Description, Scope, and Objectives

This undergraduate elective course applies microeconomic theory and econometric analysis to professional and amateur sports. Included is the analysis of sport product markets, labor markets, the organization of sports institutions, and the design of sports competitions. Appropriate examination of sports economics requires coverage of advanced fields of specialization within economics. These include industrial organization, labor economics, and public finance.

Textbook

The recommended textbook is *The Economics of Sports* (4th or 5th edition) by Michael Leeds and Peter von Allmen.

Course assessment

The course assessment is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group research paper and presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Ethical Guidelines: Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to follow the Stern Code of Conduct (http://www.stern.nyu.edu/uc/codeofconduct)

A student’s responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. A duty to acknowledge the work and efforts of others when submitting work as one’s own. Ideas, data, direct quotations, paraphrasing, creative expression, or any other incorporation of the work of others must be clearly referenced.
2. A duty to exercise the utmost integrity when preparing for and completing examinations, including an obligation to report any observed violations.

Classroom Norms

1. Laptops, cell phones, Smartphones and other electronic devices are a disturbance to both students and professors. All electronic devices must be turned off prior to the start of each class meeting.
Course schedule and readings

Monday, January 27 – Introduction to Sports Economics
L& VA, (4th edition), Chapter 1, pp. 3-11

Wednesday, January 29 – The Economic Role of a Sports League
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 3, pp. 63-75

Monday, February 3 – The Firm as a Profit Maximizer
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 3, pp. 75-90

Wednesday, February 5 – The Soccer Business Model

Monday, February 10 – Competitive Balance: Measurement

Wednesday, February 12 – Competitive Balance: Solutions

Monday, February 17 – no class (Presidents’ Day)

Wednesday, February 19 - Public Finance of Sports: Market for Teams
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 6, pp. 175-188

Monday, February 24 - Public Finance of Sports: Olympics and World Cup
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 6, pp. 188-191
Wednesday, February 26 – Public Finance of Sports: Stadia and Arenas
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 6, pp. 191-202

Monday, March 3 – Costs and Benefits of a Sports Franchise
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 7, pp. 207-225

Wednesday, March 5 - Measuring Marginal Revenue Products of Sports Stars
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 8, pp. 243-255

Monday, March 10 – Midterm Review Lecture

Wednesday, March 12 – Midterm

No class on Monday, March 17 and Wednesday, March 19 (Spring Break)

Monday, March 24 - Tournaments
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 8, pp. 255-266

Wednesday, March 26 – Moneyball
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 5, pp. 167-168

Monday, March 31 – Salary Arbitration
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 9, pp. 284-286

Wednesday, April 2 – Unions in Professional Sports
L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 9, pp. 292-306
Monday, April 7 - Discrimination

L& VA (4th edition), Chapter 9, pp. 311-336

Wednesday, April 9 – College Athletics


Monday, April 14 – Principal-Agent Problem in Team Sports


Wednesday, April 16 – Game Theory in Sports


Monday, April 21 – Corruption in Sports


Wednesday, April 23 – Comparative Advantage of Nations in Sports

**Monday, April 28 – Motor Racing**


**Wednesday, April 30 – Cricket**


**Monday, May 5 - Group presentations of research paper**

**Wednesday, May 7 – Group presentations of research paper**

**Monday, May 12 – Group presentations of research paper**

**Final Exam: Monday, May 19, 10 am to 11.50 am in our usual classroom**