ECONOMICS 2900: INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION (IO)

(Fall Semester: Monday's 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, RT 147)

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Evaluation: There will be a final exam (date to be determined) that will determine your

grade in the course. Previous exams are posted on the course web site. Some problem sets will be distributed during the semester. While these

will not be graded, answers template will be posted.

Other courses: ECO 2404S (Winter Semester; Empirical Applications of Economic

Theory) is offered by Professor Eduardo Souza Rodrigues.

ECO 2901S (Winter Semester; IO) is offered by Professor Victor

Aguirregabiria.

Course Content: The field of industrial organization is applied microeconomics/price

theory concerned with the function of markets and the behavior of firms in these markets. In this course the focus is on two primary questions: (i) How do we explain observed behavior, prices or contractual practices by firms operating in markets that are not perfectly competitive? (ii) What is the role of government intervention in affecting market structure, the behavior of firms, and the efficient operation of markets? Recent developments in IO are both theoretical and empirical. This IO course stresses a basic understanding of the theory, including extensions and modern developments and applications of the theory; selected empirical

applications will be presented in ECO 2404F and ECO 2901S.

Text: The Theory of Industrial Organization, by Jean Tirole, MIT Press, 1988

(Tirole) is the required text for the course. Additional readings are

suggested.

Supplementary Texts:

Armstrong, M. and R.H. Porter (eds) <u>Handbook in Industrial Organization Volume 3</u>, North Holland, 2007 (**Handbook 3**).

Cabral, Luis, <u>Introduction to Industrial Organization</u>, The MIT Press, 2002 (LC)

Cabral, Luis (ed), Readings in Industrial Organization, Blackwell Publishers, 2000 (LCR)

Carleton, D. and J. Perloff, <u>Modern Industrial Organization</u>, Scott-Foresman-Little-Brown, 4th Edition, 2005 (**CP**).

Church, J. and R. Ware, <u>Industrial Organization: a Strategic Approach</u>, Richard D. Irwin, 1998 (CW).

Motta, Massimo, Competiton Policy: Theory and Practice, Cambridge University Press, 2004 (MM)

Salanié, Bernard, Microeconomics of Market Failure, MIT Press, 2000 (SA)

Scherer, F.M. and D. Ross, <u>Industrial Market Structure and Economic Performance</u>, 3rd Edition, Houghton-Mifflin Co., Boston, 1990 (**SR**).

Schmalensee, R. and R. Willig (eds.) <u>Handbook in Industrial Organization Volumes 1 and 2</u>, North Holland, 1989 (**Handbook 1-2**).

Stigler, G. The Organization of Industry, U. Chicago Press, 1968 (S)

Journal Abbreviations:

AER - American Economic Review

AEJ:M - American Economic Journal: Microeconomics

ALJ - Antitrust Law Journal
BJE - Bell Journal of Economics
CJE - Canadian Journal of Economics

Ec - Economica

EER - European Economic Review

EI - Economic Inquiry
EJ - Economic Journal
EM - Econometrica

IJIO - International Journal of Industrial Organization

JB - Journal of Business

JEMS - Journal of Economics and Management Strategy

JEP - Journal of Economic Perspectives
JET - Journal of Economic Theory
JIE - Journal of Industrial Economics
JLaE - Journal of Labor Economics
JLE - Journal of Law and Economics

JLEO - Journal of Law, Economics and Organization

JPE - Journal of Political Economy
J Pub E - Journal of Public Economics

NBER - National Bureau of Economic Research

QJE - Quarterly Journal of Economics
RES - Review of Economic Studies
RIO - Review of Industrial Organization

RJE - Rand Journal of Economics.

I. INTRODUCTION TO INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION: THE QUESTIONS

Tirole: pps 1 - 15 and Ch. 5, pps 209 - 212.

SR: Chapter 1.

II THEORY OF THE FIRM

Tirole: 15-60.

Arrow, K. The Limits of Organization, N.Y., Norton., 1974.

Bonatti, A. and J. Hörner "Collaborating," <u>AER</u> April 2011, 101(2):632 – 663.

- Grossman, S. and O. Hart "The Costs and Benefits of Ownership: A Theory of Lateral and Vertical Integration," <u>JPE</u> 1986, 94: 691 719.
- Hart, O. "Incomplete Contracts and the Theory of the Firm," JLEO 1988, 4:119 139.
- Hermalin, B.E. and M.L. Katz "Information and the Hold-up Problem," <u>RJE</u> Autumn 2009, 40(3): 405 423.
- Horstmann, I., F. Mathewson and N. Quigley "Sales Contracts with Long-Term Customer Relationships," <u>JLaE</u> July 2005, 23(3): 589 608.
- Alchian, A. and H. Demsetz "Production, Information Costs, and Economic Organization," AER 1972, 62: 777 795.
- Holmstrom, B. and P. Milgrom "Multi-Task Principal-Agent Analyses: Incentive Contracts, Asset Ownership and Job Design," <u>JLEO</u> 1991, 7: 24 51.
- Lazear, E. P. and S. Rosen "Rank-Order Tournaments as Optimum Labor Contracts," JPE 1981, 89(5): 841 864.
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- Lazear, E. P. *Personnel Economics*, Ch 3 "Relative Compensation," MIT Press: Cambridge, 1995.
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- Kvaløy, O. and T.E. Olsen, "The Rise of Individual Performance Pay," <u>JMES</u> 2012, 21(2): 493 518.
- Milgrom, P. and J. Roberts <u>Economics</u>, <u>Organization and Management</u>, chs. 2 and 7.
- Rajan, R. and L. Zingales "The Firm as a Dedicated Hierarchy: A Theory of the Origins and Growth of Firms," QJE August 2001, 116 (3): 805 852.
- Levin, J. "Relational Incentive Contracts," AER June 2003, 93(3): 835 857.
- Levin, J. and S. Tadelis "Profit Sharing and the Role of Professional Partnerships," QJE February 2005, 120(1): 131 – 172.
- Corts, K. "Teams Versus Individual Accountability: solving Multitask Problems Through Job Design," RJE Summer 2007, 38(2): 467 479.
- Bar-Isaac, H "Something to Prove: Reputation in Teams," <u>RJE</u> Summer 2007 38(2): 495 511.
- Kosfeld, M. and F von Siemens "Competition, Cooperation and Corporate Culture," RJE Spring 2011, 42(1): 23 43.
- Mukherjee, A. and L Vasconcelos "Optima; Job Design in the Presence of Implicit Contracts," RJE, Spring 2011, 41(1): 44 69.
- Aghion, P. and R. Holden, "Incomplete Contracts and the Theory of the Firm: What Have We Learned Over the Past 25 Years," <u>JEP</u>, Spring 2011, 25(2): 181 197.
- Tirole, J. "Cognition and Incomplete Contracts," <u>AER</u> March 2009, 99(1): 265 294.
- Coase, R. "The Nature of the Firm," Ec 1937, 4(16): 386 405.
- Stigler, G. "The Division of Labor is Limited by the Extent of the Market," in (S).
- Klein, B., R. Crawford, and A. Alchian "Vertical Integration, Appropriable Rents, and the Competitive Contracting Process," <u>JLE</u> 1978, 21: 297 326.
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- Hur, J. and Y Riyanto, "Organizational Structure and Product Market Competition," <u>JMES</u> 2012, 21(3): 707 744.

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- Stole, L. and J. Zweibel "Organizational Design and Technology Choice Under Intrafirm Bargaining," AER March 1996, 86(1): 195 222.
- Whinston, M. "On the Transaction Cost Determinants of Vertical Integration," <u>JLEO</u> April 2003, 19(1): 1 23.

Applications

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- Mathewson, F. and R. Winter "Territorial Restrictions in Franchise Contracts," <u>EI</u>, April 1994, 32(2): 181 192.
- Jensen, M. and K. Murphy "Performance Pay and Top-Management Incentives," <u>JPE</u>, 1990, 98: 225 264.
- Crocker, K. and S. Masten "Mitigating Contractual Hazards: Unilateral Options and Contract and Contract Length," <u>RJE</u>, 19, Autumn 1984: 327 343.

III. THE THEORY OF MONOPOLY

Tirole: Ch. 1, pp. 65 - 72; 73 - 78.

Maskin, E. and J. Riley "Monopoly with Incomplete Information," <u>RJE</u>, 15, Summer 1984:171 – 196.

A. <u>Durable Goods Monopoly</u>

Tirole: Ch. 1: 72 - 73, 79 - 87.

Coase, R. "Durability and Monopoly," JLE, 15, 1972:143 – 149.

Pesendorfer, W. "Design Innovation and Fashion Cycles," <u>AER September 1995 85(4)</u>: 771 – 792.

Bulow, J. "Durable Goods Monopolists," JPE, 1982, 90(2): 314 – 332.

Karp, L. and J. Perloff "The Optimal Suppression of a Low-Cost Technology by a Durable-Good Monopoly," <u>RJE Summer</u> 1996 27(2): 346 – 364.

- Fudenberg, D. and J. Tirole "Upgrades, Tradeins, and Buybacks," <u>RJE</u> Summer 1998 29(2): 235-258.
- Deneckere, R. and A. de Palma "The Diffusion of Consumer Durables in a Vertically Differentiated Oligopoly," <u>RJE</u>, Winter 1998, 29 (4): 750 771.
- Hendel, I. and A. Lizzeeri "Interfering with Secondary Markets," <u>RJE</u>, 30 (1), Spring 1999: 1 21.
- Denerkere, R. amd M.-Y. Liang "Imperfect Durability and the Coase Conjecture," <u>RJE</u> Spring 2008 39(1): 1 19.
- House, C.L. amd E. Ozdenoren "Durable Goods and Conformity," <u>RJE</u> Summer 2008 39(2): 452 468.

B. <u>Production Selection, Quality and Advertising</u>

Tirole: Ch. 2

- Akerlof, G. "The Market for Lemons: Quality Uncertainty and the Market Mechanism," QJE, 1970, 84: 488-500.
- Levin, J. "Information and the Market for Lemons," RJE 32(4), Winter 2001: 657-666.
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- Mussa, M. and S. Rosen "Monopoly and Product Quality," <u>JET</u> 18, August 1978: 301 317.
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Shavell, S. "Acquisition and Disclosure of Information Prior to Sale," <u>RJE</u> Spring 1994 25(1): 20 – 36.

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C. **Price Discrimination**

Tirole: Ch. 3: 133 -165.

SR: Ch. 12, 13

Varian, H. "Price Discrimination," Ch.10, Handbook 1-2.

Shepard, A. "Price Discrimination and Retail Configuration," <u>JPE</u>, 99, Feb. 1991: 30 - 53.

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Corts, K.S. "Third-Degree Price Discrimination in Oligopoly: All-Out Competition and Strategic Commitment," RJE Summer 1998 29(2): 306 - 323.

Rosen, S. and A. M. Rosenfield "Ticket Pricing," <u>JLE</u> October 1997, 40 (2): 351-376.

Kühn, Kai-Uwe "Nonlinear Pricing in Vertically Related Duopolies," <u>RJE</u> Spring 1997, 28 (1): 37-62.

Courty, Pascal and Hao Li "Sequential Screening," <u>RES</u> October 2000, 67(4): 697 – 717.

Armstrong, M. and J. Vickers "Competitive Price Discrimination," <u>RJE</u> Winter 2001, 32(4): 579 – 605.

Holmes, T.J. "The Effects of Third-Degree Price Discrimination in Oligopoly," <u>AER</u> 1989 79(1): 244 – 250.

Stole, L "Price Discrimination and Competition," Ch. 34, **Handbook 3**.

D. <u>Vertical Integration and Foreclosure</u>

Tirole: Ch. 4.

SR: Ch. 1

Katz, M. "Vertical Contractual Relationships," Ch. 11, Handbook 1-2.

- Perry, M. "Vertical Integration: Determinants and Effects," Ch.4, Handbook 1-2.
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E. Exclusive Dealing Contracts and Foreclosure

- Marvel, H. "Exclusive Dealing," <u>JLE</u>, April, 1982, 25: 1 25.
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- Borenstein, S. et al "Antitrust Policy in Aftermarkets," <u>ALJ</u> Winter 1995, v 63(2): 455 482.
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F. Other Vertical Contracts

(I) Resale Price Maintenance and Exclusive Territories

- Telser, L. "Why Should Manufacturers Want Fair Trade?" JLE, Oct. 1960, 3: 86 105.
- Mathewson, F., and R. Winter "The Law and Economics of Resale Price Maintenance," <u>RIO</u> 13 (Nos 1-2), April 1998: 57 84.
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- Rey, P. and J. Stiglitz "The Role of Exclusive Territories in Producers' Competition," RJE Autumn, 1995 26(3).
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(V) Other

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IV. THEORIES OF OLIGOPOLISTIC MARKETS

A. Oligopoly

(I) Theory

Tirole: Review Ch. 11 (game theory). Also, pp. 205-208 and Ch. 5,6

- Shapiro, C. "Theories in Oligopoly Behavior," Ch. 6 in the **Handbook 1-2**.
- Rocher, J.-C and J Tirole, "Two Sided Markets: A Progress Report," <u>RJE</u> Autumn 2006 37(3): 645 667,
- Armstrong, M, "Competition in Two-Sided Markets," <u>RJE</u> Autumn 2006 37(3): 668 691.

(II) Collusion

Tirole: Ch. 6

- Jacquemin, A. and M. Slade "Cartels, Collusion, and Horizontal Mergers," Ch 7, in the **Handbook 1-2**.
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(III) Empirical Studies of Collusive Behavior

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- Lee, L and R. Porter "Switching Regression Models-with Applications to Cartel Stability," <u>EM</u>, 52, 1983: 391-418.
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B. Product Differentiation

(I) Theory

Tirole: Chs. 2,7.

- Eaton, C. and R. Lipsey "Product Differentiation," Ch.12 in the **Handbook 1-2**.
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(II) Product Differentiation and Advertising

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