

Dr. Diana Moss
University of Colorado
Department of Economics
Fall 2020
Monday 4:10 – 6:40 pm

Location: ALL ON-LINE CLASS, NO IN PERSON CLASS

Antitrust and Regulation (Econ 4797-001)
Course Syllabus

Contact Information and Office Hours:

Voice or text (please identify yourself in your message): 720-601-6806
E-mail: dross@antitrustinstitute.org or diana.moss@colorado.edu
VIRTUAL Office hours: Mondays 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Course Description and Objectives:

The objective of this course is to familiarize you with competition policy and the major tools (antitrust and regulation) for promoting markets, innovation, and consumer benefits. The course topic is an important focus within the field of Industrial Organization and is growing in importance given recent concerns over declining competition in the U.S. economy. In the course, students will think analytically and critically about competition enforcement and policy, and develop and apply economic tools to the analysis of mergers, collusive agreements, and monopolization issues. As such, the course will focus on the analytical building blocks for evaluating imperfectly competitive market structures and strategic firm conduct.

Econ 4797 is an applied course and uses a case study approach with real world examples to illustrate, develop, and critique economic tools used in antitrust and regulation. Examples come from past, present, and prospective antitrust and regulation cases across a number of industries, including: high technology, energy, telecommunications, sports, transportation, agriculture, consumer products, and others. Individual and group projects help develop analysis and public speaking skills.

Prerequisites:

Economics students must have already taken Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (Econ 3070) *or* Industrial Organization (Econ 4697) to enroll in this class. **No exceptions will be made.**

Requirements, Grading, and Other Policies:

Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Class Attendance	10%
Case Presentation	10%
Team Projects:	
- Research Paper	10%
- Presentation	10%

Total	100%

I will assign letter grades at the end of the semester based on a distribution of total point scores. Note that there are **no make-up exams**, except for conflicts with a religious obligation.

Course Text:

The assigned course text is an e-book, which is a compilation of antitrust cases from several editions of the *THE ANTITRUST REVOLUTION*, John E. Kwoka, Jr. And Lawrence J. White, eds., Oxford University Press. I encourage you to keep up with the readings, in advance of their coverage in lecture. [The e-book can be purchased on RedShelf.com](#). Additional readings may be assigned throughout the semester, which I will make these available through the course website.

Approximate Calendar of Topics:

Horizontal Mergers - weeks 1 – 4
Collusion and Agreements - weeks 5 – 7
Exclusionary Conduct - weeks 8 - 10
Vertical mergers - weeks 11 - 13
Group project presentations - weeks 14 – 15

Policies and Other University Information:

Administrative Drops: The class meets once a week on Mondays. We meet a total of 14 times this semester. Thus, each class is the equivalent of two (2) T-Th classes, or three (3) M-W-F classes. We will have a full class every day, including the first day of class, August 26th. The University deadline for administrative drops is September 4th. Because of the schedule for the course, if you do not attend the first day, the administrative drop policy will be applied. Of course, subject to extenuating and verifiable circumstances that prevent you from attending the day, I will make accommodations. Information can be found at <https://www.colorado.edu/registrar/students/registration/register/drop>.

Academic Integrity: All students 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

(honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). 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). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-honor-code-policy> and at <http://honorcode.colorado.edu/>.

Classroom Behavior: Students are expected to abide by the University's classroom behavior policy. **In particular, the use of wireless telephony devices while the class is in session distracts the class from the lecture and/or discussion and should be turned off before the start of class.** Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, 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 **within the first two weeks of the semester** so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-relatedbehavior>.

Religious Obligations: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, you are required to inform me of a scheduling conflict **within the first two weeks of the semester** so that I may make accommodations. See the full details of the University religious observances policy at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams>.

Discrimination and Sexual Harassment: The University's policies on discrimination, sexual harassment, and amorous relationships apply 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 Institutional Equity and Compliance, formerly the Office of Discrimination and Harassment can be reached by telephone at 303-492-2127 and at <http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity/>. University policies regarding Discrimination and Harassment, Sexual Misconduct and Amorous Relationships are available at <http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity/policies>.

Students with Disabilities: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services **within the first two weeks of the semester** so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices. Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements

and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.