

## Syllabus Econ 3306 – Sports Economics

Instructor: Joshua Price

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Office: 326 COB

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Class: Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 - 3:20 pm, COB 239

Office Hours:

**Objective:** To use economic tools to understand decisions made in the sports industry.

**Notification:** This is a challenging course. I expect you to work hard, come to class prepared, and study the material. You should have the same expectations of me.

### Required Readings:

Moneyball, by Michael Lewis

Other Journal articles assigned during the course

### Recommended Textbook:

The Economics of Sports, by Michael Leeds and Peter von Allmen (**Either** the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Edition)

Sports Economics, by Rodney Fort (**Either** edition)

### Recommended Readings:

The Blind Side, by Michael Lewis

Death to the BCS, by Wetzel, Peter, and Passan

The Wages of Wins, by David Berri, Martin Schmidt, and Stacey Brook

Stumbling on Wins, by David Berri and Martin Schmidt

Beer and Circus: How Big-time College Sports Has Crippled Undergraduate Education, by Murray Sperber

### Recommended Journals

Journal of Sports Economics

Applied Economics

### Recommended Blogs:

"Freakonomics," <http://freakonomics.blogs.nytimes.com/>

"The Sports Economist," <http://thesportseconomist.com/wordpress/>

"The Wages of Wins Journal," <http://dberri.wordpress.com/>

"Sports Economics," <http://sportseconomics.blogspot.com/>

"Sports Biz," <http://www.cnn.com/id/15837629>

**Grading:****Homework (25%)**

Weekly assignments due Tuesday at the beginning of class

Each assignment will be graded as follows:

5 points for completed assignment with good effort on every question

4 points for complete assignment without good effort on every question

2 points for incomplete assignment

1 point for complete late assignment

**Midterm 1 (20%)**

First Midterm is scheduled for February 21 during class.

**Midterm 2 (20%)**

Second Midterm is scheduled for March 29 during class

**Final (25%)**

Cumulative with more emphasis on last third of class

Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:30 pm

**Class Participation and Quizzes (10%)**

I expect everyone to participate in class lectures. I try to structure an interactive course to promote learning. I will keep track of who participates in class. I realize that not everyone is comfortable in doing so, for this reason you can also earn these points through randomly administered quizzes. As the quizzes are the “extra credit” for not participating in class, there will be no making up of extra credit if you miss class.

**Curve:** You should not depend on a curve, as there is a high probability that there will not be one. If there is a curve, it will only occur after the final exam, and would be small at best

**Grades:** I want all of you to get the highest grade you want, but I believe you reap what you sow. Therefore, if you want a certain grade, please visit me during the semester so I can help you get that grade. The week before the final exam may be too late to earn the grade that you want.

**Attendance:** Attendance is highly recommended and class participation is encouraged. I firmly believe that learning can be greatly enhanced when you discuss the material. I realize that there is more to your life than this course, but you will need to put in extra effort if you miss class.

**Office Hours:** The office hours are posted and are scheduled to help you. Reasons you might want to come by my office: questions on homework, didn't understand something in class, want to know more about a topic, or questions about upcoming or past exams. I consider myself a nice person and encourage you to stop by.

**Academic Integrity:** UTA will not tolerate academic dishonesty, which “includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2). Academically dishonest students will be disciplined in accordance with UTA regulations and procedures, which allow for suspension or expulsion from UTA.

**Drop Policy:** Visit [www.uta.edu/catalog/general/academicreg](http://www.uta.edu/catalog/general/academicreg) for information on relevant policies.

**ADA:** UTA is committed to the spirit and letter of the ADA, which requires provision of “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities. Students must inform faculty of their need for accommodation and provide authorized documentation. For information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining accommodations, visit [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or the Office for Students with Disabilities at University Hall Room 102 (272–3364).

**Student Support Services Available:** UTA supports various programs to help students succeed academically, including learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring academic, personal or social assistance should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 272–6107.

**Blackboard:** Syllabus, assignments, articles, grades, and other material will be posted on the Blackboard course website. Check it early and often.

Course Outline (Chapters are based on Leeds and von Allmen text book)

Section	Topic	Chapters (Leeds and von Allmen 4 <sup>th</sup> edition)
Economics Review		1, 2
The Franchise	Introduction	3.2, 4.1-4.2
The Franchise	Ticket Price	3.2, 4.1
The Franchise	Price Discrimination	4.1
The Franchise	Broadcasting Rights	3.2
The Franchise	Licensing and Stadium	3.2
The Franchise	Costs	6.1,6.4,7.1-7.3
The Franchise	Stadium Costs	
The Franchise	Stadium Case Study	
The Franchise	Monopoly	
Midterm 1	Tuesday, February 21	
The League	Introduction	3.1
The League	Championships	
The League	Competitive Balance	5.1-5.4
The League	Labor Relations	9.1-9.2
The League	NCAA	11
Midterm 2	Thursday, March 29	
Regression Analysis		Appendix 2B
The Player	Introduction	8
	Wage	
	Arbitration	
	NCAA Athletes	
	Moneyball	The book
	Game Theory	4.7
Economic Impact		
Final Exam	Tuesday, May 8	

*Disclaimer: This syllabus is not a binding contract and may be changed.*