



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Department of Economics
Faculty of Arts

Economics 399 (01) (Sports Economics)

Instructor: Moshe Lander

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Lecture Location: ZOOM Delivery

Lecture Days/Time: MW 18:00 – 20:45

Office: ZOOM Delivery

Office Hours: T 08:00 – 10:00

Spring 2020

Course Description:

The intention of this course is to use economic principles, analysis, and tools, to examine and explain the industry of sports. Students will be expected to understand how basic economic models can be applied to various aspects of sports, and their operations. The focus of the class will be primarily micro- economic in nature.

Course Learning Outcomes:

This course is an application of economics to sports. To be clear, this course is *neither* a discussion of fantasy leagues *nor* a review of last night's games. Knowledge of sports and sports history should not have any significant impact on the ability to succeed in the course. After completing the course, students should clearly be able to:

- Define and evaluate the market forces that shape professional sports;
- Analyse the costs and benefits of public financing of professional sports;
- Interpret the implication of public policy in professional sports; and,
- Distinguish the distinct characteristics of the labour markets of professional sports.

Prerequisites/corequisites:

ECON 201 and ECON 203

Required Textbook:

None

Online Delivery:

This course will be delivered online. Students are expected to be able to participate online in accordance with this Course Outline. Lectures, assignments, office hours, exams, readings and other course material, etc. all require online access and this access is the responsibility of the student.

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Lectures:

Lectures will be delivered online at the Registrar scheduled times and delivered using ZOOM. The lectures will be recorded and subsequently posted to D2L.

Grade Determination and Final Exam Details:

MIDTERM EXAM 1	25%
MIDTERM EXAM 2	25%
FINAL EXAM	50%
	<hr/> 100%

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

Students must receive a passing grade on the final exam to pass the course.

The midterm exams will take place on Sunday, May 24 (chapters 1 – 4) and Sunday, June 7 (chapters 5 – 8) and the Registrar will schedule the final comprehensive exam. ALL exams will be closed book, take home exams. Students will download the exams from D2L, complete them, scan them and then submit them in PDF format using Dropbox in D2L.

Although each midterm exam should be completed in 75 minutes, students will have a three-hour window, at a time of their choosing within the designated 24-hour period, to complete the exam process (ie, download, complete, scan and submit). Similarly, although the final exam should be completed in two hours, students will have a four-hour window, at a time of their choosing within the designated 24-hour period, to complete the exam process. Exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

If a student's letter grade on the final exam exceeds either (both) of their midterm letter grades, the weight of that (those) midterm(s) is (are) transferred to the final exam. The student must have written the midterms or provided supporting documentation for their absence(s) such as a medical note or statutory declaration.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED MIDTERM EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may they be written early. Students unable to write a midterm exam because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance or university-sanctioned event will have its weight shifted to the final exam; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.

If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>). Under no circumstance will the Department accommodate this.

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>.

All other course components will also be accessed, submitted, and returned through D2L.

Tentative Scheduled Lectures:

Date	Topic
May 6	Introduction Profit Maximisation – One-Team Model
May 11	Profit Maximisation – Two-Team Model
May 13	Competitive Balance The Labour Market for Sports
May 18	CLASS CANCELLED
May 20	Exchange Economy
May 24	MIDTERM 1 (Any consecutive three-hour window of the student's choosing.) (To end of May 13)
May 25	Bargaining – Owners vs Unions Advertising – The Dorfman-Steiner Model
May 27	Relegation and Promotion Stadium Financing
June 1	Gambling Markets
June 3	Auction Theory
June 7	MIDTERM 2 (Any consecutive three-hour window of the student's choosing.) (To end of June 1)
June 8	Cheating – The Haugen Model
June 10	Double Marginalisation
June 15	Optimal Contract Design – Principal-Agent Model
June 17	Franchise Location – Hotelling Model
TBA	FINAL EXAM

- It is unlikely that class will end early. In the event that we complete the designated lecture material before the end of the scheduled time, we will begin immediately with the next topic on the schedule.

Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Statement of Intellectual Honesty, see Calendar K.4

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-4.html>

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct, see Calendar K.5

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Academic Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-students.pdf> and http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-faculty_0.pdf.

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf. Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

E-mail: econrep@fasaucalgary.ca and Web: www.fasaucalgary.ca.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics:

<https://www.ucalgarysue.com/>.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students to succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career events such as Industry Night and information sessions, mentorship programs, and social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting SUE at societyofundergradsineconomics@gmail.com.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Call them at 403-220-3580, or email them 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, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625].

Student Support and Resources:

- See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds' Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- Online writing resources are available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

Notes:

1. Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.
2. I have been told that my lecture style is fast-paced and intense but engaging and humorous. Although students often find that this style makes the concepts easier to understand, they are often disappointed when they fail to perform to the level to which they are accustomed on my exams. My exams tend to reward those that are sufficiently knowledgeable of the underlying concepts and have developed an intuitive approach to the material. **Memorisation is almost never rewarded.**

To give you the best chance for success in my course, I strongly encourage you to “attend” the live lectures, keep your camera on (it provides me with visual cues to your comprehension), avoid absences, participate regularly with a positive attitude and identify problems and seek help as soon as they occur.

ML

2020-04-27