ECON 4697
Industrial Organization and Regulation

2-3:15 p.m. T Th
ECON 2
Text: The Antitrust Revolution by Kwoka and White, eds.

Prof. Jamie Kruse
Office: ECON 11
Phone: 492-8736
Office hours: 10-11 a.m. T Th or by appointment

Description: This is an upper division economics course that examines the relationship between economic theory and antitrust policy. Students in this course will learn more about industrial organization theory by studying models of perfect competition, monopoly, Cournot oligopoly, Bertrand oligopoly, monopolistic competition, price discrimination, dominant firm markets and their welfare effects. At the same time we will explore antitrust law, its enforcement in the United States and the effect of the laws on specific cases described in the text The Antitrust Revolution. We will also discuss current business activity and litigation that pertains to the field of industrial organization.

Work Required: The weight that each part contributes to the final grade is in parenthesis.

Written assignments-(60%)
There will be three written assignments with the topic given at least one week prior to the due date for the first draft. These assignments will typically be two to four pages in length. (10%/assignment)

A portfolio of three short papers or one longer paper is due at the end of the semester (April 30, 1996). The maximum total text will be not more than nine (9) pages. (30%)

In class presentation/panel discussions (20%)
Each student is expected to give at least one short (5 min.) presentation to the class on a topic assigned by the instructor and/or participate in a panel discussion on an assigned topic.

In class midterm exam- (20%)
A midterm exam will be given March 7, 1996. Students will be tested on their ability to solve standard models used in industrial organization, knowledge of antitrust laws of the United States and current events pertaining to industrial organization. A set of review questions will be distributed to students prior to the exam.
Important Dates:

1/25/96  Draft version 1.0 of two-page paper discussing an article pertaining to the field of industrial organization
1/25/96  Comments on another student’s draft 1.0
1/30/96  Version 1.1 of first assignment
3/7/96   Midterm exam
3/14/96  Draft 2.0 of two-page paper topic tba
3/14/96  Comments on another student’s draft 2.0
3/19/96  Version 2.1 of second assignment
4/4/96   Draft 3.0 of two-page paper topic tba
4/4/96   Comments on another student’s draft 3.0
4/9/96   Version 3.1 of third assignment
4/30/96  Portfolio or longer paper due
5/15/96  11:30-2:30 p.m. Scheduled Final exam slot. You should be able to pick up all papers and find out your course grade at this time.

Scorecard for written assignments

Presentation (20)
- Appearance (5)
- Grammar/punctuation (5)
- Quality of writing (10)

Content (50)
- Importance to the field of industrial organization
- Economic content of argument(s)
- Economic evidence backing up arguments

Complete (20)
- Contains: 1. Version * .1
  2. copy of article(s) and cites
  3. Version * .0 with other student’s comments

Comments given other student’s draft (10)

Scorecard of class presentations/panel discussion

Organization (40)
- Are the ideas presented in a way that is easy for the other students to follow?

Appearance (20)
- The way you think your professors and instructors should look when they give lectures

Preparation (40)
- Does the presenter/panelist demonstrate knowledge of his/her topic?

Originality (5 bonus points)
- Any prop or example that helps promote interest and improves understanding.