

**ECO336:661 Exploring Economics & Statistics through Sports**  
**Department of Economics**  
**Driehaus College of Business**  
**DePaul University**  
**Online: Hybrid Spring 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting Monday 1:30pm**

**Instructor:** Stacey Brook, Ph. D.                      **e-mail:**                      [sbrook@depaul.edu](mailto:sbrook@depaul.edu)

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“The statements of science are not of what is true and what is not true, but statements of what is known with different degrees of certainty” – Richard Feynman, physicist.

**COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

The main objective of this course is to have students use and understand economics analysis. It covers many of the basic principles/theories in microeconomics, using the sports industry to illustrate these topics. Students use concepts from Business core courses (microeconomics and statistics) to analyze questions such as 'Do large-city professional sports franchises have a competitive advantage over their small-market counterparts?' or 'Why did Chicago and the State of Illinois use \$463 million of public money to refurbish Soldier Field?'

**TEXT**

None.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

To relate economic theory in a specific, well-known market.

To provide students the ability to critically think and analyze economic research in sports markets.

To enable students to perform quantitative research through data collection and statistical analysis.

**POLICY**

**Attendance:** You are responsible for all material discussed online and assigned readings.

**Zoom Meeting:** There is a meeting each Monday on Zoom at 1:30pm for one hour. This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions regarding the course material. If you have a personal question (about grades or other matter, contact me by email).

**Research Assignments:** There are five research assignments each worth **15%** of your final grade. The research assignments will be posted on D2L, and are to be turned in on D2L. It is your responsibility to upload the research assignment to D2L. The research assignment will not be returned.

**Late Policy:** Any research assignment turned in late will be discounted at my discretion.

**Exams:** There is one “take-home” final exam worth **25%** of your final grade.

**Final Exam Policy:** The final exam will be given according to the Final Exam Schedule. Other than final exam scheduling conflicts approved by the Registrar, this is the only time to take the final exam.

**Grades:** Your grade is determined by your performance on the research assignments and final exam. I will use the following scale to determine grades:

A = 93 – 100; A- = 90 – 93; B+ = 87 – 90; B = 83 – 87; B- = 80 – 83; C+ = 77 – 80;  
C = 73 – 77; C- = 70 – 73; D+ = 67 – 70; D = 63 – 67; D- = 60 – 63; F = 0 – 60.

**Dean of Students:** The Dean of Students Office (DOS) helps students in navigating the university, particularly during difficult situations, such as personal, financial, medical, and/or family crises. DOS assists students with Absence Notifications to faculty, Late Withdrawals, and Community Resource Referrals. They also have resources and programs to support health and wellness, violence prevention, substance abuse and drug prevention, and LGBTQ student services. You may contact DOS at <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/dos/>.

**Special Needs:** Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To insure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact me as soon as possible in the quarter (preferably the first week of class) and make sure that you have contacted one of the Center for Students with Disabilities Offices for support and additional service: Lincoln Park: Student Center 370, (773)325-1677; Loop: Lewis Center 1420. (312)362-8002.

**Academic Integrity:** I adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of DePaul University. Please refer to your student handbook for details regarding this policy and the consequences for any violations. Violations will result in a zero for that assignment/exam.

Day	Date	ECO336 - Sports & Statistics Schedule
M	3/28/2022	Introduction Overview of Sports Economics (1956)
W	3/30/2022	NBA Competitive Balance (2005) Regression Overview
M	4/4/2022	Sports Team Payroll and Performance
W	4/6/2022	Sports Market Theory (1995)
M	4/11/2022	NFL Payroll Costs (2019) NCAA Bowl Participation (forthcoming)
W	4/13/2022	NFL Attendance (1994) NCAA Football Attendance (2019)
M	4/18/2022	NBA Gate Revenues (2004) NCAA Football Revenue (2016)
W	4/20/2022	NFL Attendance & Revenues (2006) NCAA Alcohol Availability & Revenues (revisions requested)
M	4/25/2022	NCAA Apparel Valuations (2019) NCAA Football Television Ratings (2018)
W	4/27/2022	Sports Production Functions
M	5/2/2022	NFL Production (2007)
W	5/4/2022	NCAA Football Production (2018)
M	5/9/2022	Soccer Coach Change & Team Performance (2016) NCAA Football Head Coach Survival (under review)
W	5/11/2022	MLB Players Salary (1974 & 1992)
M	5/16/2022	NBA Talent Evaluation (2007) NHL Goalie Talent Evaluation (2010)
W	5/18/2022	Final Exam Information
M	5/23/2022	NCAA Basketball Coaches Salary (2010) NCAA Football Head Coaches Salary (2021)
W	5/25/2022	NBA Draft (2011) NCAA Basketball Selection (2010)
M	5/30/2022	NCAA Football Recruiting (2008) Harris Poll Voting (2020)
W	6/1/2022	NBA Referee Racial Discrimination (2011)
F	6/10/2022	<b>Final Exam (Due 6/10 by 5pm)</b>