

**ECON 4697—100 Syllabus
Industrial Organization**

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Office Hours: M/W 12:45 – 1:45 pm

Course Meetings: Term B, Jun 2 – Jul 3, M-F 11:00 am – 12:35 pm, ECON 119

This course studies the functioning of markets, using background knowledge from your intermediate microeconomics courses. Industrial organization is primarily concerned with imperfect competition, business behavior and strategy, regulation of markets, and the implications of these for economic efficiency. We will be using the textbook *Modern Industrial Organization, 4th Ed.*, by Carlton and Perloff. Whether you rent or purchase this text, it will be essential to your performance in this course to keep up with assigned readings.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance will be taken every class for my own record keeping purposes, but attendance is *not* figured into your course grade. However, as this is an advanced course and the material we cover will not all be from the book, I highly encourage you to attend every class and participate. Moreover, this is an extremely condensed course—approximately one month—so you *must* plan to attend if you expect to pass. It should go without saying that in an advanced course you will be expected to come to class having done the assigned readings and ready to participate fully in class activities.

Grading: This course is graded on the basis of your performance in two areas: Assignments and Examinations. 30% of your grade comes from your performance on homework assignments, while the remaining 70% is determined by exam performance. There will be one midterm and one final exam, worth 35% each. To be clear, the midterm and the final exam weigh equally into your final course grade—each is worth 35%. **No exams will be dropped under any circumstances, and there are no make-up exams, except in the case of documented serious injury, hospitalization or other emergency. To be clear, a missed exam is a zero.** There is no “extra credit” in this class—if you keep up with the material and treat each test as equally important there should be no need for extra credit.

Problem Sets: Problem sets from each chapter will be assigned throughout the course, and I expect you to complete them and come to office hours if you are having trouble. These assignments will be crucial in preparing you for the exams. I do not mind working in groups on homework. Of course, this affords you the opportunity to cheat by simply copying someone else’s work. If you choose to complete homework assignments in this manner, your exam grades will no doubt be punishment enough. Homework assignments will not be graded for correctness—homework is supposed to be a learning opportunity and you should not be penalized for learning—but will instead be graded on completeness and quality. The “quality” of your effort on problem sets is up to my discretion, so err on the side of putting *too much* effort into them and you should be fine. If your problem sets look sloppy, the answers are not well thought out and reasoned, are hard to read or otherwise show lack of effort, you will receive a poor grade for them. They count for nearly a third of your entire grade, so *I expect you to put a lot of effort into them!* Problem sets will be posted at the start of each section of material, and I will announce the due date for each. Late problem sets lose a letter grade every day they are late.

Attitude: I come to the university each day ready to teach and eager for you to learn. I am passionate about teaching and I love economics. Accordingly, I expect you to all come to class with good attitudes. There is absolutely no place in my classroom for bad attitudes or behavior. Anyone displaying a poor attitude will be asked to leave.

Course Materials: At all times, the relevant course materials, including syllabus, problem sets, practice exams, etc. can be found on our class website listed on the first page of this syllabus. The URL listed in this syllabus will direct

you to my main website, from which you will click on the appropriate course number on the right hand side of the screen, which will take you to our class website.

Office Hours: My office hours and office location are listed on the front page of this syllabus. If these hours conflict with a course you have, send me your class schedule, and we can schedule time to meet outside these times. Make use of office hours to get help throughout the semester—not just before exams. I am your best resource, so make use of my office hours to get the help you need.

Additional Notes:

Disability Policy:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322.

Religious Observance Policy:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. If you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the semester so we can make arrangements.

Honor Code:

All students of the University of Colorado at Denver are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council. Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion).

Code of Behavior Policy:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences or race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

Discrimination and Harassment Policy:

The University of Colorado at Denver policy on Discrimination and Harassment can be found at <http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/content.php?catoid=1&navoid=24>. The university policy on Sexual Harassment and on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Course Material	Topics	Assignments/Exams
Jun 2	Ch's 1 & 2	What is IO?, Firms & Costs	Problem Set 1
Jun 2	Chapter 3	Perfect Competition	Problem Set 2
Jun 2	Chapter 4	Monopoly	Problem Set 3
Jun 9	Chapter 5	Cartels	Problem Set 4
Jun 9	Chapter 6	Oligopoly	Problem Set 5
Jun 9	Chapter 7	Monopolistic Competition	Problem Set 6
Jun 16	Midterm Tuesday	Review Monday	Midterm Tuesday
Jun 16	Chapter 8	Industry Structure & Performance	Problem Set 7
Jun 16	Chapter 9	Price Discrimination	Problem Set 8
Jun 16	Ch's 10 & 11	Special Topics Pricing, Strategic Behavior	Problem Set 9
Jun 23	Chapter 13	Information	Problem Set 10
Jun 23	Chapter 14	Advertising/Disclosure	Problem Set 11
Jun 23	Ch's 18, 19 & 20	International Trade, Antitrust Policy, Regulation/Deregulation	Problem Set 12
Jun 30	Mon/Tues Catch Up	Mon/Tues Catch Up	Mon/Tues Catch Up
Jun 30	Thursday Final	Wednesday Review	Thursday Final