

## **Basketball and American Society**

From Naismith to the WNBA

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Course #</b>                        | 19FBB  |
| <b>Format:</b>                         | Seminar  |
| <b>Moderator(s):</b>                   | Kip Fonsh  |
| <b>Co-Moderator:</b>                   | Richard Stonberg   |
| <b>Date and Time:</b>                  | Wednesday, 10:00-Noon<br>10 weeks, starting September 25 |
| <b>Location:</b>                       | Rockridge Retirement Community, Lower Room, Northampton  |
| <b>Maximum number of participants:</b> | 16   |
| <b>Auditors accepted:</b>              | Yes, up to 2   |

**Purpose:** The seminar will examine the growth of basketball from its birth to becoming an international business.

**Description:** Participants will select a topic from a list including: basketball bios; early leagues; women's basketball; black barnstormers; racism and integration; the NBA; ABA; WNBA; NBA Players Association; college basketball, including women's basketball; basketball finances; the role of TV; international basketball; the Olympics; sneakers; basketball and music; basketball and fashion.

**Role of participants:** Participants will make a 30-minute presentation on a topic from the list or one of their own choosing describing the topic's influence on basketball and American society, and then lead a 30-minute group discussion.

**Resources:** The internet is an excellent starting point for most of the topics, A longer more detailed list of resources will be made available at the Preview.

**About the Moderator:** Kip is a retired high school social studies teacher now in his third year of 5CLIR. He worked as a Director of Education and Assistant to the Curator at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. He was Director of Education at the Hampshire County Jail.

Richard Stonberg had the good fortune of being in Boston during the two Celtic dynasties. He previously co-moderated a seminar on income inequality.