



Communication and Creative and Performing Arts
1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080
856-468-5000

COM 115: Sports Communication, Culture, and Identity

Syllabus

Lecture Hours/Credits: 3/3

Catalog Description

Prerequisite: ENG 101 – English Composition I

This course focuses on how race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability are viewed and discussed in athletics and their relationship to athletic performance. Concentrating on examining various areas in the field, the class will address depictions of athletes in the media, equity issues, and consumer behavior, among many other aspects.

Textbook and Course Materials

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook, and any other materials required for their specific course and section.

Click here to see current textbook prices at rcgc.bncollege.com.

Evaluation Assessment

Online Proctoring

All courses offered at RCSJ, whether they are web-enhanced, hybrid, or fully online, may include assessments that make use of Online Proctoring. To find out more about Online Proctoring, and to learn about the minimum technical requirements, visit rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring.

Grading Distribution

Grading to be determined by individual instructors.

Individual instructors may include the following assessment(s):

- Quizzes
- Exams
- Class Discussions
- Written Assignments
- Essays
- Presentations
- Attendance and Participation

Grading

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

Rowan College of South Jersey Core Competencies

(Based on the NJCCC General Education Foundation - August 15, 2007; Revised 2011; Adopted 2014)

This comprehensive list reflects the core competencies that are essential for all RCSJ graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

1. **Written and Oral Communication:** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2. **Quantitative Knowledge and Skills:** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems
3. **Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning:** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4. **Technological Competency:** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals
5. **Society and Human Behavior:** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6. **Humanistic Perspective:** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
7. **Historical Perspective:** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8. **Global and Cultural Awareness:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9. **Ethical Reasoning and Action:** Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
10. **Information Literacy:** Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

COM 115 Core Competencies

This course focuses on three of RCSJ's Core Competencies:

- Written and Oral Communication
- Global and Cultural Awareness
- Historical Perspective

Student Learning Outcomes: Introduction to Sports Communication

| Successful completion of COM 115 will help students: | RCSJ Core Competencies | Evaluation / Assessment (Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors) |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Demonstrate strong communication skills. | Written and Oral Communication | Written Assignments |
| 2. Determine how sports and sports-related issues intersect with gender, race, sexuality, class, religion, age and ability, and how sports mirrors society. | Global and Cultural Awareness | Written Assignments, Essays, Class Discussions |
| 3. Discuss and evaluate sports articles that address societal issues for credibility and authority. | Written and Oral Communication Global and Cultural Awareness | Written Assignments, Essays, Class Discussions |
| 4. Discover, examine, and evaluate (a) how the ways in which sports content is presented is changing and (b) the effects of those changes. | Written and Oral Communication Historical Perspective | Written Assignments, Essays, Class Discussions |
| 5. Analyze sports from participants, fans, and benefactors (owner's, controller's) points of view. | Global and Cultural Awareness | Written Assignments, Essays, Class Discussions |
| 6. Construct a reasoned and fair argument without deception or inflammatory language using nonsexist language and proper attribution, respectfully challenging other's ideas, including controversial ones. | Written and Oral Communication | Written Assignments, Essays, Class Discussions |
| 7. Analyze and integrate into discussions and assignments information gathered from a variety of sources that portray sports in different ways including articles, videos, broadcasts, social media, academic literature, and fiction. | Written and Oral Communication | Written Assignments, Essays, Class Discussions |

Topical Outline

Sports Journalism

- Sports journalism today
- Evolution and expansion of sports journalism — Who is telling sports stories? How are they being “told”?
- Causes and effects of change in sports journalism

Societal Impact of Sports

- Why sports matter
- How sports have been used to challenge the status quo and to effect — or try to effect — social change
- Impact of sports on our culture, identities, and lives at both the amateur and professional levels

Sports and Cultural Issues

- Gender and sports
- Race and sports
- Age and sports
- Sexuality and sports
- Religion and sports
- Ability and sports
- Class and sports

Affirmative Action Statement

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing a work and academic environment that maintains and promotes affirmative action and equal opportunity for all employees and students without discrimination on the basis of certain enumerated and protected categories. These categories are race, creed (religion), color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), marital status, domestic partnership or civil union status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, or mental or physical disability, including AIDS and HIV related illnesses.

For questions concerning discrimination, contact Almarie J. Jones, Special Assistant to the President, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance, 856-415-2154 or ajones@rcsj.edu or (Cumberland) Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Judicial Affairs, 856-691-8600, ext. 1414 or nalridge@rcsj.edu. For disability issues or any barriers in the learning or physical environment related to a document condition/disability please contact: Gloucester campus – Dennis M. Cook, Director, Department of Special Services, ADA/504 Officer at 856-415-2265 or dcook@rcsj.edu; or Cumberland Campus – Meredith Vicente, Senior Director, Physical & Learning Disabilities, Center for Academic & Student Success (CASS) at 856-691-6900 ext. 1282 or mvicent1@rcsj.edu

Department of Special Services

The Department of Special Services, located in the Enrollment and Student Services building, within the Testing Center, welcomes students of all abilities. The staff members in Special Services are committed to providing support services and ensuring equal access to eligible students with documented conditions/disabilities as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments Act (ADAAA). For more information, please visit our website-[Department of Special Services](#) or call 856-691-8600 x1445 or x1487.

Reporting Allegations of Sexual Assault Resource Referrals (8/2020)

Cumberland Campus

There are multiple safe places for students to report allegations of sexual assault, both on and off campus. Reports of sexual assault can be made to any of the following offices listed in the chart below.

All students are encouraged to report alleged crimes on campus. Employees must report crimes that pose an immediate threat to the campus to the Security Office, the local Police Department or the Sheriff's Office.

| Service | Resource | Phone Number/Location/Website |
|---|---|---|
| Non-Confidential Reporting Law Enforcement | Vineland Police Dept. Millville Police Department Cumberland Co. Sheriff's Office Cumberland County Emergency Services Cumberland Campus Security 856-200-4706 (Direct) | 856-691-4111 856-825-7010 856-451-4449 9-1-1 Andres Lopez, Director Safety and Security 856-691-8600, ext. 1777 |
| Non-Confidential On-Campus Reporting Support Services | Almarie J. Jones Special Assistant to the President Diversity and Equity, Title IX and Compliance Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director Diversity and Equity, Title IX and Judicial Affairs Kellie W. Slade Executive Director Student Services, Student Life | 856-415-2154 College Center, room116 ajones@rcsj.edu 856-200-4712 nalridge@rcsj.edu Academic Building, 2 nd floor 856-200-4615 kslade@rcsj.edu Student Life Building (near gym) |
| Confidential On-Campus Counseling and Support Services | Heather Bense, LCSW, ACS Director _____ John Wojtowicz, LSW, VACW Mental Health Counselor Student Counseling and Wellness Center | 856-200-4759 hbense@rcsj.edu Academic Building downstairs _____ 856-200-4760 jwojtowicz@rcsj.edu Academic Building – 1st floor |
| Confidential Off-Campus Full-Service Support | Center for Family Services – Services Empowering Rights of Victims (SERV) | 24/7 Hotlines Cumberland Co. – 1-800-225-0196 Camden & Glo. Co. 1-866-295-7378 centerffs.org/serv |
| Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner on Site | Inspira Medical Center Vineland | 1505 W. Sherman Ave., Vineland, NJ 856-641-8000 |