

(UNIT 2: July 22---August 3)-FRANCE AND THE POLITICS OF SOCCER IN THE FRANCOPHONE WORLD

A) About This Unit

**** Reading and study of Laurent Dubois's text will expose students to several theories of football and history in the specific context of France's relationship with its former colonies in Africa and the Caribbean and the subsequent rise of "race" and "identity" as important subjects in modern France****

B) Objectives:

****Students will read and study how the history of French colonialism played a decisive role in shaping the game and politics of soccer in modern day France****

****Students will understand the ways in which "race" and national "identity" forge new social and political new discourses because of France's football culture****

****Students will discover the interrelationship between football and global politics****

C) Reading:

Dubois, Laurent. *Soccer Empire: The World Cup and The Future of France*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010.

Note Well: The course text (*Soccer Empire: The World Cup and The Future of France*) will be the primary and exclusive source of the ideas and information in the development of the responses to the questions in this unit. Use of newspaper articles, journals, web sites, etc, not listed on the required book list will not earn you any credit.

The Instructor will demand scanned copies of secondary sources used in all the course assignments. This is to enable an accurate and fair evaluation of the material used in the assignment.

D) The Assignment: UNIT 2 QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Who were/are the following men and which role(s) did they play / do they play in the history of France according to Dubois?

(Question #1 will also exceed the required 400 words for questions 2--5 because of the need to develop detail on the six personalities; (1200 words is the recommended length). Do not merely summarize what Dubois's text says about these six personalities. Instead, use the information Dubois develops about them to argue and explain the distinctive role they played in French soccer and the significant contributions Dubois thinks they made. Do not bunch your response in a one essay type structure. Develop each personality individually by placing the alphabet against his name.

- a) Gabriel Hanot
- b) Rachid Mekloufi
- c) Jules Rimet

- d) Marius Tresor
- e) Lilian Thuram
- f) Zinedine Zidane

2. What are the many connections between the former French colonies (and most particularly Caribbean France), soccer, identity, and France according to Dubois? (Be sure to state which specific Caribbean countries and the nature of "identity" implied in Dubois's study).
3. What are *banlieue* neighborhoods in France? What does Dubois recount about them in various chapters of the book? (In your response, you must define and explain what the word *banlieue* means, and what they are notable for in the history of France's football culture).
4. Discuss and explain Dubois' concept of "La France Metisse" (Read Chapter 7 closely).
5. In *Soccer Empire*, Laurent Dubois attempts to use the history of soccer to examine the history of empire. Referring to analyzing textual evidence from Dubois's text to what extent does a cultural object like sport allow us to see aspects of colonial and post-colonial history that other approaches do not?

(Due date: Wednesday, August 3 at 11:59 pm Arizona Time)