Labor Relations and Professional Sports
Hybrid Syllabus

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WEEK BEGINS ON TUESDAYS
Summer 2014

Course Description
This class focuses on labor relations systems in professional sports in the United States. The course will provide a basic understanding of labor relations and labor law, as well as the business of sports. We will learn the history of professional leagues, the unions and the bargaining history for the four major sports (Baseball, Hockey, Football and Basketball) and others. Students are expected to participate in group and individual activities to learn about the collective bargaining process, and the operation of the various labor agreements in regards to salaries, discipline and free agency. As a hybrid course, roughly half of the material will be covered in videos, online lectures, group projects and posted discussion questions.

Required Texts
• All texts will be assigned on SAKAI. There is no textbook for this course. Texts will be drawn from a variety of sources, including the following:
• Other texts will also be assigned.

Course Requirements
• Attend all classes and arrive on time, prepared for class.
• Participate in online class activities, small group labor negotiation, and group presentation
• Midterm and Final written exam
• Written assignments as assigned
• Regularly check your Sakai Course Site at sakai.rutgers.edu. (To access Sakai, you will need your Rutgers Net ID and password) You will receive announcements from Sakai at your Rutgers e-mail address, so remember to check that account frequently. I will often assign additional readings, including articles, as the course progresses.

Grading
Grading will focus primarily on two written exams, discussions and projects. Classroom and online discussion participation will make up the remaining portion of the grade. Attendance is mandatory for the course. Grades distributions are as follows:

15% Classroom Attendance, in-class participation, forum participation, and written assignments.

20% Midterm Exam and 20% Second Midterm Exam

30% Group Discussion, Group Project and Presentation

15% Reading questions and responses
Policies

- The internet offers an incredible breadth of information at your fingertips, access unimagined by previous generations. It also has Facebook. If you are distracted by your computer, phone or other electronic devices, you will be considered absent from that class activity, and that will play a role in determining your final grade.
- Papers that exhibit significant errors of punctuation, grammar, spelling, or syntax (generally, three or more errors per page) risk failing.
- Attendance at all classes is expected. If you expect to miss a class, please use the University absence reporting website https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/ to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.
- After four absences you risk failing the course.
- Punctuality is important. Lateness of twenty minutes or more counts as half an absence.
- You are required to review and abide by the University's Policy on Academic Integrity. This can be found online at http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml

Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics of Discussion</th>
<th>Readings for Discussion (Completed before class)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/2</td>
<td>Course Introduction&lt;br&gt;Syllabus</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/16</td>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>□ Reading: Legal Bases: Chapters 1 and 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/23</td>
<td>Baseball Continued</td>
<td>□ Reading: Legal Bases: Chapter 3 and 4&lt;br&gt;Skim the Curt Flood Decision</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/7</td>
<td>Football</td>
<td>□ Reading: Playing for Dollars: “Football”&lt;br&gt;Reading Labor Relations in Football</td>
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<td>7/14</td>
<td>Football&lt;br&gt;<strong>FIRST EXAM</strong></td>
<td>□ Reading: Football Strike of 1982&lt;br&gt;Reading: Tailgating Sacks and Salary Caps: Chapter 3: “Any Given Sunday”</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21</td>
<td>Football</td>
<td>□ Reading: Tailgating Sacks and Salary Caps: Chapter 10, “Down to the Wire”&lt;br&gt;Reading on NFL.com&lt;br&gt;Reading: Summary of the 2011 Agreement (On NFLPA website)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/28</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>□ Readings: Playing for Dollars: “Basketball”&lt;br&gt;Reading: Summary of Deal Terms</td>
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<td>8/4</td>
<td>Hockey and Other Sports</td>
<td>□ Reading: Playing for Dollars: “Hockey”&lt;br&gt;Reading: A Lost Season: “The 2004-05 NHL Lockout”</td>
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<td>8/11</td>
<td>Student Bargaining&lt;br&gt;Second Midterm</td>
<td>□ NONE</td>
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