New Course Request

Indiana University [IN] Campus

Check Appropriate Boxes:
- Undergraduate credit [X]
- Graduate credit [ ]
- Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division: Liberal Arts
2. Academic Subject Code: MSPT
3. Course Number: 2100 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)
4. Instructor:
5. Course Title: Motorsports Studies

Recommended Abbreviation (Optional) (Limited to 32 characters including spaces)

6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): Fall 2008 (408)
7. Credit Hours: Fixed at 3 cr. or Variable from __________ to __________
8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes [ ] No [X]
9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes [ ] No [X]
10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication: A course designed to introduce students to the many different kinds of motorsports, their history and the motorsports industry.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at __________ or Variable from __________ to __________
12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at __________ or Variable from __________ to __________
13. Estimated enrollment: __________ of which __________ percent are expected to be graduate students.
14. Frequency of scheduling: [ ] Fall [ ] Summer [ ] Other [ ]
15. Will this course be required for majors? [ ] Yes [ ] No
17. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? [ ] Yes [ ] No
18. Please append a complete outline of the proposed course, and indicate instructor (if known), textbooks, and other materials.

If this course overlaps with existing courses, please explain with which courses it overlaps and whether this overlap is necessary, desirable, or unimportant. There is some potential overlap with MSE 272 which is desirable (Introduction to Motorsports in Engineering and Technology.)

A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be overlap of the new course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by: [Signature]
Department Chairperson/Division Director
Date: 11/11/08

Approved by: [Signature]
Dean
Date: 12/10/09

Dean of Graduate School (when required)
Date: 

University Enrollment Services

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UFS 724
University Enrollment Services Final—White; Chancellor/Vice-President—Blue; School/Division—Yellow;
Department/Division—Pink; University Enrollment Services Advance—White
DRAFT

Z100 – Motorsports Studies

Instructor: Robert White
Office: CA 503L
Phone: 274-7520
E-Mail: spike@iupui.edu
Office Hours: To be announced

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Description: As result of participating in Z100, Motorsports Studies, students will:

1. Be familiar with many different kinds of motorsports, including open and closed wheel automobile racing, powerboat racing, snowmobiling, motorcycling, and so forth.
2. Understand the history and development of various kinds of motorsports, especially but not exclusively automobile racing (open and closed wheeled), drag racing, and powerboat racing, in the United States
3. Be sensitized to the role of diversity in motorsports and social and cultural influences and their influence on motorsports.
4. Realize that learning about and understanding motorsports and the motorsports industry involves critical thinking and its application rather than simply memorizing facts.

PRINCIPLES OF UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING

IUPUI has 6 Principles of Undergraduate Learning. These principles address/include:

1. Core Communication and Quantitative Skills
2. Critical Thinking
3. Integration and Application of Knowledge.
4. Intellectual Depth, Breadth, and Adaptiveness.
5. Understanding Society and Culture.
6. Values and Ethics.
All six principles will be reflected in the readings, discussions, and assignments for this class. In particular, you will be exposed to critical thinking, understanding society and culture, and values and ethics, with respect to motorsports. Of these three principles of undergraduate learning, the one featured most prominently will be critical thinking. With a critical eye we will examine multiple kinds of motorsports and their influence on society.

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

In class lectures you will be introduced to many different aspects of motorsports. If you have a question, please ask it. If you have an interesting example, please offer it. There are no dumb questions. All of us can learn from each other.

It is assumed that students will complete the reading prior to class and will attend all lectures. You will get more from the class, and do better on exams, if you attend lectures and participate in class. If a large number of students begin to skip class regularly, and if it becomes obvious that only a few people have done the reading, I reserve the right to give unannounced quizzes (If and when these are necessary they will count for five per cent of your final grade; the grade scale will be adjusted accordingly).

POTENTIAL REQUIRED TEXTS (this is a tentative listing)


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Examinations (50 points each): There will be two in-class examinations. The exams will be closed-book, closed-note, and in-class.

Assignments:


You are to type a two page (double-spaced) review of *For Gold and Glory: Charlie Wiggins and the African-American Racing Car Circuit*, by Todd Gould. There are a number of approaches to critically evaluating books. Perhaps the best way is to begin with a summary of the book and a presentation of the main findings, without evaluating them. Then, you should discuss aspects of the book that you liked or disliked. For each objection, you should state explicitly how this influences the author's argument.

I suggest you cover the following points in your paper, although the stress you place on each of them will depend upon the book you review.

(1) Summarize the author's perspective. Why did the author choose to write about this subject?

- does the author's perspective influence the author's interpretations? If yes, is this a positive or a negative about the book?

(2) Briefly describe and evaluate the methods or the research that the author used to make his/her argument.

- what kind of data, if any, does s/he use? (statistics; personal accounts and interviews; newspaper articles; etc.)

(3) Evaluate the significance of the book.

- what does the book contribute to our understanding of motorsports and the role of motorsports in society?

You will receive two grades on the book review. Each will be worth twenty points. The first grade will involve content. You will be graded on the quality of your presentation and the examples you present. That is, does what you have written make sense, and does it demonstrate that you have thought about the book *For Gold and Glory: Charlie Wiggins and the African-American Racing Car Circuit*? The second grade will assess the quality of your writing. One point will be deducted for every typo, word misspelled, run-on sentence, failure to properly indent a paragraph, etc.
The due date for this assignment is: the beginning of class DATE (IN WEEK 8). You are to
submit a Word document, double-spaced, to my rwwhite@iupui.edu account. Late papers will
be accepted, but not for full credit. Late papers will not be accepted after DATE.

2. Research Paper (50 points):

Your assignment is to write a five page, double-spaced, research paper on one the topics listed
below. Your choice of topic must be approved by the instructor before the end of February. A
one paragraph description, with a brief bibliography listing at least five sources, must be sent to
the instructor, via e-mail, by 5pm, February 28. This is to be submitted to rwwhite@iupui.edu.
The one page description and bibliography will count for 10 points (20%) of this assignment. If
a student has a particular topic that s/he would like to research but it is not on the list, I am open
to discussing the possibility. The list below, however, is designed to make it easier for students
to write this paper. The more focused the research topic, the easier it will be write the paper.

(Tentative) Suggested topics:

The influence of technology on motorsports; or on one specific kind of motorsport (e.g.,
NASCAR, Snowmobiles, INDY Car, Unlimited Hydroplanes, etc.).

Gender and motorsports (in one motorsport or across two or more motorsports).

Race, ethnicity, and motorsports (in one motorsport or across two or more motorsports).

Comparing two or more different kinds of motorsports (e.g., Unlimited Hydroplane racing and
INDY Car racing.

A history of a particular motorsports event (e.g., Thunder on the Ohio).

A biography of an individual involved in motorsports.

The final paper is due at the end of the 14th week of classes. A Word document must be
submitted to the rwwhite@iupui.edu account by 5pm, Friday DATE.

3. Group Presentation 20 points.

During the first month of the semester, students will be divided into groups of four or five
people. Each group will develop a 15 minute, in-class presentation based on a topic related to
motorsports. In developing your presentation, please be sure to include the following:
background on the person, place, or event; historic or contemporary relevance of the person,
place or event; and, an indication on how or why this person, place or event is important for
understanding motorsports.

The last two weeks of class will be devoted to presentations.
The following is a list of persons, places, and events that are approved subjects for the presentation. Subject to approval from the instructor, groups may choose their own topic for the presentation.

Thunder on the Ohio

The Hoosier Hundred

The Night Before the 500

The “Little 500” (at Anderson Speedway)

Kokomo Speedway

Tom D’Eath

Don Garlits

Joie Ray

Arlene Hiss

The NHRA

Juan Manuel Fangio

Nicky Hayden

Sammy Sessions

United States Cross Country Snowmobile Racing Association

**NOTE 1.** If you have questions about grades, want to pick up papers, etc., do not call the Sociology office. The secretary cannot give grades out over the phone.

**NOTE 2.** Plagiarism is the use of the work of others without properly crediting the actual source of the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, entire articles, music or pictures. Using the work of other students, with or without their permission, is plagiarism if there is no indication of the source of the original work. Plagiarism, a form of cheating, is a serious offense and will be severely punished. When plagiarism is suspected, the instructor will inform the student of the charge; the student has the right to respond to the allegations. Students whose work appears to be plagiarized may be asked to produce earlier drafts of work as well as the books and the articles used in a paper or speech. Students should, for this reason, and as a protection in cases of lost papers, retain rough drafts, notes, and other work products for 2 or 3 weeks after the end of each semester. The penalties for plagiarism include reprimands, receiving a failing grade (for a particular take-home exam, paper, project, or the entire course), disciplinary probation, or
dismissal. Faculty, after consulting with their chair and/or the School of Liberal Arts Dean of Students, must notify students in writing of their decision.

Students have the right to appeal such decisions by submitting petitions to the Academic Affairs Committee. Petitions can be obtained in CA 401. For further information, see the IUPUI "Student Rights and Responsibilities," also available in CA 401.

NOTE 3: Two papers do not have to be identical for there to be plagiarism present. If one student writes a paper, and another student copies that paper, making a few changes, it is still plagiarism.
Note 4: At various points during the semester I will take attendance. If several students repeatedly miss class, I reserve the right to give quizzes.

There will be NO extra credit projects. Grades on exams and final grades will be posted on OnCourse.

**Final Grades** will be assigned as follows:

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IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER

1. INCOMPLETES will be given ONLY if you have a valid medical emergency, and you have a written note from a physician proving this.

2. If you miss an examination you get a zero (0) for that exam. The only exception to this is if you:

   a. Phoned or e-mailed Mr. White prior to missing the exam and you have a valid reason for missing the exam, e.g., you broke your leg the morning of the exam. No make-up exams will be given if you call AFTER the exam has been given. NOTE: I have voice mail, so don't say you called and I was not in.

   b. Can prove that you had a valid reason for missing the exam, e.g., you have a cast on your leg and note from your doctor. If your grandmother passes away, I'm going to ask for proof of this.

   NOTE: Makeup exams are essay.

3. Students caught cheating will receive a final grade of an F.

4. Leaving the lecture or discussion early is disruptive to everyone. If you have to leave early, please let the instructor know before class begins.

5. Students who are disruptive, disrespectful, annoying or offensive, to either the instructor or to other students, will be warned once. If the poor behavior continues, that person will be dropped from the course.

6. The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 10:30am - 12:30pm, in CA 225. You are responsible for the completion of this course, as scheduled. NO EARLY FINAL EXAMS WITHOUT AN EXTREME SITUATION.

7. Be on time for the final exam. If you show up late, and someone has already turned in her examination, you will not be allowed to begin. Your grade on that exam will be a zero (UNLESS IT IS AN EXTREME SITUATION, AND YOU CAN DOCUMENT IT).
TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE: ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

WEEKS 2 and 3: OVERVIEW OF MOTORSPORTS


WEEKS 4-5: OPEN WHEEL AUTOMOBILE RACING

Reading:


WEEKS 6-7: CLOSED WHEEL AUTOMOBILE RACING

Reading:


WEEK 8: REVIEW AND EXAM 1

WEEK 9: MOTOR RACING ON TWO WHEELS

Reading:

Visit: Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Hall of Fame Museum (site of the Indianapolis 500, Brickyard 400, Indianapolis GP, former site of the US Grand Prix).

http://www.indianapolismotorspeedway.com/

http://www.indianapolismotorspeedway.com/content/General/Hall_of_Fame_Museum/32

WEEK 10: MOTORSPORTS AND WATER

Reading:

Farley, Fred. N.d. “A Brief History of Unlimited Hydroplane Racing.”
http://www.thunderboats.org/history/history0239.html


WEEK 11: SPEED


TOUR: O’Reilly Raceway Park (home of the U.S. Nationals, SCCA races, and so forth).

WEEKS 12 and 13: OTHER FORMS OF MOTORSPORTS

Reading:


WEEKS 14-15: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Schedule to be announced. Attendance is required.

WEEK 16: REVIEW AND FINAL EXAM AT APPROPRIATE SCHEDULED TIME