



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2019  
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2026  
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): February 2032  
 Course outline form version: 26/01/2024

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.**

<b>Course Code and Number:</b> ECON 285	<b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>												
<b>Course Full Title:</b> The Economics of Sport <b>Course Short Title:</b> The Economics of Sport													
<b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Social Sciences	<b>Department (or program if no department):</b> Economics												
<b>Calendar Description:</b> Develops fundamental economic concepts pertaining to industrial organization, labour, and public finance in the professional sports industry. Economic models are examined in terms of their ability to capture accurately the characteristics of this industry. Emphasizing EDI, Indigenization, and ethical decision-making, students analyze competitive balance, franchise economics, and socioeconomic impacts on marginalized communities through critical thinking and real-world applications.													
<b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>	ECON 100.												
<b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>	None.												
<b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>	None.												
<b>Antirequisite Courses</b> ( <i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i> ) Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>	<b>Course Details</b> Special Topics course: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: <b>No</b> <i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i> Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b> Delivery Mode: <b>May be offered in multiple delivery modes</b> Expected frequency: <b>Every other year</b> Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>28</b>												
<b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>Total hours</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>45</b></td> </tr> </table>	Lecture/seminar	45									<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b> PLAR is available for this course.
Lecture/seminar	45												
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>												
<b>Scheduled Laboratory Hours</b> Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<b>Transfer Credit</b> (See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a> ) Transfer credit already exists: <b>Yes</b> Submit outline for (re)articulation: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, fill in <a href="#">transfer credit form</a>.)</i>												
<b>Department approval</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b> March 14, 2025												
<b>Faculty Council approval</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b> June 6, 2025												
<b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b> February 27, 2026												

**Learning Outcomes** *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain core concepts from industrial organization, labour economics, and public finance as they apply to professional sports markets.
2. Analyze competitive balance, labour markets, franchise decisions, and stadium finance using economic models and evidence.
3. Evaluate the economic and social impacts of sports organizations and public funding decisions on diverse and Indigenous communities.
4. Apply ethical reasoning to issues such as wage disparities, commercialization, and franchise relocation in sport.
5. Communicate economic analysis and policy recommendations clearly and persuasively to academic and non-academic audiences using inclusive language.

**Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting** *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	30%	Assignments:	20%	%
Quizzes/tests:	40%	Holistic assessment:	10%	%

**Details:**

Holistic assessment consists of an applied analysis integrating theory, evidence, and equity considerations.

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Instructional Methods** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures will develop theories and apply them to problems in the subject. There will be extensive use of graphing and problem solving. Both formal analytic analysis and the economic intuition that underlies it will be used.

**Texts and Resource Materials** *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Leeds/ Allmen	The Economics of Sports, 7th Edition. Pearson	2023
2. Textbook	Berri	Sports Economics, 1st Edition. Macmillan	2018
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics****Unit 1: Introduction to Sports Economics**

- Overview of the sports industry and its economic significance
- Role of sports in society, culture, and Indigenous communities
- Framing the course: how EDI and Indigenization apply in sports economics

**Unit 2: Demand and Supply in Sports**

- Ticket pricing and demand determinants
- Broadcasting rights and digital platforms
- Access to sports: barriers for marginalized and low-income communities

**Unit 3: Market Structures and Competitive Balance**

- Monopoly and oligopoly in professional leagues
- Tools to measure competitive balance
- Salary caps, revenue sharing, and luxury taxes
- Ethical issues: equity between large and small market teams

**Unit 4: Labour Markets in Sports**

- Free agency, player mobility, and contracts
- Wage determination and superstar effects
- Unions and collective bargaining agreements
- Case study: gender wage gaps in sports (EDI focus)

**Unit 5: Public Finance and Stadium Economics**

- Public vs. private funding for arenas and stadiums

- Cost-benefit analysis of stadium subsidies
- Community impacts, displacement, and gentrification
- Ethical decision-making: who really benefits?

**Unit 6: Franchise Economics**

- Team location, relocation, and expansion decisions
- Franchise valuation and ownership structures
- Case study: Indigenous ownership and representation in sports teams

**Unit 7: Globalization of Sports**

- International player markets and transfers
- Global media rights and commercialization
- Issues of exploitation in developing countries (EDI focus)

**Unit 8: Sports and Social Issues**

- Sports as a tool for social mobility
- Representation of women, Indigenous athletes, and racialized communities
- Discrimination, racism, and access to participation
- Indigenization focus: integrating Indigenous games and knowledge systems into contemporary sports economics