Economics 353
Industrial Organization - Competition and Antitrust

Professor Frank Gollop
Carney 244
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-4:30


Readings: Copies of required readings (other than selections from the textbook) are available in the Coursepack Booklet available in the B.C. bookstore.

Course Requirements: Midterm 35%
                      Term Paper 15%
                      Final 50%

Course Outline

I. Introduction Sept 3

II. Microeconomics: Competition vs. Monopoly Sept 5-10

III. Antitrust Policy - Overview Sept 12

IV. Monopoly and Dominant Firm Behavior
    - Theory Sept 17-19
    - Antitrust Cases Sept 24

V. Oligopoly: Interdependence and Non-Cooperative Games
   - Oligopolistic Interdependence Oct 1-8
   - Game Theory Oct 10-15
   - Antitrust Cases Oct 17

MIDTERM Oct 22

VI. Oligopoly: Collusion and Cooperative Games
    - Agreement/Adherence Oct 24
    - Game Theory Oct 29
    - Antitrust Cases Oct 31

VII. Mergers and Takeovers Nov 5-7

VIII. Predatory Pricing Nov 12-14

IX. Price Discrimination Nov 19

X. Tying and Exclusive Dealing Nov 21-26

XI. Vertical Restraints Dec 3-5

TERM PAPER DUE Dec 5
I. Introduction

Martin, chapter 1.

II. Microeconomics: Competition vs. Monopoly

Martin, chapter 2. (For additional review of microeconomic theory, consult any intermediate micro text chapters on production theory, competitive equilibrium, and monopoly.)


III. Antitrust Policy - Overview

Martin, chapters 3 and 18, pp. 539-61.

IV. Monopoly and Dominant Firm Behavior

Theory:

Martin, chapter 4, pp. 68-94.

Antitrust Cases:

Martin, chapter 4, pp. 95-101.

V. Oligopoly: Interdependence and Non-Cooperative Games

Oligopolistic Interdependence:

Martin, chapter 5, pp. 110-38.

Game Theory:

Davis, M. Game Theory: A Nontechnical Introduction. Chapters 1 and 5, pp. 75-119.

Antitrust Cases:

Martin, chapter 5, pp. 138-41.
VI. Oligopoly: Collusion and Cooperative Games

Agreement/Adherence:

Martin, chapter 6, pp. 150-69.

Game Theory:

Davis, M. Game Theory: A Nontechnical Introduction. (Same as above.)

Antitrust Cases:

Martin, chapter 6, pp. 169-75.

VII. Mergers and Takeovers

Martin, chapters 9 (pp. 257-85) and 10 (pp. 293-306; pp. 313-24, and pp. 331-33).


CRA Research Review, "Predicting Challenges to Mergers: It's Still Difficult."


VIII. Predatory Pricing

Martin, chapter 16.


IX. Price Discrimination

Martin, chapter 15, pp. 417-37.


X. Tying and Exclusive Dealing

Martin, chapter 15, pp. 441-49.

U.S. Steel v. Fortner (to be distributed in class)


* Supplementary but not required reading.
XI. Vertical Restraints

Martin, chapter 17, pp. 490-528.
BOSTON COLLEGE
Department of Economics

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