

ECN 406.01 - SPORTS ECONOMICS - Spring 2012

Instructor: Dr. W. David Allen **Office:** BAB310 **Phone:** 824.6757

Office Hours: 1.00 pm - 2.00 pm, Monday/Wednesday (also by appointment). I plan to be available at these times; I suggest you telephone before visiting at another time.

Textbook: Rodney D. Fort, *Sports Economics* [3]

Course Outline:

Demand, Supply, and Equilibrium in Sports
The Role of Media Rights
Sports Franchises as Profit-Maximizing Firms
Some Economics of Leagues
Labor Markets, Labor Relations, and Discrimination in Sports
The Role of Government in Sports
Amateurism and College Sports

Some topic areas may have multiple units.

Important Dates: Monday, 30 January: **Quiz 1** (20 points)
Monday, 13 February: **Test 1** (101 points)
Monday, 5 March: **Quiz 2** (20 points)
Wednesday, 14 March: **Test 2** (101 points)
Monday, 2 April: **Quiz 3** (20 points)
Wednesday, 18 April: **Quiz 4** (20 points)
Monday, 30 April: **Test 3** (120 points), 3.00 pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Course Objective:

This course introduces you to resource-allocation issues relevant to the sports industry. We will use applied microeconomic analytic tools to study choices made by fans, organizations, players, and government within this industry, as well as practical and policy implications of these choices.

QUIZZES

Expect four 20-point quizzes on the dates specified above. If you miss class on the day of an announced quiz, you will receive a score of 0 for that quiz. I will not schedule make-ups for quizzes. Quizzes allow you practice in thinking about the sports economic material we have been covering recently. They may contain multiple-choice or short-answer items. The best preparation for quizzes? Regular attendance, so that you will have full exposure to the concepts covered on the quizzes, and regular review of your class notes, so that you always have an understanding of concepts as the class progresses.

HOMEWORK SETS

Expect 3-5 homework sets, worth 20 points each, during the semester. You will always have one full week to complete a homework set, and you will be given *two* opportunities to receive it. If you miss class when a homework set is assigned, you will receive a score of 0 on that homework set. There are no exceptions. Homework sets allow you practice in the application of quantitative methods (mainly algebra) to economic problems and an opportunity to exercise your critical thinking skills. The best preparation for homework sets? Regular attendance, so that you can receive the homework sets and so that you can see my examples of the types of analysis required on the homework sets. Note: When homework is assigned, heed the instructions! **LATE HOMEWORK POLICY:** Remember, a homework set may be turned in for points only if you have received it in class on one of the two days it was made available. A homework set is considered *late* if it is turned in after the class meeting in which the homework is due, as specified in the

homework set's instructions. Homework submitted *same-day* late (i.e., turned in after that class meeting but prior to the end of that day) will receive a deduction of 4 points. Homework submitted *one-day* late (i.e., submitted the day after the official due date) will receive a deduction of 8 points. I will not accept homework submitted later than this.

TESTS

Tests consist of multiple choice (Part 1) and essay/problem-solving items (Part 2). Part 2 items in particular emphasize your ability to reason and apply sports economic concepts rather than your ability to memorize or regurgitate your lecture notes. Quantitative items may appear in either section. The best preparation for tests? Regular attendance, full practice on homework sets, regular review of your class notes, and careful study of key review items, which I will provide prior to every test. Please note that I do not give out information about test scores or class grades over the telephone or any other media. If you suspect you will have to miss a test, you must contact me *in advance* to reschedule.

Grading:

For determination of grades, I will use the following scale: I generally consider scores of 80-100 as very good work and deserving of an *A* or, at worst, an *A-minus*. The *B* mark will range from 65-79. The *C* mark will range from 50-64. The *D* mark will range from 35-49. (Use the percentage equivalents for determining accumulated or overall standing.)

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