Department of Economics College of Management North Carolina State University

EC 495 Topics in Sports Economics Section 001 Nelson XXXX Robert Dinterman Spring/Fall 20XX XX:XX – XX:XX MW/TTH/MWF

Contact:	Office Location:	160 Hillsborough B Building
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Course Information

This is a junior/senior level course in economics which focuses on the economics of sports. **This is not a sports history or trivia class**. Sports provide an economic laboratory with a history of accurate reporting of events. Because of this, sports can give us great insight into understanding economics and vice versa. This course will be structured as a seminar, where articles will be presented by the instructor and discussion of critical elements of the paper will be discussed in-depth. Because of the nature of the landscape for sports to be ever changing, this course will focus on previously determined topics along with taking detours that deal with any interesting current issues.

Prerequisites

Intermediate Microeconomics (EC 301) and Data Analysis for Economists (EC 351) or instructor's approval are required to enroll in this course. We will regularly be using applied micro analysis and interpreting regression results in this course. A solid foundation in both of these areas is critical for success in this course. Speak with the instructor if you are uncomfortable with your knowledge of intermediate microeconomics and/or econometrics.

Grading Policy

Students will be graded on the basis of knowledge demonstrated through written and oral communication. Your grade for this course will be based on:

•	Term Paper	30%
•	Exam 1	20%
•	Exam 2	20%
•	Written Assignments	15%
٠	Class Participation	15%

The term paper is the most critical aspect of this course and must be approved by the instructor. The paper should thoroughly examine an economic issue in the world of sport. Students should begin

thinking about potential topics immediately and schedule time to discuss their ideas with the instructor. The term papers are due during our scheduled Final Exam time (XYZday, XYZ Xth at XX:XX AM/PM). Each student is responsible for making one 15 minute presentation to the class about their term paper. Two person teams can be formed for the term paper and presentations with the permission of the professor. A team must write a more advanced paper and make the equivalent of two presentations.

Two exams will be scheduled, one for XYZ and the second for XYZ. The format is short answer and essay.

Written assignments will be given on a regular basis and must be handed in on time. These will focus on evaluating a student's understanding of the material.

Class participation is critical to this course. Learning is not a spectator sport and class participation will reflect the amount of effort observed by the instructor in class. For example, this can be demonstrated by attentiveness in class, asking thought provoking questions, or providing knowledgeable insight.

Attendance Policy

This is a seminar where discussion will revolve around books and scholarly papers. Discussion requires that students come prepared by having read the material in advance. Attendance is mandatory in order for the student and others to reap the benefits from this course. This is not a course where you should expect to benefit from the free rider problem; participation in class has both a private and social benefit.

Readings/Topics

The readings for this course can be found at moodle.wolfware.ncsu.edu . Moodle will be updated each week to reflect the upcoming readings. This is a tentative list of readings, we may cover material outside of this list and omit particular readings/topics.

- 1. Goff and Tollison, "Introduction to Sportometrics"
- 2. Crime and behavior
 - a. McCormick, R. E., & Tollison, R. D. (1984). "Crime on the Court." The Journal of Political Economy, 223-235.
 - b. Fleisher, Shurgart, Tollison, and Goff, "Crime or punishment? : Enforcement of the NCAA football cartel" Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization (Dec. 1988): 433-451
- 3. League Rules and the Allocation of Talent
 - a. Simon Rottenberg (1956). "The Baseball Players Labor Market," Journal of Political Economy, 64, pp. 242-58.
 - b. Gerald W. Scully (1974). "Pay and Performance in Major League Baseball," American Economic Review, 64, pp. 242-58.
 - c. Vrooman, J. (1996). "The baseball players' labor market reconsidered." Southern Economic Journal, 339-360.
 - d. Fort and Quirk, "Cross-subsidization, Incentives, and Outcomes in Professional Team Sports Leagues," J. of Economic Literature, 1995.
 - e. Lawrence M. Kahn (1993). "Free Agency, Long-Term Contracts and Compensation in Major League Baseball: Estimates from Panel Data," The Review of Economics and Statistics, 75: 157-164.

- 4. The Baseball Player's Labor Market
 - a. Jahn Hakes and Raymond Sauer (2006), "An Economic Evaluation of the Moneyball Hypothesis," J. of Economic Perspectives, August 2006.
 - b. Turner, C., & Hakes, J. (2007). "The Collective Bargaining Effects of NBA Player Productivity Dynamics." Available at SSRN 1017556.
 - c. Andrew Zimbalist (1992). "Salaries and Performance, Beyond the Scully Model," Ch. 7 in Diamonds are Forever: The Business of Baseball, edited by Paul Somers. Washington D.C.: The Brookings Institution.
- 5. Economic Impacts of Sport
 - a. Murphy and Topel (2009). "The Economics of NFL Team Ownership," report prepared at the request of the National Football League Players' Association.
 - b. Baade, R. A., & Dye, R. F. (1990). "The impact of stadium and professional sports on metropolitan area development," Growth and Change, 21(2), 1-14.
 - c. Baade, R. A., Baumann, R., & Matheson, V. A. (2008). "Selling the game: Estimating the economic impact of professional sports through taxable sales," Southern Economic Journal, 794-810.
 - d. Santo, C. A. (2007). "Beyond the economic catalyst debate: Can public consumption benefits justify a municipal stadium investment?" Journal of Urban Affairs, 29(5), 455-479.
 - e. Schwester, R. W. (2007). "An examination of the public good externalities of professional athletic venues: Justifications for public financing?" Public Budgeting & Finance, 27(3), 89-109.
 - f. Propheter, G. (2011). "Are Basketball Arenas Catalysts of Economic Development?" Journal of Urban Affairs.
 - g. Crompton, J. (2004). "Beyond economic impact: an alternative rationale for the public subsidy of major league sports facilities," Journal of Sport Management, 18(1), 40-58.
- 6. Athletics and Academics
 - a. McCormick and Tinsley, "Athletics Versus Academics? Evidence From SAT Scores," Journal of Political Economy, 95(5) (October 1987): 1103-16.
 - b. Anderson, M. L. (2012). "The Benefits of College Athletic Success: An Application of the Propensity Score Design with Instrumental Variables (No. w18196)." National Bureau of Economic Research.
 - c. Lindo, J. M., Swensen, I. D., & Waddell, G. R. (2011). "Are Big-Time Sports a Threat to Student Achievement? (No. w17677)." National Bureau of Economic Research.
 - d. Frank, R. H. (2004). "Challenging the myth: A review of the links among college athletic success, student quality, and donations." Knight Foundation Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics.
 - e. McCormick and Tinsley "Athletics and Academics: A Model of University Contributions," in Sportometrics, ed. by Brian Goff and Robert Tollison, College Station: Texas A&M University, 1990, pages 193-206.
 - f. Mixon, "Athletics versus Academics? Rejoining the Evidence from SAT Scores," Education Economics, v3 n3 p277-83, Dec 1995.
 - g. McCormick and Maloney, "An Examination of the Role that Intercollegiate Athletic Participation Plays in Academic Achievement: Athletes' Feats in the Classroom," Journal of Human Resources, 28(3) (Summer 1993): 555-570.
- 7. Tournament Theory
 - a. McCormick and Maloney, "The Response of Workers to Wages: Evidence from Foot Races," Journal of Sports Economics, (June 2000):99 122.

- b. McFall, T.A., Knoeber, C.R., Thurman, W.N., 2009. "Contests, grand prizes, and the hot hand." Journal of Sports Economics 10, 236–255.
- c. Ehrenberg & Bognanno, "Do tournaments have incentive effects?" Journal of Political Economy, 98(6), (1990):1307 1324.
- d. Gilovich, T., Vallone, R., & Tversky, A. (1985). "The hot hand in basketball: On the misperception of random sequences." Cognitive Psychology, 17(3), 295-314.
- e. McCotter, T. (2009). "Hitting streaks don't obey your rules: Evidence that hitting streaks aren't just by-products of random variations." The Baseball Research Journal, 37, 62-70.
- f. Stone, D. F. (2012). Measurement error and the hot hand. The American Statistician, 66(1), 61-66.
- 8. Demand for Sport
 - a. Borland, J., & MacDonald, R. (2003). "Demand for sport." Oxford Review of Economic Policy, 19(4), 478-502.
 - b. Baade, R. A., & Tiehen, L. J. (1990). "An analysis of major league baseball attendance, 1969-1987." Journal of Sport & Social Issues, 14(1), 14-32.
 - c. Lee, Y. H., & Fort, R. (2008). "Attendance and the uncertainty-of-outcome hypothesis in baseball." Review of Industrial Organization, 33(4), 281-295.
 - d. Davis, M. C. (2008). "The interaction between baseball attendance and winning percentage: A VAR analysis." International Journal of Sport Finance, 3(1), 58-73.
 - e. Krautmann, A. C., & Berri, D. J. (2007). "Can we find it at the concessions? Understanding price elasticity in professional sports." Journal of Sports Economics, 8(2), 183-191.
 - f. Won, D. C., & Lee, Y. H. (2008). "Optimal dynamic pricing for sports games with habitual attendance." Managerial and Decision Economics, 29(8), 639-655.
- 9. Sport Metrics
 - a. Berri, D. J., & Bradbury, J. C. (2010). "Working in the Land of the Metricians." Journal of Sports Economics, 11(1), 29-47.
 - Berri, D. J. (2000). "Who is 'most valuable'? Measuring the player's production of wins in the National Basketball Association." Managerial and Decision Economics, 20(8), 411-427.
 - c. Romer, D. (2006). "Do firms maximize? Evidence from professional football." Journal of Political Economy, 114(2), 340-365.
- 10. Antitrust and Sport
 - a. Fort, "Antitrust and the Sports Industry," Industry and Firm Studies, Vol. 4.
 - b. Goff and Sauer, "Antitrust and Sport," Contemporary Economic Policy, forthcoming.
- 11. On Competitive Balance and Organization Structure
 - a. Bennett and Fizel, "Telecast deregulation and competitive balance: regarding NCAA Division I football" American Journal of Economics and Sociology, April, 1995.
 - b. Sutter and Winkler, "NCAA Scholarship Limits and Competitive Balance in College Football," Journal of Sports Economics, 2003; 4: 3 18.
- 12. Sports Betting, Information and Prediction Markets
 - a. William O. Brown and Raymond D. Sauer (1993). "Fundamentals of Noise? Evidence from the Point Spread Betting Market," Journal of Finance, 48, pp. 1193-1209.
 - b. Paul W. Rhode and Koleman S. Strumpf, "Historical Prediction Markets: Wagering on Presidential Elections" J. of Economic Perspectives, Spring 2004.
 - c. Raymond D. Sauer (1998). "The Economics of Wagering Markets," Journal of Economic Literature," 36, pp. 2021-2064.