

Syllabus for ECON 3450: ECONOMICS OF SPORTS

Instructor: Dr. Michael Sinkey

Class Time and Location: This class will be facilitated online. Please check D2L daily.

Contact Information: Please e-mail me directly at msinkey@westga.edu should you need me. I check D2L but UWG e-mail is better.

Office and Office Hours: Online. Please use D2L to post questions that may be beneficial to class. If you have specific concepts which you don't understand, e-mail me or call me at 513.431.5120. You may call at any time from 9-5 M-F, or you can arrange to contact me at another time.

Materials for Class: All of the materials are online, **with the exception of the book "Circling The Bases: Essays on the Challenges and Prospects of the Sports Industry" by Zimbalist.** You will need to either buy this book from the bookstore OR potentially check it out as an e-book from the library.

Class Description: This is an applied microeconomics class focused on sports economics. For the most part, this class will be about the four major North American sports and the NCAA, though I will also talk a fair bit about golf, tennis, tournament structures, and soccer. **I will post narrated lectures every Thursday by midnight for the week's material if not earlier.**

Class Requirements: While this class is online, there are deadlines associated with quizzes, exams, papers, and problem sets that you need to adhere to. Please see the schedule for when things are due.

Expectations, Grades, Late Work: There are 7 multiple choice quizzes. I will count the top 5 quizzes. Quizzes are worth a total of 20 percent. There will be two problem sets and two exams. Each problem set is worth five percent of your grade for a total of 10 percent. Exams count 15 percent each. Finally, there are five papers worth eight percent each, for a total of 40 percent. **Finally, you can replace your lowest paper grade and your lowest counted quiz grade with coherent discussion. I will give you a perfect score on one quiz and one paper if you participate regularly and respectfully in online discussion.** So, to summarize, 20 percent of your grade is from quizzes, 10 from problem sets, 40 from papers, and 30 from exams. Late problem sets will not be counted because I will post the answer key shortly after. I will use a standard ten-point scale. Anybody who makes a *reasonable effort* will receive at least a D. I define a reasonable effort as taking all the quizzes, turning in all the problem sets and papers and making at least a fifty percent on one test.

Cheating: I abide by University policy regarding academic dishonesty and give a zero for each assignment or exam in which cheating occurs.

Class Policies: Act professionally. Because this class is fully online, I am under the assumption that everyone can take every exam. Missed exams must have a valid, documented excuse, and I am the sole determinant of what constitutes a valid excuse. **I am perfectly willing to let somebody take a zero on an exam.**

Common Language for Course Syllabi: This class abides by the common language for course syllabi, available online at:
http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf. Read it.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities will be accommodated. Bring your paperwork to me in time for me to be able to accommodate you. This means at least one week before your exams. Contact 123 Row Hall, phone 678.839.6428 if necessary.

Schedule:

Week	Topics Covered
1	Ticket Pricing, Teams Maximize Profits
1	Quiz 1, open June 7 and June 8
2	Paper 1 due June 12 by midnight
2	Competitive Balance, Drafts, and Free Agency
2	Quiz 2, open June 14 and June 15
3	Sports Labor Markets, Competition for Franchises
3	Costs/Benefits for Franchises in Cities, Monopoly and Antitrust
3	Paper 2 due June 20 by midnight
3	Quiz 3, open June 21 and June 22
4	Problem Set 1 due June 22 by 9 PM
4	Exam 1 open June 26 only
4	College Athletics and Rankings
4	Quiz 4, open June 28 and June 29
4	Paper 3 due June 30 by midnight
5	Racial and Gender Discrimination in Sports, Behavioral Economics
5	Quiz 5, open July 5 and July 6
6	Sports Betting and Game Theory, PED usage in sports
6	Paper 4 due July 9 by midnight
6	Quiz 6, open July 12 and July 13
7	Stats and Sports, user choice
7	Paper 5 due July 18 by midnight
7	Quiz 7, open July 19 only
7	Exam 7, open July 20 only