Labor Relations and Professional Sports
Spring 2012

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Cook/Douglas Campus

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Course Description

This class focuses on labor relations systems in professional sports in the United States. We will discuss important terms and constructs used in labor relations, applying them to professional sports teams in several major sports. This course will require outside reading or research pertaining to current trends and events.

Required Texts

- All texts will be assigned on SAKAI. Texts will be drawn from a variety of sources, including the following:
  - Rosner, Scott and Kenneth L. Shropshire. The Business of Sports. Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2004.
  - Marvin Miller. A Whole Different Ball Game: The Inside Story of the Baseball Revolution. I.R. Dee, 2004.
  - Glenn M. Wong. Essentials of Sports Law. ABC-CLIO, 2009.
  - Sloane , Arthur A and Fred Witney. Labor Relations. Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007.
- Other texts will also be assigned.

Course Requirements

- Provide at least 2 articles/videos from outside sources on current events
- Facilitate or assist in one class discussion on current trends/events
- Participate in class activities and Group Project
- Final paper (length approx. 3-5 pages)
- Midterm and Final written exam
- 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 be done by a combination of classroom participation and assignments. Attendance is mandatory for the course. Grades distributions are as follows:

20% Classroom Attendance and Participation
20% Midterm Exam
20% Group Project and Presentation
20% Final Paper
20% Second Midterm Exam

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

Date	Topics of Discussion	Homework Due
1/17/12	➢ Course Introduction ➢ Syllabus	None
1/24/12	➢ Labor Law ➢ History of Labor	❑ Reading: Taylor & Witney, *Labor Relations Law "Development of Labor Relations Law"* ❑ Reading: *Introduction to Labor Law*
1/31/12	➢ Collective Bargaining and Industry Organization	❑ Reading: Professional Sports: Collective Bargaining in the Spotlight ❑ Readings: Chapter 3: Sports and the Antitrust
2/7/12	➢ Sporting Incentives and the Public Trough	❑ Chapter 4: Sporting Incentives ❑ Chapter 5: Sports and Broadcasting ❑ Non-Verbal Communication
2/14/12	➢ Labor Relations in Baseball	❑ Reading: Legal Bases: Chapters 1 and 2
2/21/12	➢ Curt Flood and Antitrust	❑ Reading: Legal Bases: Chapter 3 ❑ Curt Flood Decision ❑ Chapter 3: Baseball's Antitrust Exemption
2/28/12	➢ Baseball (*cont.)*	❑ Reading: Labor Relations in Professional Sports: Chapter 4. ❑ Reading: Labor Arbitration and the End of the Reserve System: Chapter 6.
3/6/12	➢ Midterm Exam	❑ None
3/13/12	➢ **SPRING BREAK**	❑ *NO HOMEWORK*
3/20/12	➢ Football	❑ Reading: NFL Players Agreement ❑ Reading: *Playing for Dollars: Football*
3/27/12	➢ Football Strikes	❑ Reading: Labor Relations and Professional Sports: *The Football Strike of 1982*

4/3/12	➢ Group Project Presentation/NHL	❑ Reading: *Playing for Dollars: Hockey*
4/10/12	➢ NBA	❑ Readings: Playing for Dollars: *Basketball* ❑ Blue Collar Law and Basketball
4/17/12	➢ Review for Second Midterm Exam	❑ **Final Paper Due**
4/24/12	➢ Second Midterm	**None**