1. Pakistani hockey players showering rose petals on Indian fans.

2. Indian and Pakistani flags stitched together.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Understanding the link between sports and politics.

2. Understanding sports as power.

3. Understanding the importance of sports in the international system.

4. Understanding the politics of sporting boycotts.
5. Understanding sport as a soft power attribute.
6. Understanding the potential of sports to generate development- infrastructure and tourism.
7. Understanding discrimination in sports based on race, gender, and ethnicity, and based on political, religious and cultural beliefs.
8. Understanding sports as a source of revenue- the Olympics, NFL, IPL, ISL, and Hockey India League.

Professional and Practical Skill

1. Preparing to become sports ambassadors and administrators. India is poorly represented on international sporting bodies.
2. Applying sports to the understanding of the international system.
3. Applying sports to the understanding of human history and culture.
4. Applying sports to the understanding of comprehensive national power.
5. Evaluating and explaining sport's potential for national rejuvenation.
6. Evaluating recent developments and future challenges in sport- doping and international standing.

Critical Thinking and Intellectual Skills

1. Developing writing skills free of jargon.
2. Assessing the international system of sport as a United Nations of Sport.
3. Assessing asymmetries in sporting commerce- both in terms of equipment and human resource.
4. Assessing sport as economic power.

General and Transferable Skills

1. Working as a team.
2. Collecting, interpreting and analysing information.
3. Practitioner and management skills.

Course Content/ Weekly Plan

Week 1: Introduction: The History of Sport

This class will discuss the origins of sport. Like humans, animals possibly recognise competition. But unlike animals, humans have the capacity to write codes for non-violent competition. The human ability to argue rationally is recognised as non-threatening. Animals pump aggression to cause fear. They can't compete with a set of rules that cancels out violence. Humans bond in interlocking experiences, advancing what we know as civilisation. Animals bond for survival. Humans recognise emotions that can resolve conflict. Animals apparently

can't. With such differences humans can participate in sport as spectacle. Thus, sport is humankind's primal urging since evolution. Beginning with this philosophical base, we will discuss the evolution of sport in an emerging global order.

Readings:

These will be provided later.

Week 2: The International Politics of Sport

Even as competitive recreation, sport is politics. Roman gladiators represented contending politics. The *dwanda yuddha* between the Pandavas and Kauravas in the Indian epic *Mahabharata* was psychological warfare before war. Hitler used the 1936 Berlin Olympics to announce Nazism and "Aryan supremacy." Political purposes drive athletes' behaviour on the podium. Whether it is displaying victory politically, or protesting racial and gender discrimination, athletes are playing the role.

Economic factors also come into play. Historically, sport thrived when empires were prosperous and politically stable. Sport is an instrument of state and nation- building. The Soviet Union used sport to demonstrate communism's coherence and the state's economic success. China uses sport to buttress its global power credentials and the stability and longevity of the state.

This class will discuss sport as politics and power, the central theme of this course.

Readings:

1. International Hockey Federation, Inside FIH, Our Team, Executive Board, <http://fih.ch/inside-fih/our-team/executive-board/>.
2. International Hockey Federation, Global Stars, Honorary Awards, FIH Presidents of Honour, ih.ch/global-stars/honorary-awards/.
3. European Hockey Federation, “Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting EHF Office, Brussels, Belgium 9th and 10th December 2016,” *THE EHF, Executive Board, 2016-EHF Executive Board Minutes, 9/ 10 December 2016*, [HTTPS://ARCHIVE.EUROHOCKEY.ORG/2017/04/12/2016-EHF-EXECUTIVE-BOARD-MINUTES-910-DECEMBER-2016/](https://archive.eurohockey.org/2017/04/12/2016-EHF-EXECUTIVE-BOARD-MINUTES-910-DECEMBER-2016/).
4. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Hockey Asia Cup 2017: Grass greener on the other side as artificial surfaces have become the norm in the sport,” *Firstpost.com*, October 13, 2017, <http://www.firstpost.com/sports/hockey-asia-cup-2017-grass-greener-on-the-other-side-as-artificial-surfaces-have-become-the-norm-in-hockey-4138477.html>.
5. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Hockey's winners cartel: Will dominance of European countries kill competition in the sport?” *Firstpost.com*, October 21, 2017,

<https://www.firstpost.com/sports/hockeys-winners-cartel-will-dominance-of-european-countries-kill-competition-in-the-sport-4162205.html>.

6. Arnau Busquets Guardia, “Europe on the wane,” *Politico*, December 26, 2019, <https://www.politico.eu/article/europe-on-the-wane-global-economics-demographics-gdp/>.
7. United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Reports, “2019 Human Development Index Ranking,” <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/2019-human-development-index-ranking>.
8. Kritika Suneja, “India retains position as third largest economy in PPP, global actual Individual consumption, capital formation,” *The Economic Times*, June 23, 2020, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-retains-its-position-as-3rd-largest-economy-on-ppp-basis-for-2017/articleshow/76532262.cms>.
9. International Hockey Federation, Global Stars, Honorary Awards, Order of Merit, ih.ch/global-stars/honorary-awards/.
10. Liam Morgan, “Exclusive: Batra to stand for re-election as International Hockey Federation President,” *Inside the Games*, February 19, 2021, <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1104469/batra-to-stand-for-re-election-fih>.

11. Mihir Vasavda, “Olympics 2012: Hockey's golden period — Those were the days,” *DNA*, July 30, 2012, <http://www.dnaindia.com/sports/report-olympics-2012-hockey-s-golden-period-those-were-the-days-1721483>.
12. Marcus Agnew, “Hawke's Bay hockey opportunity,” *Hawke's Bay Today*, Reproduced in *Fieldhockey.com*, July 29, 2017, <http://fieldhockey.com/index.php/comments/35323-hawke-s-bay-hockey-opportunity>.
13. Shishir Hoque, “2017 Asia Cup Hockey final attracts only 5,000 spectators,” *The Dhaka Tribune*, October 22, 2017, <http://www.dhakatribune.com/sport/hockey/2017/10/22/2017-asia-cup-hockey-final-attracts-5000-spectators/>.
14. Fieldhockey.com, “Re- igniting a passion for hockey in Bangladesh,” October 21, 2017.
15. “Former FIH Vice- President Ashwini Kumar passes away,” *International Hockey Federation*, October 21, 2015, <http://www.fih.ch/news/former-fih-vice-president-ashwini-kumar-passes-away/>.
16. Anwar Zuberi, “Hockey icon Brigadier Atif is no more,” *The Dawn*, December 9, 2008, <https://www.dawn.com/news/333725>. See also “MH Atif passes away,” *The News*, December 9, 2008, <https://www.thenews.com.pk/archive/print/150043-mh-atif-passes-away>.

17. "Inside FIH, Our Team, FIH Committees, FIH Committees and Advisory Panels, Rules Committee," *International Hockey Federation*, <http://www.fih.ch/inside-fih/our-team/fih-committees/>.
18. Mihir Vasavda, "Hockey's big rollback: FIH open to stepping on grass again," *The Indian Express*, November 3, 2018.
19. International Hockey Federation, *fih.ch*, Rankings, Outdoor, <http://fih.ch/rankings/outdoor/>.
20. "Inside FIH, Our Team, FIH Committees, FIH Committees and Advisory Panels," International Hockey Federation, <http://www.fih.ch/inside-fih/our-team/fih-committees/>.
21. Gary Younge, "The man who raised a black power salute at the 1968 Olympic Games," *The Guardian*, March 30, 2012,
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/mar/30/black-power-salute-1968-olympics>.
22. Elliott Brennan, "Batra quits as President of International Hockey Federation and Indian Olympic Association," *Inside the Games*, July 18, 2022,
<https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1125822/batra-quits>.
23. Liam Morgan, "FIH confirm Batra's term as President extended until May 2021 after Congress postponed," *Inside the Games*, May 8, 2020,

<https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1094032/batra-term-extended-fih-hockey>.

More readings will be provided.

Week 3: The Political Economy of Sport

Money has always shadowed sport. But for good sport to happen, controls over the power of money have been imposed. Yet, the balance may be tilting in favour of money. Success and failure are increasingly measured against the revenue sport generates, not the skills on display. Economic strength also leads to improvement in sport. This class will examine how nations channel economic power into sport, gaining success, and political and diplomatic influence.

Readings:

1. Mike Atherton, “Despair at modern cricket? Blame Jagmohan Dalmiya,” *The Times*, September 24, 2015, <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/despair-at-modern-cricket-blame-jagmohan-dalmiya-s63shq80wrw>.
2. Matthew Syed, “Corruption and terror cannot defeat sport,” *The Times*, November 18, 2015, <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/corruption-and-terror-cannot-defeat-sport-jf83ds6h3zv>.

3. Sophie Verass, “Hockey is hugely popular, so why the little sports coverage,” *SBS Zela*, July 4, 2016, updated July 8, 2016,
<https://www.sbs.com.au/topics/zela/article/2016/07/04/hockey-hugely-popular-so-why-little-sports-coverage>.
4. Hockey India, “Hockey India President Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra Returns Home To A Warm Welcome After Becoming The FIH Chief,” November 15, 2016,
<http://hockeyindia.org/news/hockey-india-president-dr-narinder-dhruv-batra-returns-home-to-a-warm-welcome-after-becoming-the-fih-chief.html>.
5. Rhea Mogul, “75 years on: How India went from impoverished British colony to emerging giant,” *CNN*, August 15, 2022, <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/75-years-on-how-india-went-from-impoverished-british-colony-to-emerging-giant/AA10FfkZ?ocid=mailsignout&li=BBnb7Kzj>.
6. Stuart Heritage, “BBC red button Olympics: handball, field hockey and water polo,” *The Guardian*, August 2, 2012, <https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/tvandradioblog/2012/aug/02/bbc-red-button-olympics-handball>
7. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Filling the Hockey Gaps,” *The Sunday Tribune*, June 28, 2015, Last updated on June 28, 2015, <http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/sunday-special/perspective/filling-the-hockey-gaps/99464.html>.

8. “BT Sport to show over 700 hours of live hockey over the next two years,” *England Hockey*, June 5, 2017, [http://www.englandhockey.co.uk/news.asp?itemid=41172&itemTitle=BT+Sport+to+show+over+700+hours+of+live+hockey+over+the+next+two+years§ion=22,.](http://www.englandhockey.co.uk/news.asp?itemid=41172&itemTitle=BT+Sport+to+show+over+700+hours+of+live+hockey+over+the+next+two+years§ion=22,)
9. European Hockey Federation, eurohockey.org, The EHF, *2016- EHF Executive Board Minutes, 9/ 10 December 2016*, <http://eurohockey.org/2016-ehf-executive-board-minutes-910-december-2016/>.
10. Mihir Vasavda, “Tokyo Olympics vindicates FIH’s special treatment of Indian hockey,” *The Indian Express*, September 19, 2021, <https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/hockey/tokyo-olympics-vindicates-fih-s-special-treatment-of-indian-hockey-7518270/>.
11. Liam Morgan, “Exclusive: Batra to stand for re-election as International Hockey Federation President,” *Inside the Games*, February 19, 2021, <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1104469/batra-to-stand-for-re-election-fih>.
12. “FIH reveals host, line-up and schedule for Rabobank Hockey Champions Trophy 2018,” *International Hockey Federation, News*, March 15, 2018, <http://fih.ch/events/champions-trophy/rabobank-hockey-champions-trophy-breda-2018/news/fih-reveals-host-line-up-and-schedule-for-rabobank-hockey-cha>.

13. Mihir Vasavda, “Hockey India president Batra ready to make a continental drift,” *The Indian Express*, November 8, 2016,

<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/hockey/narinder-batra-ready-to-make-a-continental-drift-international-hockey-federation-4363260/>.

14. Anik Basu, “How Pakistan clicked at India’s first pro league,” *Dawn*, Updated on September 9, 2015,
<https://www.dawn.com/news/1205693>.

15. Press Trust of India, “Hockey India League: Moritz Fuerste Never Expected to be The Costliest Player In Auction,” *Sport.NDTV.com*, September 20, 2015,
<https://sports.ndtv.com/hockey/hockey-india-league-moritz-fuerste-never-expected-to-be-the-costliest-player-in-auction-1493809>.

16. “World class in Raipur: Hockey deserves more attention and resources,” *Business Standard*, Last updated on December 5, 2015, http://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/world-class-in-raipur-115120500798_1.html.

17. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Why is Odisha hospitable to Hockey?”, *The Political and Business Daily*, December 14, 2014, 12 (??).

18. “Players urge corporate and media support for hockey’s revival,” *Fieldhockey.com*, Reprinted from The *Times of India*, December 31, 2008,

http://www.fieldhockey.com/archives/2012/2013/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=303:news-for-31-december-2008&catid=12:december&Itemid=13.

19. “India join the Festival of Hockey for 2015,” *Hawke's Bay, New Zealand*, www.hockeyfestival.nz.
20. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Hockey World League Final 2017: Successful tournament raises Bhubaneswar's status as sporting hub,” *Firstpost.com*,
<http://www.firstpost.com/sports/hockey-world-league-final-2017-successful-tournament-raises-bhubaneswars-status-as-sporting-hub-4254153.html>.

21. Tinku Ray, “Resentment of India's hockey team,” *BBC News*, September 26, 2007,
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/8546688.stm.
22. “The Olympic Games: Athens 1896- Athens 2004,” DK, London 2004, p. 62.
23. Doug Laing, “Hockey extravaganza scores with officials,” *Hawkes Bay Today*, April 19, 2015,
http://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=1143502.
24. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Hockey Needs TLC,” *The Pioneer*, February 19, 2012, 11.
25. Shishir Hoque, “2017 Asia Cup Hockey final attracts only 5,000 spectators,” *Dhaka Tribune*, October 22, 2017,

[http://www.dhakatribune.com/sport/hockey/2017/10/22/2017-asia-cup-hockey-final-attracts-5000-spectators/.](http://www.dhakatribune.com/sport/hockey/2017/10/22/2017-asia-cup-hockey-final-attracts-5000-spectators/)

Assignment due: memo one

Week 4: Race, Gender, Religion and Class

There will be a discussion on discrimination in sport based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, class and political beliefs. Because gender, class, and race in sport are framed in moral terms, sport is key to discussion of ethics in international relations. Sport demonstrates the world's divides. Sportspersons face formidable odds in overcoming discrimination based upon the accident of birth. Being female, or a person of colour, is even more challenging.

Like her compatriots Tommie Smith and John Carlos, Wyomia Tyus, two- time Olympics gold medallist in the 100 metres dash, made her protest at racial discrimination at the 1968 Mexico Olympics. Smith and Carlos gained prominence by delivering black power salutes at the medal ceremony, but Tyus' protest, as she wore black shorts after her gold medal victory, went unnoticed.

In this class we will discuss political and ethical aspects often overlooked. As well as undermining the quest for dignity and equality sport can also liberate and empower.

Readings:

1. Matthew Syed, “Racism my father faced at work taught me why sport is so special,” *The Times*, March 30, 2016, <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/racism-my-father-had-to-faced-at-work-taught-me-why-sport-is-so-special-5zgrqrmzf>.
2. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Sport As Ethics in International Relations,” *Foreignpolicy.org.in*, September 20, 2018, <http://www.foreignpolicy.org.in/home/index.php/2018/09/20/sport-as-ethics-in-international-relations/>.
3. Alexandra Topping, “Japan and Australia review athletes' travel in gender equality row,” *The Guardian*, August 8, 2012, <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2012/aug/07/london-2012-equality-japan-australia>.

More readings will be provided.

Week 5: Rivalries

We will discuss how historical animosities create “grievance sport.” Coaches draw upon culture to instil pride and motivate high levels of performance. We will do case studies of Japan- Korea in hockey, Australia- England in cricket, and Argentina- England in hockey. The instructor will provide histories and anecdotes. There will be role play exercises.

Readings:

1. Peter Oborne, “It’s not just cricket: India vs Pakistan is the greatest rivalry in world sport,” *The Spectator*, June 16, 2019, <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/it-s-not-just-cricket-india-vs-pakistan-is-the-greatest-rivalry-in-world-sport>.
2. Richard Bright, “Australia and Belgium set for hockey showdown and top bragging rights,” *The Hockey Paper*, January 23, 2020, <https://www.thehockeypaper.co.uk/articles/2020/01/23/australia-and-belgium-set-for-hockey-showdown-and-top-bragging-rights>.
3. Todd Williams, “Hockey Belgium’s rise to top is simple: strong club network, coaching talent,” *The Hockey Paper*, August 9, 2019, <https://www.thehockeypaper.co.uk/articles/2019/08/09/hockey-belgiums-rise-to-top-is-simple-strong-club-network-coaching-talent>.
4. Will Leach, “How U.S. Soccer Lost Its Hipster Cred,” *The Atlantic*, November 11, 2021, <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/11/us-mens-soccer-world-cup-patriotism/620673/>.
5. “India and Spain-Holland awarded 2022 and 2023 Hockey World Cups,” *The Hockey Paper*, November 8, 2019, <https://www.thehockeypaper.co.uk/articles/2019/11/08/india-and-spain-holland-awarded-2022-and-2023-hockey-world-cups>.

6. International Hockey Federation, Events, Match Centre, 2020 FIH Pro League (Men), AUS v BEL (RR), Head to Head, <https://tms.fih.ch/matches/13754#preview>.
7. Richard Bright, “Australia and Belgium set for hockey showdown and top bragging rights,” *The Hockey Paper*, January 23, 2020, <https://www.thehockeypaper.co.uk/articles/2020/01/23/australia-and-belgium-set-for-hockey-showdown-and-top-bragging-rights>.
8. Jitendra Nath Misra, “FIH Pro League 2020: A rapidly improving Indian side faces Australia’s evergreen brilliance in double- header in Bhubaneswar,” *Firstpost.com*, February 20, 2020, <https://www.firstpost.com/sports/fih-pro-league-2020-a-rapidly-improving-indian-side-faces-australias-evergreen-brilliance-in-double-header-in-bhubaneswar-8064941.html>.
9. International Hockey Federation, Events, Match Centre, 2020 FIH Pro League (Men), Head to Head, <https://tms.fih.ch/matches/13774#preview>.
10. B.G. Joshi, “India Splits FIH Pro League Matches With Australia,” *Bharatiyahockey.org*, March, 2020, <http://www.bharatiyahockey.org/calendar/calbulletins.asp?year=2020&mon=mar&bookmark=Bhubanesvar1>.
11. International Hockey Federation, Events, Match Centre, 2020 FIH Pro League (Men) 2020, Head to Head, <https://tms.fih.ch/matches/13774#preview>.

12. "Australia v India- 1st Test, May 15, 2019,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtuX406ydHM>.
13. Sundeep Misra, *Forgive Me Amma* (New Delhi: Wisdom Tree, 2007), XV.
14. Ben Somerford, "Golden Games Moments - Knowles: I've Never Heard Anything So Loud," *Hockey Australia*, March 23, 2018, <http://www.hockey.org.au/News/golden-games-moments-knowles-ive-never-heard-anything-so-loud>.
15. Jitendra Nath Misra, "FIH Pro League 2020: A rapidly improving Indian side faces Australia's evergreen brilliance in double- header in Bhubaneswar," *Firstpost.com*, February 20, 2020, <https://www.firstpost.com/sports/fih-pro-league-2020-a-rapidly-improving-indian-side-faces-australias-evergreen-brilliance-in-double-header-in-bhubaneswar-8064941.html>.
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Week 6: The Mother of All Rivalries

We will study the India- Pakistan rivalry in cricket and hockey. Is Partition over? The answer is a clear no. As much as being born in hope, Pakistan also began its existence in rage. The partition of minds between Indians and Pakistanis, and Hindus and Muslims, in both nations, bakes us daily. Yet, we delink sport from culture. India-Pakistan sport is also cultural carnage. Based on his research on Pakistan, the instructor will provide a tour de horizon of this famed rivalry. The argument will be framed in terms of history, economics, and politics, as a study of sport as power.

Readings:

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4. Martand Jha, “India and Pakistan’s Cricket Diplomacy,” *The Diplomat*, March 15, 2017,
<https://thediplomat.com/2017/03/india-and-pakistans-cricket-diplomacy/>.
5. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Sport as diplomacy in India-Pakistan ties,” *Observer Research Foundation*, August 4, 2020, <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/sport-as-diplomacy-in-india-pakistan-ties/>.
6. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Sport, Strategy, and Statecraft: Rethinking the India-Pakistan Rivalry,” *Observer Research Foundation*, June 16, 2025,
<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/sport-strategy-and-statecraft-rethinking-the-india-pakistan-rivalry>.

More readings will be provided.

Assignment due: memo two

Week 7: Trophies and Tournaments

We will discuss the Olympics as an arena to express power, and make protests. We will discuss major tournaments in cricket and hockey like the World Cup, the Champions Trophy, the Pro League, the World League and the main continental events.

Readings:

1. International Hockey Federation, “Nearly 50 years on...we explore the history of our glorious trophy,” April 5, 2017, <http://fih.ch/events/world-cup/world-cup-2018/hockey-world-cup-bhubaneswar-2018-m/news/latest-news/nearly-50-years-on-we-explore-the-history-of-our-glorious-trophy/>.
2. Jitendra Nath Misra, “Hockey World Cup 2018: After bold statement in opening ceremony, Bhubaneswar looks to create lasting impression on sport,” *Firstpost.com*, November 30, 2018, <https://www.firstpost.com/sports/hockey-world-cup-2018-after-bold-statement-in-opening-ceremony-bhubaneswar-looks-to-create-lasting-impression-on-sport-5646581.html>.

3. “Former winger Khalid relives Pakistan’s golden age of Olympic hockey,” *Olympic.org*, Olympic News, Los Angeles 1984, Pakistan, Hockey, November 16, 2020, <https://www.olympic.org/news/former-winger-khalid-relives-pakistan-s-golden-age-of-olympic-hockey>.
4. Hockey Australia, “40 years on, Batch recalls Olympic boycott,” *News*, September 10, 2020, <https://www.hockey.org.au/news/40-years-on-batch-recalls-olympic-boycott/>.
5. International Hockey Federation, “FIH reveals host, line-up and schedule for Rabobank Hockey Champions Trophy 2018,” *News*, March 15, 2018, <http://fih.ch/events/champions-trophy/rabobank-hockey-champions-trophy-breda-2018/news/fih-reveals-host-line-up-and-schedule-for-rabobank-hockey-cha>.
6. Hockey Australia, “Day 3- Men’s Hockey Champions Trophy 2012- Australia,” *YouTube*, March 8, 2013, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VS7p2rGXDK8>.
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8. BBC, “Hockey World League Final 2017: England hold on for draw with Australia,” <http://www.bbc.com/sport/hockey/42227651>, December 4, 2017.

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<https://www.firstpost.com/sports/hockey-world-league-semi-finals-self-doubting-india-can-dazzle-frustrate-opponents-with-grit-3644837.html>.
11. Sundeep Misra, “Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2019: Youthful India thrash Poland 10-0 ahead of final against experienced South Korea,” *Firstpost.com*, March 29, 2019,
<https://www.firstpost.com/sports/sultan-azlan-shah-cup-2019-youthful-india-thrash-poland-10-0-ahead-of-final-against-experienced-south-korea-6353921.html>.
12. International Hockey Federation, Tournaments, Match Centre, 2020 FIH Pro League (Men), January 20, 2020,
<https://tms.fih.ch/matches/13752#preview>.
13. Jitendra Nath Misra, “FIH Pro League: Promise and Peril for India,” *The Citizen*, January 18, 2020,
<https://www.thecitizen.in/index.php/en/NewsDetail/index/1/18182/FIH-Hockey-Pro-League-Promise-and-Peril-for-India>.
14. B.G. Joshi, “Stats Speak-India needs just a draw against hosts to play final in Breda,” *Fieldhockey.com*, June 29, 2018, fieldhockey.com/index.php/comments/40549-stats-

[speak-india-needs-just-a-draw-against-hosts-to-play-final-in-breda.](#)

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16. Vinay Chhabaria, “Men's FIH Pro League 2020: Indian skipper Manpreet Singh says penalty corners will be key against Belgium,” *Sportskeeda.com*, January 30, 2020, <https://www.sportskeeda.com/hockey/men-s-fih-pro-league-2020-indian-skipper-manpreet-singh-says-penalty-corners-will-be-key-against-belgium>.
17. IANS, “Playing India at home is always challenging: Netherlands coach,” *The Times of India*, January 11, 2020, http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/73202911.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst.
18. International Hockey Federation, “India men to make FIH Hockey Pro League debut against the Netherlands,” *News*, January 15, 2020, https://www.fihproleague.com/news/india-men-to-make-fih-hockey-pro-league-debut-against-the-netherlands_741.
19. International Hockey Federation, “FIH Hockey Pro League 2020 edition all set for action,” *News*, January 07, https://www.fihproleague.com/news/fih-hockey-pro-league-2020-edition-all-set-for-action_734

More readings will be provided.

Week 8: Mid- Term Exam, followed by Role Play

Exercise One

Week 9: Players, Officials, Spectators, Journalists and Venues

Should we treat athletes as heroes or as role models? What impact do they have on culture and society? By channeling funding to maintaining the star system, does stardom make sport expensive? Difficult as the answers are, sport's star system works. Even officials can become stars. But it is fans and the media that create sport's mystique and history. Ultimately, it is a quest for power. In this lesson we will explore sporting greatness and its lasting political and economic impact.

Readings:

1. Gulu Ezekiel and K. Arumugam, *Great Indian Olympians* (New Delhi: Field Hockey Publications, 2012), 18.
2. International Hockey Federation, “Netherlands legend Teun de Nooijer reflects on majestic career,” News, September 3, 2020, September 3, 2020, <http://fih.ch/news/netherlands-legend-teun-de-nooijer-reflects-on-majestic-career/>.
3. Hockey Australia, “Men’s Hockey Champions Trophy Melbourne 2012- Bronze Medal Match,” YouTube, March

6, 2013, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvpZeQ6G-ks>.

4. Hockey Australia, “Men’s Hockey Champions Trophy Melbourne 2012- Bronze Medal Match,” YouTube, March 6, 2013, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvpZeQ6G-ks>.

5. Rod Gilmour, “Ice cool Ashley Jackson has ‘nothing to prove’ in bid for Olympic hockey glory,” *The Hockey Paper*, August 15, 2019, <https://www.thehockeypaper.co.uk/articles/2019/08/15/ice-cool-ashley-jackson-has-nothing-to-prove-in-bid-for-olympic-hockey-glory>.

More readings will be provided.

Week 10: The Cultural Anthropology of Sport

In playing a sport a nation also lives its culture, which shapes management and playing styles. Europe has more success in sport compared to the Rest, but does this make European culture superior? Without doubt, something in the European system works better. Statistics are stark. The answer is complex. If sport in Europe is a display of cultural strength, in the global south sport is like unwinding from the problems of the day. In India distress draws people into prayer, but so does sport. Cricket is a religion in

India. We will discuss the ways in which sport manifests culturally as power.

Readings:

1. Mike Dickson, “Olympic hero Maddie Hinch keeps a low profile during the day job... Great Britain's shootout queen plays with the Dutch stars she denied a gold medal: 'We don't talk about it much',” *The Daily Mail*, December 13, 2016,
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/othersports/article-4030810/Olympic-hero-Maddie-Hinch-keeps-low-profile-day-job-Great-Britain-s-shootout-queen-plays-Dutch-stars-denied-gold-medal-don-t-talk-much.html>.
2. Labonita Ghosh, “Orissa's small village full of World-class hockey players,” *India Today*, July 26, 2004,
<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/saunamara-orissa-tribal-district-produced-world-class-hockey-players/1/195556.html>.

More readings will be provided.

Assignment due: memo three

Week 11: Role Play Exercise Two

Week 12: Conclusion

Sport is not regarded as a precious enough an activity for us to indulge in strategic forecasting. It is not like the fate of

the nation- state, or one state's relations with another. Indeed, some might scoff at sport as frivolous, given the grim problems that plague humanity. But sport is intimately linked to power and rivalry and the international system. It is therefore a part of international relations. The objective of this course is to instil a feeling that sport is mainstream, it is diplomacy, it is conflict, or cooperation, depending upon the circumstances. This class will be a summation of the basic driver of the course, that sport is power.

Week 13: Individual presentations and interaction

Week 14: Final Exam

Week 15: Learning Outcomes: Jointly Determined by Students and the Instructor

Learning and Teaching Methods

There will be 45 hours of lectures (1 lecture per week x 3 hours).

Students need to attend class and be involved in group-discussions, role plays, and debates.

Assessment

Class Participation: 10 %

Three Memos: 30%

Mid- term Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 30%

Class Participation

Active participation and regular attendance is required. You are expected to actively engage in class discussions.

Three Memos

The memo topics will be assigned in Week 2 and must be turned in on the day indicated. Unlimited revisions are allowed. Presentations will be scheduled in the remaining weeks of the semester.

Mid- term Exam

This will be an in- class exam with multiple- choice questions requiring comments on quotes (1h 30m).

Final Exam

This will be an in- class exam with multiple- choice questions based on quotes (3h 00m).

Students are advised to review written work before turning it in. Consistent failure in correcting typographical, spelling and grammatical errors will result in the final grade dropping by one level. All papers need to be typed in double space. There will be a penalty for lateness in submission; any paper turned in after close of business on the due date will entail a loss of one grade level for each

day after it is due, unless the student has a valid reason in the judgment of the instructor.

Written work needs to be in Times New Roman, font size 12, line spacing 1.5.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's language or ideas without proper acknowledgement. Any idea, sentence or paragraph you take from a web source or from printed material needs to be credited to the original source. If you paraphrase or directly quote in written assignments, the source needs to be explicitly mentioned. You must not plagiarize content, be it from an academic source (such as books and journal articles), or from the Internet.

Grade Definition

Marks	Grade	Grade Point Average
>=80	O	8
79	A+	7.5
78	A+	7.5
77	A+	7.5
76	A+	7.5
75	A+	7.5
74	A	7
73	A	7
72	A	7
71	A	7
70	A	7

69	A-	6
68	A-	6
67	A-	6
66	A-	6
65	A-	6
64	B+	5
63	B+	5
62	B+	5
61	B+	5
60	B+	5
59	B	4
58	B	4
57	B	4
56	B	4
55	B	4
54	B-	3
53	B-	3
52	B-	3
51	B-	3
50	B-	3
49.5	F	2
49	P1	2
48	P1	2
47	P1	2
46	P1	2
45	P1	2
44.5	P1	1
44	P2	1
43	P2	1
42	P2	1

41	P2	1
40	P2	1
Less than 40	F	0

Grade Definition

Students will be graded on an absolute scale as specified below.

Grading and Comments			
Letter Grade	Percentage of Marks	Grade Points	Comments
O	80 and above	8	Outstanding: Exceptional knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and extraordinary critical and analytical ability.

A+	75-79	7.5	Excellent: Sound knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and critical and analytical ability.
A	70-74	7	Very Good: Sound knowledge of the subject matter, excellent organizational capacity, ability to synthesize ideas, rules, and principles, critically analyse existing material and originality in thinking and presentation.
A-	65-69	6	Good: Good understanding of the subject matter, ability to identify issues and provide balanced

			solutions to problems and good critical and analytical skills.
B+	60-64	5	Fair: Average understanding of the subject matter, limited ability to identify issues and provide solutions to problems and reasonable critical and analytical skills.
B	55-59	4	Acceptable: Adequate knowledge of the subject matter to go to the next level of the study and reasonable critical and analytical skills.
B-	50-54	3	Marginal: Limited knowledge of the subject matter and irrelevant use of materials, and poor

			critical and analytical skills.
P1	45-49	2	Pass 1: Pass with Basic understanding of the subject matter.
P2	40-44	1	Pass 2: Pass with Rudimentary understanding of the subject matter.
F	Below 40	0	Fail: Poor comprehension of the subject matter; poor critical and analytical skills and marginal use of the relevant materials. Will require repeating the course.

Books

1. Abhinav Bindra and Rohit Brijnath, *A Shot at History: My Obsessive Journey to Olympic Gold* (Noida: Harper Collins India, 2014), 252 pages.

2. Ric Charlesworth, *World's Best: Coaching with the Kookaburras and the Hockeyroos* (RC Sports (WA) Pty Ltd, 2016), 324 pages.
3. Digvijay Singh Deo and Amit Bose, *My Olympic Journey* (Gurgaon: Penguin Random House India, 2016), 330 pages.
4. Gulu Ezekiel and K. Arumugam, *Great Indian Olympians* (New Delhi: Field Hockey Publications, 2012), 209 pages, Hardcover.
5. Kunwar Raghavendra Singh, *Life and Times of K.D. Babu* (New Delhi: Bloomsbury India, 2018), 112.

Journals

1. Journal of Sports History

Newspapers

1. The New York Times
2. The Washington Post
3. The Guardian
4. The Indian Express
5. The Tribune
6. The Statesman
7. Dhaka Tribune

8. Dawn
9. The Straits Times
10. The Daily Telegraph
11. The New Straits Times

Websites

1. <https://olympics.com/>
2. <http://fieldhockey.com/>
3. <https://www.espn.in/>
4. <https://cricinfo.com/>
5. <https://www.sportskeeda.com/>
6. <https://www.insidethegames.biz/>
7. <https://www.thehockeypaper.co.uk/>
8. <https://www.firstpost.com/>
9. <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/>
10. <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter>
11. <https://theconversation.com/global>
- 10 <https://southasianvoices.org/>
11. <https://www.bbc.com/>
12. <https://thediplomat.com/>

13. <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/>

14. <https://fih.ch/>