ECON 4697-001 INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION & REGULATION

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Class requirements

The critical thinking required for successful completion of this course may not come naturally. Classroom exposure to model building, group exercises, applied problems and solutions is the best way to become proficient in the application of microeconomic theory and the way economists think and solve problems.

For safety and administration reasons, please try to sit in the same seat throughout the semester. I may take attendance sometimes for my administrative records, but there will be no formal penalty for non-attendance.

Please inform me immediately if an unforeseen emergency, illness or safety concern impacts your performance. I can help, but I need to know your circumstances as soon as possible to consider suitable alternative arrangements.

Feel free to form study groups to review and discuss lecture/reading material, homework assignments etc. However, you must submit your own individual work for grading. If you work with classmates on assignments, please list the names of these persons on the front page of your individually submitted assignment.[1]

To successfully complete the class, each student should:
- (a)   attend two 75-minute classes each week;
- (b)   review and augment lecture notes after class;
- (c)   be punctual, polite and respectfully engage in class discussion;
- (d)   complete (a minimum of six out of seven) homework assignments;
- (e)   complete one mid-term quiz;
- (f)   complete one mid-term examination;
- (g)   complete one final examination;
- (h)   cooperate with your classmates and your Professor; and
- (i)   .

Cellular phones, laptops, tablets and other devices. You may use your devices for learning, e.g., electronic notetaking, photographs of the chalk board, etc., and to practice appropriate health and safety measures. Please do not use your device for calls, texts, social media and online activities, etc. during class. If you use your devices for activities that distract me or other students, I will ask you to leave the class immediately.

Grading

There will be seven homework assignments (with the lowest score dropped from the overall homework grade), one mid-term quiz, one mid-term examination, and one final examination. The weights for these assessments are:

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[1] More generally, follow the honor code when completing your assessments. My penalty for code violations

Homework assignments	(6×10 %)	60 %
Mid-term quiz	(1×10 %)	10 %
Mid-term examination	(1×15 %)	15 %
Final examination	(1×15 %)	15 %

Homework will consist of short-answer and problem-solving questions that require you to use diagrammatic, mathematical and written skills to prove your answers (i.e., provide an appropriate method and/or logical steps). Homework presentation will count for 20 percent of each of your assignment grades. Please write your mathematical and graphical answers clearly and smartly. Basic requirements for presentation include your name and homework heading, page numbers, appropriate labels for figures, graphs, tables, etc., clear and transparent economic and mathematical notation, and good grammar and flow. You may use a word processor and/or write neatly with a pen (see Canvas for an example solution). Homework must be saved as a single pdf file and uploaded to Canvas before 5pm on the due date. Submissions at 5pm and after on the due date will incur a 25 percent penalty. No homework will be accepted after 11.59pm on the due date.

The mid-term quiz will be a multiple-choice questionnaire. The mid-term and final examinations will consist of short-answer and problem-solving questions like homework questions and class applications. You may need a basic non-programmable calculator during the quiz and examinations. I will let you know beforehand.

Make-up homework assignments, quizzes or examinations will only be given when there is a proven emergency, health or safety concern, or other unusual circumstance that are discussed with the instructor prior to submission/completion dates. If any issues hinder your performance in the class, please discuss with the instructor sooner than later. Any student that misses the quiz or mid-term exam due to a proven emergency or other circumstances may have their other assessments weighted up with instructor approval.

<div align="center">Important dates for assessment</div>

Jan 23	Homework 1
Feb 6	Homework 2
Feb 20	Homework 3
Mar 5	Mid-term examination
Mar 12	Homework 4
Mar 22	Homework 5
Apr 2	Mid-term quiz
Apr 16	Homework 6
Apr 30	Homework 7
May 7	Final examination[2]

The Department of Economics provides a free drop-in tutorial office which offers help on all core courses in the major, and occasionally on other undergraduate courses in the Department. Its website is:

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[2] The final exam is on Tuesday, May 7, 4.30 to 7pm. The spring 2024 exam schedule is available at https://www.colorado.edu/registrar/students/calendar/finals.

https://www.colorado.edu/economics/node/513/attachment

The Department also maintains a list of tutors who are available for private hire. Its website is:
https://www.colorado.edu/economics/node/515/attachment

Campus and department policies

The Department of Economics enforces prerequisites. Students without the appropriate prerequisite(s) may be administratively dropped.

Please read the campus and department policies at:

https://www.colorado.edu/economics/current-courses

Please read the required syllabus statements at:

https://www.colorado.edu/academicaffairs/policies-customs-guidelines/required-syllabus-statements

Lecture topics

The lecture topics for industrial organization are:

   i. Introduction to industrial organization
  ii. Monopoly pricing
 iii. Product positioning
  iv. Price discrimination I
   v. Price discrimination II
  vi. Quantity competition
 vii. Price competition I
viii. Price competition II
  ix. Collusion
   x. Horizontal and vertical mergers