

Chapter 2: SUGGESTED READINGS

General Sources on Theory and Research

- Giulianotti, Richard, ed. 2004. *Sport and modern social theorists*. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan (Fifteen articles that examine the contributions of major social theorists to the critical understanding of sports as social phenomena; focuses on Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Gramsci, Adorno, Foucault, Mills, Merton, Giddens, and other noted theorists who are well known to sociologists).
- May, Reuben A. Buford. 2008. *Living through the hoop: high school basketball, race, and the American dream*. NY: New York University Press (Excellent example of qualitative research—seven years of observations and interviews while serving as a high school basketball coach provided May with the data needed to analyze the ways that young African American men in a poor neighborhood integrated basketball into their often unpredictable lives; May raises issues about “hoop dreams” and the role of coaches and other adults in mediating those dreams).
- Rail, Geneviève, ed. 1998. *Sport and postmodern times*. Albany: State University of New York Press (Seventeen articles representing a range of postmodernist and poststructuralist analyses of sports; the general focus is on the significance of sports in the construction and diffusion of cultural meanings and values).
- Sage, George H. 1998. *Power and ideology in American sport: A critical perspective*. 2d ed. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics (Clearly written, informative critical analysis of dominant sport forms in the United States; excellent book to use as an introduction to critical theories).
- Sparkes, Andrew C. 2002. *Telling tales in sport and physical activity: A qualitative journey*. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics Press. (Sparkes is one of the most innovative qualitative researchers in the field today, and this book explains his approach to data collection and analysis; an excellent source for anyone doing research on their own experiences in sports)

Cultural Theories

- Giardina, Michael D. 2005. *Sporting pedagogies: Performing culture and identity in the global arena*. New York: Peter Lang (Focusing on post 9-11 sport, this is a cultural studies analysis that looks at the complex relationship between knowledge, authority, and power in sport and the realm of the popular in general; as Henry Giroux and Stuart Hall have said, we learn how we are constituted and who we are by understanding the meanings given to forms of popular culture).
- Hargreaves, Jennifer, and Ian MacDonald. 2000. Cultural studies and the sociology of sport. In *Handbook of sports studies* (pp. 48–60), edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning. London: Sage (Overview of critical theories and research informed by Gramsci and cultural studies in the study of sports).

Hughson, John, David Inglis, and Marcus Free. 2004. *The uses of sport: a critical study*. London/New York: Routledge (Uses cultural studies and a critical approach to look at the role of sports in processes of cultural production and reproduction in societal and community contexts).

Interactionist Theories

Coakley, Jay, and Peter Donnelly, eds. 1999. *Inside sports*. London: Routledge (Some of the twenty-two articles in this collection use interactionist theory to guide qualitative research on sport participation and sport experiences; highlights processes of becoming involved in sports, developing an athlete identity, participating in sports, and making the transition out of sports).

Donnelly, Peter. 2000. Interpretive approaches to the sociology of sports. In *Handbook of sports studies* (pp. 77–91), edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning. London: Sage (Overview of interactionist and other interpretive theoretical and methodological approaches to studying sports).

Ford, Nicholas J., and David Brown. 2005. *Surfing and social theory: Experience, embodiment and narrative of the dream glide*. London/New York: Routledge (A sociologist and a geographer analyze surfing as an embodied personal experience that occurs in connection with emerging perceptions of the beach and the sea; also focuses on surfing as a gendered subculture that exists in a global context).

Structural Theories

Loy, John, and Douglas Booth. 2000. Functionalism, sport and society. In *Handbook of sports studies* (pp. 9–27), edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning. London: Sage (Overview of functionalism and research informed by functionalism in the sociology of sport).

Rigauer, Bero. 2000. Marxist theories. In *Handbook of sports studies* (pp. 28–47), edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning. London: Sage (Overview of Marxist theory and research in the study of sports; special emphasis on sport as a form of work in capitalist societies).

Feminist Theory

Birrell, Susan. 2000. Feminist theories for sport. In *Handbook of sports studies* (pp. 61–76), edited by J. Coakley and E. Dunning. London: Sage (Overview of how feminist theories have been used in sport studies; traces the history of this use and discusses critical feminist cultural studies as used by many people in recent years).

Hargreaves, Jennifer. 2000. *Heroines of sport: The politics of difference and identity*. London/New York: Routledge (Uses critical feminist theory to highlight collections of women whose stories have been excluded from many previous feminist analyses of sports in society; informative and insightful discussions of women from South Africa, Muslim nations

in East Asia, and Aboriginal groups in Australia and Canada, as well as lesbians and women with disabilities from around the world).

Markula, Pirkko, ed. 2005. *Feminist Sport Studies: Sharing Experiences of Joy and Pain*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press (Eleven articles highlight the development of feminist sport studies; focuses on narratives of the experiences and feelings of researchers as they work in a male-dominated field and receive little support for their scholarly accomplishments).