



ECON 370 002 – Economics of Industrial Organization
Spring 2013 (12829)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10:30 am – 11:20 am
Planetary Hall, Room 127

Brandon T. Minster <bminster@gmu.edu>

Office: Enterprise Hall, 3rd floor

Office Hour: Monday and Wednesday, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Texts: Carlton, Dennis W. and Jeffrey M. Perloff. *Modern Industrial Organization*. 4th Edition (2005). (REQUIRED) – assignments will come from this book

Final Exam: Wednesday, 8 May 2013, 10:30 am – 1:15 pm

Requirements: This class builds on its prerequisite class (ECON 306 – Intermediate Microeconomics), which in turn requires previous completion of a calculus course.

Intent: The purpose of this class is to learn the factors influencing industrial structure, and industrial conduct and performance. We will explore firm scope, behavior, and regulation. This is an economics class, not a math or English class, yet basic math/writing proficiency is expected.

Grading:	Attendance	10% of the final grade
	Homeworks	15%
	Exam 1 (Friday, 22 February 2013)	20%
	Exam 2 (Friday, 5 April 2013)	20%
	Final Exam (Wednesday, 8 May 2013)	35%

Class meets M, W, and F from 1/23/13 through 5/6/13, except 3/11/13, 3/13/13, and 3/15/13. Absences are only excused for religious observances and university-sanctioned activities. Reading is to be completed in preparation for each class period to allow for discussion.

Homework is collected at the beginning of class and is late thereafter. Homework is due the Monday after the week it was assigned. Homework is scored out of 10 points (five awarded for completeness, and five awarded for one randomly-selected problem). Late assignments lose 10% of their value each class meeting they are late. Digital assignment submissions only receive a score, which cannot be transmitted via e-mail. Additional homework assignments in the form of in-class quizzes may be assigned. These quizzes cannot be made up.

Exams require blue books. No electronic equipment may be used during an exam. Students may not leave and re-enter during an exam. The final exam is cumulative. With advance notice and a legitimate reason, a student may replace an exam with a more-heavily-weighted final exam. Otherwise, missed exams cannot be made up.

Final grades will begin at traditional cutoffs (>90% is A, >80% is B, >70% is C, >60% is D), but may be adjusted downward as needed. Grade cohorts must show internal consistency (students receiving the same grade produced similar work) and external consistency (students receiving different grades produced different work).

Required Elements of College of Humanities and Social Sciences syllabi:

- If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.
- George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. See honorcode.gmu.edu for more detailed information. (from chss.gmu.edu/syllabusguidelines)
- Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes; see registrar.gmu.edu. After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

Econ 370 (Minster) - Schedule

Week 1	Syllabus, Chapters 1 & 2 Coase, Ronald H. (1937). "The Nature of the Firm." <i>Economica</i> , New Series 4, No. 16 (Nov. 1937): 386-405. http://www.jstor.org/stable/2626876 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 2.1 – 2.9
Week 2	Chapters 3, 4, & 5 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 3.2, 3.5, 4.2, 4.5, 4.10, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3
Week 3	Chapter 6 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 6.1 – 6.7
Week 4	Chapter 7 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 7.1 – 7.6
Week 5	Chapter 8 / Exam 1 (Chapters 1 through 8) HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 8.1 – 8.6
Week 6	Chapters 9 & 1 st half of 11 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 9.1 – 9.6
Week 7	Chapters 11 & 12 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 11.1, 11.4, 11.5, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.5
Week 8	Spring Break
Week 9	Chapter 13 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 13.1 – 13.5
Week 10	Chapter 14 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 14.1 – 14.5
Week 11	Chapter 16 / Exam 2 (Chapters 9 through 16) http://marginalrevolution.com/marginalrevolution/2012/01/the-tragedy-of-the-anti-commons.html HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 16.1 – 16.5
Week 12	Chapter 17 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 17.1 – 17.5
Week 13	Chapter 18 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 18.1 – 18.5
Week 14	Chapter 19 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 19.1 – 19.5
Week 15	Chapter 20 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: 20.3 – 20.7
Week 16	Review / Final Exam (cumulative)