

Grinnell College
Department of History
Fall 2008

History 338: Histories of Leisure

Rob Lewis
Mears 212

E-mail: lewisrob@grinnell.edu
Phone: x3482

Course Meetings: TTH 2:15-4:05 PM, Mears 202
Office Hours: M 1-2:30 p.m.; T 10:30-11:30 p.m.; W 11-12 p.m.

From well-heeled British travelers visiting Rome on a “Grand Tour” in the early 19th century to contemporary spectators attending the final match of the Champions League soccer competition at the Stade de France in Paris, “leisure” – in its many guises – has constituted an increasingly central part of the European social and cultural historical experience. This seminar will examine the development and transformation of leisure in Europe over the past several centuries, focusing particularly on four types of leisure pursuits: spectatorship, consumption, travel and tourism, and sport. The first half of the course will be devoted to common readings designed to familiarize students with these topics; students will then research and write a major independent paper during the remainder of the semester.

Course Requirements

This course has two fundamental requirements: participating actively in discussion and producing a research paper of 20-25 pages in length, based on primary sources. I will weight each approximately equally in determining your final grade.

Discussion

All students are expected to do all of the course readings at the time they are indicated on the syllabus, and to actively participate in class.

In addition, you will co-lead one discussion over the course of the semester. (Course dates for these discussions are marked on the syllabus with an asterisk). Discussion facilitators will be responsible for briefly introducing the readings and preparing key questions for our mutual contemplation. You must meet with me before class to discuss your plans for the discussion.

Your discussion grade will also reflect two short (2-3 page) papers early in the semester: one paper analyzing and critiquing *Spectacular Realities* (in week three), and a primary source analysis (week four).

The Research Paper

For your research paper, you will submit a series of preliminary documents as the semester elapses to keep your research and writing on schedule. These are designed to help you not only

conceptualize your project, but to also formulate the historical “problem” that you see yourself addressing, and to begin locating primary sources as early as possible.

As the syllabus indicates, you will be responsible for a series of assignments in “building” the research paper. You will submit a two-sentence topic possibility e-mail (September 9) early in the semester, and then meet with me before turning in a two-page paper proposal and preliminary biography (due on October 10). After midterm break, you will turn in a three-page statement of the argument/historical problem (along with an outline of the rest of the draft) on October 31, which you will then present to the class during the week of November 4-6. That will be followed by a 10-page segment of your rough draft (November 21), a full rough draft (December 5), and your final draft (December 19).

During the latter half of the semester, we will periodically meet in small groups to discuss each other’s works-in-progress. As such, you will be peer-editing each other’s work; it is thus essential that you stick to the deadlines on the syllabus and not turn in work late.

Texts and Readings

The following books are available for purchase at the Grinnell College Bookstore. While I will attempt to place a copy of each on reserve at Burling Library, I would strongly recommend that you purchase them for your own convenience and to look incredibly erudite when you carry them around campus or display them prominently on your bookshelf. (Except for *Among the Thugs*, with its cigarette-smoking skinhead on the cover – you might need to cover that with brown paper if you take it out in public).

J.P. Toner, *Leisure and Ancient Rome* (Cambridge, U.K.: Polity, 1998)

Vanessa Schwartz, *Spectacular Realities: Early Mass Culture in Fin-de-Siècle Paris* (Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 1999)

Christopher Thompson, *The Tour de France: A Cultural History* (Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 2006)

Bill Buford, *Among the Thugs* (London: Vintage Books, 1991)

The following readings are required and available on PioneerWeb:

Rudy Koshar, “Seeing, Traveling, Consuming,” in Rudy Koshar, ed., *Histories of Leisure* (Oxford, U.K.: Berg, 2002), 1-24

Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, *Carnival in Romans* (New York: George Braziller, 1980), xiii-xvi, 289-324

Alessandro Arcangeli, *Recreation in the Renaissance: Attitudes towards Leisure and Pastimes in European Culture, c. 1425-1675* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003), 1-45, 89-127

Norbert Elias and Eric Dunning, *The Quest for Excitement: Sport and Leisure in the Civilizing Process* (Oxford, U.K.: Blackwell, 1985), 19-62

Hugh Cunningham, *Leisure in the Industrial Revolution, c. 1780-c. 1880* (London: Croom Helm, Ltd. 1980), 9-55, 76-139

Thorstein Veblen, *The Theory of the Leisure Class* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1973, orig. 1899), 60-80

- Robert Goodrich, "Confessional Drinking: Catholic Workingmen's Clubs and Alcohol Consumption in Wilhelmine Germany," in Koshar, *Histories of Leisure*, 233-252
- Matthew Hilton, "Leisure, Politics and the Consumption of Tobacco in Britain since the Nineteenth Century," in Koshar, *Histories of Leisure*, 319-336
- Louise McReynolds, *Russia at Play: Leisure Activities at the End of the Tsarist Era* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003), 193-252
- Suzanne K. Kaufman, "Selling Lourdes: Pilgrimage, Tourism, and the Mass-Marketing of the Sacred in Nineteenth-Century France," in Shelley Baranowski and Ellen Furlough, eds. *Being Elsewhere: Tourism, Consumer Culture, and Identity in Modern Europe and North America* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001), 63-88
- John K. Walton, "Consuming the Beach: Seaside Resorts and Cultures of Tourism in England and Spain from the 1840s to the 1930s," in Baranowski and Furlough, *Being Elsewhere*, 272-298
- Jan Palmowski, "Travels with Baedeker: The Guidebook and the Middle Classes in Victorian and Edwardian England," in Koshar, *Histories of Leisure*, 105-130
- Pieter Judson, "'Every German visitor has a *völkish* obligation he must fulfill:' Nationalist Tourism in the Austrian Empire, 1880-1918," in Koshar, *Histories of Leisure*, 147-168
- Rudy Koshar, *German Travel Cultures* (Oxford, U.K.: Berg, 2000), 65-114
- Victoria de Grazia, *The culture of consent: Mass organization of leisure in fascist Italy* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 1981), 1-23, 151-186, 225-244
- Shelley Baranowski, "Strength Through Joy: Tourism and National Integration in the Third Reich," in Baranowski and Furlough, *Being Elsewhere*, 213-236
- Phyllis Martin, *Leisure and Society in Colonial Brazzaville* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 1995), 45-126
- Ramachandra Guha, "Cricket and Politics in Colonial India," *Past and Present* 161 (1998): 155-190

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

<u>Week 1A</u>	Introduction
August 28	Koshar, "Seeing, Traveling, Consuming," <i>Histories of Leisure</i> , 1-24; Toner, <i>Leisure and Ancient Rome</i> , 1-33
<u>Week 1</u>	Antecedents
September 2	Toner, <i>Leisure and Ancient Rome</i> , 34-139
September 4	Le Roy Ladurie, <i>Carnival in Romans</i> , xiii-xvi, 289-324; Arcangeli, <i>Recreation in the Renaissance</i> , 1-45, 89-127
<u>Week 2</u>	The Industrial Revolution, Class, Consumption and Modern Leisure
September 9	Elias and Dunning, <i>The Quest for Excitement</i> , 19-62; Cunningham, <i>Leisure in the Industrial Revolution</i> , 9-55, 76-109
	RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC POSSIBILITY E-MAIL DUE BEFORE CLASS

September 11 Veblen, *The Theory of the Leisure Class*, 60-80; Cunningham, *Leisure in the Industrial Revolution*, 110-139; Goodrich, "Confessional Drinking," 233-252; Hilton, "Leisure, Politics, and the Consumption of Tobacco," 319-336*

Week 3

Spectacular Pursuits

September 16 Schwartz, *Spectacular Realities*, 1-148*

REACTION PAPER DUE IN CLASS

September 18 Schwartz, *Spectacular Realities*, 177-204; McReynolds, *Russia at Play*, 193-252

Week 4

Traveling

September 23 Kaufman, "Selling Lourdes," 63-88; Walton, "Consuming the Beach," 272-298; Palmowski, "Travels with Baedeker," 105-130; Judson, "Every German visitor has a *völkish* obligation," 147-168

September 25 Tourist Guidebook Primary Source discussion; Koshar, *German Travel Cultures*, 65-114

PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS DUE IN CLASS

Week 5

Sports

September 30 Thompson, *The Tour de France*, 1-140*

October 2 Thompson, *The Tour de France*, 141-265

Week 6

Politics, Empire and Leisure

October 7 De Grazia, *The Culture of Consent*, 1-23, 151-186, 225-244; Baranowski, "Strength Through Joy," 213-236*

October 9 Guha, "Cricket and Politics in Colonial India," 155-90; Martin, *Leisure and Society in Colonial Brazzaville*, 45-126*

October 10 PAPER PROPOSAL DUE MEARS 212, 12 P.M.

Week 7

Leisure, Violence, and Community in 20th-century Europe

October 14 Buford, *Among the Thugs*, 1-158*

October 16 Buford, *Among the Thugs*, 159-313

MIDTERM BREAK!

Weeks 8-14

Research, Writing and Independent Meetings

October 31 ARGUMENT/HISTORICAL "PROBLEM"/OUTLINE SECTION DUE, MEARS 212, 12 P.M.

November 4 **In-Class Presentations/Election Day**

November 6 **In-Class Presentations**

November 21 ROUGH DRAFT 10-PAGE SECTION DUE, MEARS 212, 12 P.M.

November 24 **In-Class Small-Group Discussions of Draft Sections**
November 26

December 5 ROUGH DRAFT DUE, MEARS 212, 12 P.M.

December 8-12 Peer Reviews (two-person groups plus me; scheduled outside of class)

December 19 FINAL DRAFT DUE, MEARS 212, 5 P.M.

Additional Ground Rules:

1. Papers must be double-spaced and have one-inch margins, and should not employ anything larger than 12-point font.
2. All written work at Grinnell College is subject to the Student Handbook. If you have questions as to how a particular assignment relates to the Student Handbook, please consult with me in advance of that assignment's due date.
3. All written work submitted for a grade must be completed in order to pass the course. Most critically, **you cannot pass the course without turning in a final draft of the research paper.** In addition, any student who misses more than six classes (again, barring exceptional emergency circumstances) will not receiving a passing grade.
4. If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Dean for Student Academic Support and Advising, Joyce Stern, located on the third floor of the Rosenfield Center (x3702).