Overview:
Traditionally sport has been a competition between humans or humans and nature. Recent technological developments have altered this arrangement. Now technology is a constitutive component of sport and has changed modes of play. This course will examine the evolving relationships between contemporary sport, emerging technology, and cultural experience. The fundamental question this course will address is: how has technology, in its multiple forms, reshaped sport?

Course Readings:
Course syllabus and readings are available through Blackboard. If you prefer another means of accessing the reading like Dropbox or just email, please let me know.

Course Objectives:
Enjoy class
Learning beyond information
Written and oral communication
Efficient assessment of arguments
Engage in ethical and/or moral reasoning
Questioning the meaning of material artifacts
Understanding sporting cultures as social and political forces
Understanding science, technology, and medicine as social and political forces
Investigate the relationships between humans and machines

Grading:
Interviews (4) 30%
Quiz (4) 30%
Group projects (4) 30%
Attendance/Participation 10%

Academic honesty
https://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academic-integrity-brochure/

Attendance:
Attendance is mandatory. After 4 unexcused absences your grade will be lowered an entire letter grade. After 7 unexcused absences you will be asked to drop the course.

Additional Information:
A note on class, gender, sexuality, and race: We all come with different cultural experiences, and in a discussion it is imperative that the opinions of others be listened to, understood, and respected. While we expect you to be well informed and thoughtful, there is no such thing as a wrong opinion.
Reading Schedule


Internal and Inauthentic
Jan 15
Claudia L. Reardon and Shane Creado, “Drug Abuse in Athletes”

Jan 20
No class

Jan 22
Nicholas Hailey, “A False Start in the Race Against Doping in Sport: Concerns with Cycling’s Biological Passport”

Jan 27
Armstrong Lie

Interview assignment 1 due


Jan 29
M. R. King, "A League of Their Own? Evaluating Justifications for The Division of Sport into ‘Enhanced’ and ‘Unenhanced’ Leagues"

Feb 3
Quiz 1, group assignments

Feb 5
In class work day presentation 1

Feb 10
Group presentations 1

Internal and Authentic
Feb 12
Jan Rintala, “Sport and Technology: Human Questions in a World of Machines”

Feb 17
Sean Conboy, “Armor on the Field: The NFL’s Headlong Race to Build the Unbreakable Linebacker,”
http://www.wired.com/2012/07/kevlar/all/

Sean Conboy, “The Helmet Con: How To Make a Buck off the Concussion Crisis,”
http://deadspin.com/the-helmet-con-how-to-make-a-buck-off-the-concussion-c-1173019556

Kyle Wagner, Can Science See Inside an NFL Player’s Skull Before It’s too Late?
http://regressing.deadspin.com/5920006/can-science-see-inside-an-nfl-players-skull-before-its-
Feb 19
*Head Games*

**Interview assignment 2 due**

“Football Players Drill Without Helmets To Curb Concussions”

Gary Mihoces, "More Padding the Issue of Concussions and Better Helmets"

Feb 24
Lindsay Berra, "Force of Habit," *ESPN The Magazine*

Matt McCarthy, “Cutting Edge: a Look at Tommy John Surgery and Search to Save Ligaments”

Feb 26
**Quiz 2, group assignments**

Mar 3
In class work day presentation 2

Mar 5  Group presentations 2

**External and Authentic**
Mar 10
S. Christopher Szczesniak, "Tackling Instant Replay: A Proposal to Protect the Competitive Judgment of Sport Officials"

Mar 12
S. Seth Bordner, “Call ‘Em as They are: What’s Wrong with Blown Calls and What to do about Them”

Mar 17/19
Spring break

Mar 24

**Interview assignment 3 due**

Oliver Roeder, “Has Expanded Replay Worked Well In Baseball? Here’s Our Call”
Mar 26
Ivo van Hilvoorde, Rein Vos and Guido de Wert, “Flopping, Klapping and Gene Doping: Dichotomies Between ‘Natural’ and ‘Artificial’ in Elite Sport”

Mar 31
Quiz 3, group assignments

Apr 2
In class work day presentation 3

Apr 7
Group presentation 3

External and Inauthentic
Apr 9
Rayvon Fouché, “Black is the New Fast”

Apr 14
Patricia Zettler, "Is It Cheating to use Cheetahs? The Implications of Technologically Innovative Prostheses for Sports Values and Rules"

Apr 16
Interview assignment 4 due

http://www.nytimes.com/2006/12/06/sports/basketball/06ball.html

Apr 21
Donald Stone, "The Game of Pleasant Diversion: Can We Level the Playing Field for the Disabled Athlete and Maintain the National Pastime, in the Aftermath of PGA Tour, Inc. v. Martin: An Empirical Study of the Disabled Athlete"

Apr 23
Quiz 4, group assignments

Apr 28
Class work day presentation 4

Apr 30
Group presentation 4