

Dr. Kristian Naglo

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I hold a PhD in Language Theory and Applied Linguistics, having studied and graduated in Political Science, Spanish and Social Psychology. Currently, I teach as a lecturer in Sociology at the University of Giessen/Germany. In Giessen, I am currently responsible for the internationalisation initiatives of the Department of Sociology.

Before this appointment I held a chair of Media Sociology (fixed-term) at the University of Giessen. Before that, I have taught in Sociology, German Studies and Political Science at Universities of Lancaster/UK, Innsbruck/Austria, Potchefstroom/South Africa, Göttingen and Siegen/both Germany.

My research and teaching interests encompass

above all the sociology of sport – particularly with regard to both amateur and professional football – , conceptions of globalization and their social and cultural dimensions, social and cultural history as well as multilingualism and the politics of language.

Regarding **research**, my main interest lies with the issue of how to adapt social theory and practice to increasingly global conditions. I focus in particular on both professional and amateur/local German football (in a European and global context) by arguing that grassroots football cannot be regarded as an isolated and local phenomenon. Therefore, my current research project (*Habilitation*) focusses on those media enactments and disseminations of professional football which are being reflected and referred to at lower levels of German football. Such an approach presents a perspective on ways in which local community building takes place in the context of a national soccer imaginary, i.e., and this would seem rather paradoxical, and goes well beyond what one might understand as ‘the local’. However, at the same time specific local practices and self-perceptions still remain (including elements of particular values, traditions and myths) or may even continue to strongly influence local club life despite modernization strategies. I assume that these references are not necessarily in conflict with one another. My main hypothesis asserts that by increasingly taking part in cultural circulations of professional football, local clubs may be helped to re-define their own club identity/boundaries.

The main output in this respect so far is a (bilingual) edited volume (together with Anthony Waine, Lancaster/UK) on *Football Culture in England and Germany*. **2014: *On and Off the field. Fußballkultur in England und Deutschland – Football Culture in England and Germany*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS.**

Since many years, I am working in interdisciplinary and international research cooperation. Currently, I am establishing an internationally cooperating group of researchers (together with Dilwyn Porter, De Montfort University, Leicester/UK) on the subject area of *grass roots football* (recreational and associational aspects), embracing research perspectives derived from history, sociology and other social science disciplines (***Small worlds: football at the grass roots – identities, communities and clubs***).

Our focus is to develop new perspectives through facilitating research that crosses national boundaries and embraces 'football' in its widest sense (soccer, futsal, rugby league, rugby union, Gaelic football, as experienced by both men and women); to elaborate on perspectives on ways in which local community building takes place in the context of the local, national and global and how these levels are intertwined with regard to both professional and amateur/local football; and to explore, with particular reference to grass roots football, areas of mutual interest relating to class, gender, and the experience of ethnic minorities.

Another related theme I am interested in is the experiences of black male rugby and soccer players at historically 'white' universities in South Africa. I am currently establishing of a joint research project with the NWU, Potchefstroom, South Africa (together with Gcobani Qambela).

My **teaching** interest and experience is broad, regarding both the subjects and the levels. With respect to the subjects, the three main areas are the sociology of sport, cultural and social theory and history (including German Studies), and Europe. For many years I have been teaching students at all levels, including the supervision and examination of MA students. In most instances, I have taught in an international and interdisciplinary classroom (in the UK, Germany, Austria, South Africa), both in German and in English language (examples of the current academic year 2014/2015 include: Revolt against 'Good Taste': Leisure Cultures in the Weimar Republic; German Exiles in/and Hollywood; Culture, Leisure and Sport in Modern Britain; German Culture and History after World War II; Rugby and Soccer in South Africa: Race, Gender and Politics; Popular Culture in 'Sixties Britain'; Concepts of Culture; Race and Ethnicity in Global Sport).