ECON20011
Sports Economics

SUBJECT GUIDE

Semester 2 2013

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Department of Economics
Faculty of Business and Economics
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A. Subject coordinator

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To access the subject LMS site:
http://www.lms.unimelb.edu.au
[Use the same username and password that you use to access your University of Melbourne email account.]

B. Lectures and Tutorial times

Each week there are two 1-hour lectures; and one 1-hour tutorial. Lecture times/venues are Monday 2.15-3.15 (Richard Berry – Russell Love Theatre) and Wednesday 11-12 (Redmond Barry – Latham Theatre).
There will be weekly tutorials starting in the week beginning Monday August 5. Allocation to tutorials is determined by the student system ISIS. You must enroll in a tutorial via ISIS as soon as possible. You access ISIS through the Student Portal.

C. Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Submit on-line tool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Key article summary (500 words)</td>
<td>Wednesday August 14</td>
<td>Assignment tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Individual assignment (1500 words)</td>
<td>Wednesday September 11</td>
<td>Assignment tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 3</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Team project</td>
<td>Monday October 14</td>
<td>Assignment tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 4</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Tutorial presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 5</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Final exam (2 hours)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Textbook/Readings

There is no textbook for this subject. Readings will be assigned for each lecture and made available on the LMS site. Some general references that you may find useful are listed below.
E. Subject description and objectives

This subject provides an economic perspective on professional sports in Australia and the rest of the world. It shows how economic concepts and theories can be used to understand the operation of professional sports, and can guide decision-making on sports by management and public policy makers. It also emphasises how studying sporting competitions can provide a laboratory for improving our knowledge of human behaviour and economic activity. Topics covered include: the demand for professional sports; the design of sporting competitions; measurement of player and team performance; strategy and decision-making in sports; sporting labour markets; managing and coaching sports teams; umpiring in sports; sports gambling markets; and national sporting performance. The subject will draw on examples from many major sports and sporting competitions – such as the Olympics, Australian Football League, cricket, soccer, National Basketball Association, Major League Baseball and National Football League (gridiron).

Students who complete this subject will be able to:
• Classify, and identify the main characteristics of, different types of professional sporting competitions;
• Identify and apply relevant economic concepts and theories to understand the operation of professional sports;
• Apply empirical methods and available data to analyse the operation of professional sporting competitions;
• Use your understanding of economic aspects of the operation of professional sports to guide decision-making by team and league managers in professional sporting competitions; and public policy decision-makers with responsibility for professional sports; and
• Understand how data on the operation of professional sporting competitions can be applied to test economic theories of decision-making and market outcomes.
F. General references

An excellent overview of the field of sports economics is provided by:
Szymanski, Stefan (2009), Playbooks and Checkbooks (Princeton University Press).

Some textbooks on sports economics that provide general overviews of the field are:
Fort, Rodney (2003), Sports Economics (Prentice-Hall).
Sandy, Robert, Peter Sloane and Mark Rosentraub (2004), The Economics of Sport: An International Perspective (Palgrave Macmillan).

Some other useful references on sports economics are:

Other books you might find of interest:
Lewis, Michael (2004), Moneyball (WW Norton Co.).

On the history of professional sport:
G. Resources for study

• Lecture overheads – Available from LMS site.
• Audio lectures – Available from LMS site.
• Tutorial questions – Distributed in tutorials/Available from LMS site.

You can access the subject LMS site at: http://www.lms.unimelb.edu.au
To access the site you need to use the same username and password that you use to access your University of Melbourne email account.

Audio recordings of lectures delivered in this subject will be made available for. These recordings of lectures allow you to revise lectures during the semester, or to review lectures in preparation for the end of semester exam. Please note that lecture recordings are not a substitute for attendance at lectures; rather they’re designed for revision.

You can access recorded lectures by clicking on the Lecture Capture menu item in the LMS page for this subject. To listen to lecture recordings, you must install QuickTime 7 (or a later version) on your computer.

H. Extra information on submitting assessments

Assessments 1, 2 and 3 must be submitted in electronic format using the Assignment Tool.

You can access the Assignment Tool by clicking on ‘Assignment Tool’ in the navigation menu from the LMS subject website. A guide to using the Assignment Tool can be downloaded from: http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/708342/Students_Guide_Assignment_Tool_Feb2013.pdf

Please note that you are required to keep a copy of your assignment after it has been submitted, as it may be necessary for you to be able to provide a copy of your assignment at some later date.

Meeting Deadlines
In order to ensure equality for all students, assignments must be completed within specified time limits. Late submissions will attract a marking penalty where approval for late submission has not been given.
Assignments that exceed word limits may also attract a marking penalty. http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/csc/assessment/submission

Special Consideration
Students who have been significantly affected by illness or other serious circumstances during the semester may be eligible to apply for Special Consideration.
The following website contains detailed information relating to who can apply for Special Consideration and the process for making an application: http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/csc/assistance/special_consideration
I. Tutorial participation

At the end of semester your tutor will assign you a mark out of 10 for tutorial participation. Your grade for participation will depend on:

• Evidence of preparation for the tutorial;
• Frequency of participation in discussion;
• Relevance and logic of comments in discussion; and
• Evidence of active listening to other students’ contributions.

Everyone will be responsible for presenting on the previous week’s readings for a tutorial.

J. Faculty of Economics and Commerce Teaching and Learning Unit

The FBE Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) provides services and resources to enhance your learning in Business and Economics. Maximise your academic success by taking part in CELT services that develop:

• Skills in research, referencing and academic writing
• Mastery of different assignment types
• Effective study techniques
• Abilities to learn effectively with your peers
• Transition to the faculty and understanding of academic expectations

The Centre also provides an extensive range of helpsheets that can enhance your academic performance in Business and Economics. These are available or online or at the Centre. Visit the CELT site www.fbe.unimelb.edu.au/celt to learn more and get involved.

K. Plagiarism

It is the policy of the Department of Economics that attention be drawn to the nature and serious consequences of plagiarism and collusion.

Referencing

All sources used for a written piece of assessment must be referenced. This is to acknowledge that your material is not based entirely on your own ideas, but is based, in part, on the ideas, information, and evidence of others. This is desirable as you are attending University in order to learn from others.

You will be required to use the APA system or Harvard System of referencing. The FBE Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) has prepared a booklet for each system specifically to assist students to reference correctly. Each booklet contains many examples that will help you when preparing your assignments. The booklets can be found here: http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/647583/Basic_referencing_APA_system.pdf and http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/647584/Harvard Referencing.pdf
Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the act of representing as one’s own original work the creative works of another, without appropriate acknowledgement of the author or source. (Creative works may include published and unpublished written documents, interpretations, computer software, designs, music, sounds, images, photographs, and ideas or ideological frameworks gained through working with another person or in a group. These works may be in print and/or electronic media.)

Collusion
Collusion is the presentation by a student of an assignment as his or her own which is in fact the result in whole or in part of unauthorised collaboration with another person or persons. Collusion involves the cooperation of two or more students in plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. Both the student presenting the assignment and the student(s) willingly supplying unauthorised material (colluders) are considered participants in the act of academic misconduct. There is no objection to assignments being discussed in a preliminary way among students. **What is not permissible is anything in the nature of joint planning and execution of an assignment.**

Where an allegation of academic misconduct involving either plagiarism or collusion is upheld, significant penalties such as deprivation of credit for a subject or component or assessment can be imposed.