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ECO 330: Sports Economics OER Curation

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ECO 330: Sports Economics OER Curation

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Overview

Scope Notes

Sports Economics examines economic issues pertaining to professional and collegiate sports, including analysis of industrial organization and antitrust issues, labor relations, discrimination, and the impact of franchises on local economies. Students in this course examine economics issues relating to both professional and college sports, and currently most of the class examples come from the MLB, NFL, NHL, and NBA. The current textbook is not concise and confusing for readers. The instructor would like an OER that introduce the economics of sports, most importantly the industrial organization, competitive balance, public financing, labor markets, and the business of color sports. The ideal OER material would require little or no changes to the material for adopting it for the course, but the instructor is interested in making changes to adapt the OER to fit their teaching style and class context. Additionally, the instructor would like the OER to include a guide for class discussion topics.

Current textbooks and materials

Michael Leeds, Peter von Allmen and Victor A Mathesone, The Economics of Sports, 6th edition, Routledge (2018). \$45-145. 978-1138052161

Search Notes

This search results in many good quality OER options created by instructors for their courses. This search consulted Pressbooks, OER Commons, Merlot, Open Textbook Library, OpenOregon, the Director of Open Access Books, and OpenStax. There may not be a single text that is the full fit for the context of this individual course, but there is likelihood of adapting chapters to create



a single OER text for this course, and additional journal articles may make ideal supplemental materials.

Gap Analysis

We did not identify a resource with a specific discussion list of topics. However, there may be some listed within the OER texts that could be compiled to guide the instructor. Additionally, there were not many OER options for economics and collegiate sports. This is a gap and an area of need for OER development.

Promising OER Options

Contemporary Issues in Sports

- Packy Moran, Contemporary Issues in Sports, SRM:1060 Course OER Materials, University of Iowa (2020).
- Available from [University of Iowa Pressbooks](#)
- Online book
- CC BY
- Comments: This OER was created for course SRM: 1060 “Contemporary Issues in Sports” by an instructor. The text covers management, finance, marketing, event management, and communications. The Finance/Economics section IV will be of most interest for this course with chapters “Economists take on sport franchise valuation” and “voice over powerpoints for finance and economics” as well as the “Comparing two organization structures” in management section III. If the entirety of the text is not ideal for the course, doing a minor adaption of assembling specific chapters into one ideal OER for this course is an option under the licensing.

Politics of Sports

- Anna Carroll and Eleanor Wakefield, The Politics of Sports, 2nd edition, University of Oregon (2020). 978-1-63635-061-5
- Available from [OpenOregon](#)
- Epub, PDF, MOBI, print
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments/Annotations: This OER textbook provides an introduction to the politics of sports in order to prompt students to engage, question their assumptions about sports, and write critical papers. The OER is a collection of texts and materials targeted for combining a students’ familiar of sports and engaging their critical thinking skills. This resource is ideal for class topic discussions or to motivate students for a research topic. It would be recommended to explore the OER and identify chapters that are relevant to the course, and either directly adopt those individual sections or make changes to adapt them to the specific class context.

Economics of Subsidizing Sports Stadiums

- Scott A. Wolla, The Economics of Subsidizing Sports Stadiums, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (2019).
- Available from [OER Commons](#)
- Online, PDF
- CC BY-NC-ND
- Comments: A resource provided by the Federal Reserve Bank explores whether or not tax dollars should be used to subsidize sports stadiums. The resource has a teacher version available through an instructor registration in addition to the student PDF/online article.

Introduction to Sport Business

- Brendan Dwyer, Introduction to Sport Business (2018).
- Available from [OER Commons](#)
- Online, powerpoint, Google classroom
- CC BY-NC-ND
- Comments: This OER course was designed to introduce students to basic economic and financial concepts within the sport industry. The OER focuses on budgeting, financial statements, and the funding structures of intercollegiate, professional, and non-profit sport entities. Additionally, students learn about facilities and debt management, learn to assess the financial feasibility of new projects, and apply strategy when making financial decisions. This resource could educate students and be utilized in class or as part of homework, but do note the no derivatives part of the license depending on how one wants to adapt it.

Stretch Resource Options

The Ball is in Y(Our) Court: Social Change Through and Beyond Sport

- Mary Louise Adams, The Ball is in Y(Our) Court: Social Change Through and Beyond Sport, Queen's University (2020).
- Available from [eCampus Ontario](#)
- Online book
- CC BY-NC
- Comments: This OER text was created by students in the KNPE 473 course at Queen's University and edited by instructor Mary Louise Adams. The text explores social change in and through sports. Some chapters may be relevant for the course, such as one or two selected with application to how the social change elements are impacted by the economics of sports, and used as a class discussion.

Sports Development, Law And Commercialization

- Elriena Eksteen, Sports Development, Law And Commercialization, BookBoon (2021).
- Available from [BookBoon](#)
- Online book, PDF
- License: Unknown
- Comments: This book was discovered through an OER collection. However, it is not certain it is a true OER. It is a free resource, but that requests a login to access and will include advertisements. It may be applicable for this course and is included as a stretch resource due to its unclear status as an OER. This book was designed to be ideal for sports managers, administrators and sports organisers running a sports club or institution. This book teaches readers how to develop a sports club and how to market your club successfully. The lessons may be ideal for a class exercise or research prompt. This book also outlines sports contracts and how to prepare a contract according to the law. However, the author is based in South Africa and the sections on laws may not apply to this course context.

Principles of Economics

- Steven Greenlaw and David Shapiro, Principles of Economics, 2nd edition, OpenStax (2021). 978-1-947172-37-1
- Available from [OpenStax](#)
- Online, PDF, ibook, Kindle, print copy
- CC-BY
- Comments: Principles of Economics 2e covers the scope and sequence of most introductory economics courses. The text includes many current examples, but it is not necessarily sport focused. This OER is being included as a general economics open educational resource if the instructor would like supplemental general economics material to round out the introduction of the course and lay the foundation for economics of sports conversations.

Good Governance in Sport

- Arnout Geeraert and Dank van Eekeren, Good Governance in Sport, Routledge (2021). 9781003172833
- Available from [Directory of OA Books](#) / [Taylor & Francis](#)
- Online, PDF
- CC BY-NC-ND
- Comments: This open access book examines the theoretical perspectives that lead to different conceptualisations of governance and different standards for institutional quality. The first part of the book explores the complexity and nuances of good governance by examining theoretical perspectives including leadership, value, feminism, culture and systems. The second part of the book concentrates on reform strategies, compliance policies and codes of ethics. The text is not US-centric and includes

Canadian and European perspectives on sports and governance. A few chapters may be a great fit for this course, especially for thoughtful class discussions or to inspire research topics outside of the norm.

Game-Day Gangsters

- Curtis Fogel, *Game-Day Gangsters: Crime and Deviance in Canadian Football*, Athabasca University Press (2013). 9781927356548
- Available from [Athabasca University Press](#)
- PDF, ebook, print
- CC BY-NC-ND
- Comments: This open access book can be a useful OER text to explore the complicated relationship between sport and law. The author writes from the Canadian context exploring Canadian football, discusses on-field violence and hazing, and argues for a review of the system in how Canadian football is governed. Although the text is not strictly an economic perspective, the legal elements may be useful in rounding out the class' education and may be a rich resource for discussion topics.

Contracts, pay and performance in the sport of kings

- David Butler, Robert Butler and Robert Simmons, *Contracts, pay and performance in the sport of kings: Evidence from horse racing*, Wiley (2021).
- Available from [Wiley](#)
- PDF (open access article)
- CC BY
- Comments: This open access article came into our search for sports economics. From the abstract: "A considerable body of evidence shows that performance-related pay schemes can raise worker productivity with much of this increase due to worker sorting. However, variations in the power of performance-related pay contracts are rarely observed. The thoroughbred horse racing industry offers such an opportunity." Horse racing is certainly not the traditional scope of the class with the primary focus on the four major leagues, but wanted to highlight open access article as potential elements of OER for the course.