**Description, Scope, and Objectives**

This undergraduate elective course applies microeconomic theory and econometric analysis to professional and amateur sports. Included is the analysis of sports 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* (5th edition) by Michael Leeds and Peter von Allmen.

**Course assessment**

The course assessment is as follows:

- Group research paper and presentation: 25%
- Class participation: 10%
- Midterm: 30%
- Final: 35%
Course Website

I will maintain a website for the course using NYU Classes. The website will include announcements and downloadable files with the class lectures.

Classroom Norms

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.

Class participation

Class participation will be evaluated on the basis of contributions to class discussions. In the evaluation, quality is more important than quantity. In addition, the evaluation of class participation could be affected adversely by lack of attendance or creating negative classroom externalities (see Classroom Norms above).

Ethical Guidelines

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.

Students with Disabilities

Students whose class performance may be affected due to a disability should notify me immediately so that arrangements can be made in consultation with the Henry and Lucy Moses Center for Students with Disabilities http://www.nyu.edu/csd/ to accommodate their needs.
Course schedule and readings

Monday, January 22 - Introduction to Sports Economics
L& VA, (5th edition), Chapter 1, pp. 3-4

Wednesday, January 24 - The Economic Role of a Sports League
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 3, pp. 90-98

Monday, January 29 - The Sports Club as a Profit Maximizer
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 3, pp. 63-86

Wednesday, January 31 - The Soccer Business Model
L& VA, (5th edition), Chapter 3, pp. 102-109

Monday, February 5 – Competitive Balance: Measurement
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 5, pp. 151-166

Wednesday, February 7 - Competitive Balance: Solutions
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 5, pp. 167-174

Monday, February 12 - Public Finance of Sports: Who Benefits and How, I?
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 6, pp. 175-199

Wednesday, February 14 - Public Finance of Sports: Who Benefits and How, II?
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 6, pp. 199-217

Monday, February 19 – No class (Presidents’ Day)
Wednesday, February 21 - Public Finance of Sports: Who Pays and Why, I?
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 7, pp. 219 - 234

Monday, February 26 - Public Finance of Sports, Who Pays and Why, II?
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 7, pp. 235 - 248

Wednesday, February 28 - Measuring Marginal Revenue Products of Sports Stars
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 8, pp. 251 - 264

Monday, March 5 - Midterm Review Lecture

Wednesday, March 7 - Midterm Exam

No class on Monday, March 12 and Wednesday, March 14 (Spring Break)

Monday, March 19 - Tournaments
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 8, pp. 265 - 280

Wednesday, March 21 - Moneyball
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 5, pp. 174 - 176

Monday, March 26 - Labor Market Imperfections, I
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 9, pp. 289 - 301

Wednesday, March 28 - Labor Market Imperfections, II
L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 9, pp. 302 - 322
Monday, April 2 - Guest Speaker (John D’Angelo)

John D’Angelo is Senior Manager, Salary and Contract Administration at Major League Baseball

Wednesday, April 4 - Discrimination

L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 10, pp. 323 - 349

Monday, April 9 - Principal-Agent Problem in Team Sports


Wednesday, April 11 - Class Debate: Should we pay student-athletes?

L& VA (5th edition), Chapter 11, pp. 363-397, 136-142

Monday, April 16 - Guest Speaker (Tom Spock)

Tom Spock is Partner of Scalar Media and Former CFO of the NFL

Wednesday, April 18 - Game Theory in Sports


Monday, April 23 - Motor Racing

Wednesday, April 25 - Cricket


Monday, April 30 - Group presentations of research paper

Wednesday, May 2 - Group presentations of research paper

Monday, May 7 - Group presentations of research paper

Final Exam: Monday, May 14, 10:00 am to 11:50 am in our usual classroom