

Detailed course outline

PART I. Demand and pricing

1. January 23

Overview and introduction

Reading: Cabral, Introduction to Industrial Organization, 2nd Ed., Ch. 1

2. January 25

Demand and elasticity Reading: Cabral 2.1-2.2

3. January 30

Supply and monopoly pricing

Reading: Cabral 3.1-3.2, KW Part 1: pg 8-13

4. February 1

Demand estimation: examples

Reading: Cabral 2.2–2.3

Mini-case: Monsanto's Roundup

5. February 6

Price discrimination by indicators

Reading: Cabral 6.1

Mini-case: Merck and Aids

6. February 8

Price discrimination by self-selection

Reading: Cabral 6.2-6.3

7. February 13

Pricing in practice: examples

PART II. Static oligopoly analysis

8. February 15

Game theory - static games

Reading: Cabral 7.1

Due at the beginning of class: Problem set 1

February 20: no class - President's Day

9. February 22

Oligopoly price competition

Reading: Cabral 8.1

10. February 27

Oligopoly output competition

Reading: Cabral 8.2

11. March 1

Oligopoly models at work Reading: Cabral 8.3-8.4

12. March 6

Exam I Review: practice problems

Due at the beginning of class: Problem set 2

13. March 8

Exam I

March 13 and 15: no class - Spring Break

PART III. Dynamic oligopoly analysis

14. March 20

Repeated interation and collusion

Reading: Cabral 7.3, 9.1 Review: practice problems

15. March 22

Collusion and price wars Reading: Cabral 9.2-9.4

16. March 27

Collusion: empirical analysis and public policy

Reading: Cabral 9.5, KW Part 1: pg 8-13

Mini-case: GE and Westinghouse

PART IV. Entry and exit

17. March 29

Market Structure Reading: Cabral 10

18. April 3

Horizontal mergers

Reading: Cabral 11.1-11.2 Mini-case: GE and Honeywell

19. April 5

Horizontal mergers: policy

Reading: Cabral 11.3, KW Part 1: pg 13-29

Mini-case: KW Staples and Office Depot: pg 166-192

20. April 10

Sequential games and commitment

Reading: Cabral 7.2

21. April 12

Entry deterrence

Reading: Cabral 12.1

Mini-case: Mars and Unilever

Due at the beginning of class: Problem set 3

22. April 17

Market foreclosure

Reading: Cabral 12.2

Mini-case: KW Microsoft: pg 627-654

23. April 19

Market foreclosure: policy

Reading: Cabral 12.3, KW Part 2: pg 203-210 Mini-case: KW Spirit Airlines: pg 307-333

24. April 24

Vertical relations

Reading: Cabral 13.1, KW Part 3: pg 370-376

25. April 26

Vertical integration, restraints, policy

Reading: Cabral 13.2, KW Part 3: pg 376-380

26. May 1

Networks

Reading: Cabral 16, KW Part 4: pg 520-532

27. May 3

Exam II Review

Due at the beginning of class: Problem set 4

28. May 10

Exam II: 8-10 am