



Economics 499.4: Selected Topics in Economics II

The Economics of Sports

Course Outline

Course:	ECON 499.4 The Economics of Sports	Term:	Winter 2013
		Section:	
Time:	MWF 13:00-13:50	Place:	Science Theatre 131
Instructor:	E. C. Beaulieu		
Office:	SS 424	Tel. no.:	220-5862
Office hours:	MWF 12:00-13:00 and by appointment	E-mail:	beaulieu@ucalgary.ca

Course Outline:

The purpose of this course is to explore the economics of sports. It is important to understand that this is first and foremost an economics class and that sports merely supplies the context in which to study economics. Your expectations will be seriously off track if you have chosen this course more because you saw the word 'sports' in the title rather the word 'economics.'

Economics is an incredibly flexible subject that can be applied to just about any facet of life. We will be exploring fundamental economic principles (with the typical rigor of an economist) and apply these principles in the arena of sports (pun intended). This is really an applied economics course. This course attracts a diverse distribution of students and the emphasis on the application of economics will help teach the principles to those who may be seeing these concepts for the first time, and reinforcing them to the more advanced students.

The course will explore sports as it applies to three major areas of economics: industrial organization, public finance, and labor. We will explore theoretical concepts and tools such as game theory but the course will have a strong emphasis on quantitative analysis. We will develop and explore economic models and conduct quantitative analysis applied to the wide world of sports.

Required textbook:

Michael Leeds and Peter von Allmen **The Economics of Sports, 5/E.**

ISBN-10: 0133022927 • ISBN-13: 9780133022926 2014 • Prentice Hall.

Bookstore: Will be available soon.

Coursesmart: <http://www.coursesmart.com>

TopHat Monocle: A web-based clicker and online homework tool. Cost = \$20 for one semester full access (for an unlimited number of courses), including a phone number for SMS submissions to the site. Or, \$38 for five years. <https://www.tophatmonocle.com>.

Other useful textbook (not required):

Rodney D Fort **Sports Economics, 3/E** ISBN-10: 013606602X • ISBN-13: 9780136066026 2011 • Prentice Hall. Pearson.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

All students must comply with the regulations published in the University Calendar concerning “Intellectual Honesty,” “Examinations,” etc. Students will normally be evaluated in accordance with the marking scheme given below:

Team project:		
Proposal	5%	
Paper	15%	
Presentation	10%	
Total Team project:		30%
Midterm exam (March 1)		20%
Final exam		<u>50%</u>
Total		100%
Bonus:		
Class participation/Top Hat Monocle:		5%

Team project using quantitative analysis: Students will form teams (or groups) of 3 or 4 people and each group will develop a **Course paper** that will apply quantitative methods to an economics question related to sports. More details will be provided soon.

Class participation: Attendance in class and active participation in class discussion is crucial to make the course successful. Participation in class will be measured using Top Hat Monocle.

Midterm exam: There will be an interim exam on March 1, 2013. This will be based on lecture material presented by the instructor. There will be a final exam scheduled by the registrar.

The course grade is calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	>92	B	74-76	C-	60-63
A	87-92	B-	70-73	D+	56-59
A-	82-86	C+	67-69	D	50-55
B+	77-81	C	64-66	F	<50

Any assignments handed in after the due date without a valid reason (e.g. medical) will be considered late and will be penalized accordingly.

Note: Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor within 10 days of the work being returned to the class.

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic

accommodation. **You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.**

Students should be aware that no "make-up" midterms will be given. Any student who finds it necessary to miss the midterm must notify the instructor in advance and produce a valid medical certificate or other required documentation in order to have the weighting adjusted. This adjustment will result in the final exam counting for 70% of the final grade and the assignments counting for 20% of the final grade.

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

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Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.):

www.ucalgary.ca/sue

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career partnerships with the Career Centre through hosting industry nights and information sessions, recognizing achievements in teaching, and organizing social events for members. Join now by contacting sue@ucalgary.ca.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333
Emergency Assembly Point: ICT Food Court