The main feature of the class will be a project on the economics of a professional sports team, a stadium, a league, a player’s association, a tournament sport, college sports, or the Olympics.

To help you complete your project, the course will cover a number of topics about the economics of sports. The core of the class will follow one of the new textbooks on the economics of sports:

- Microeconomics of sports teams and sports leagues.
- Collective bargaining and discrimination in sports.
- Competitive balance in professional leagues, salary caps, and revenue sharing.
- Economics of franchises, stadiums, and arenas.
- College and amateur athletics.
- Should sports leagues be treated as monopolies?
- Competition for sports teams and the Olympics.
- Economic allocation of players’ salaries and their value by position played.

The class counts as writing intensive. Econ 402 is a prerequisite.

Professor Jim Wible, Economics Department. Professor Wible grew up as a fan of Penn State football, the New York Yankees, and local high school sports. Since arriving in New England, he has developed an active interest in the Patriots, the Celtics, the Red Sox and some interest in the Bruins. Twice he has spent a semester as a visiting scholar in Durham NC and also developed an interest in Duke University basketball. He still plays basketball and golf. For all of these sports, he is concerned how economics shapes each sport and competition on the field of play. He wonders to what extent sports outcomes are an economic matter.