

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION
MR. ELZINGA'S ANTITRUST POLICY CLASS (ECON 4200) • SPRING 2017

SCHEULE

"Econ 420" normally will meet on Mondays from 3:30-6:00 PM. Spring semester classes begin on Wednesday, January 18, so the first regularly scheduled class day will be held the following Monday. But to set the stage for the course, a *mandatory* introductory Econ 420 class will be held on Tuesday, January 17, from 7-10 PM. Students who are unable or unwilling to attend this introductory class are not eligible to enroll in the class.

There is no assigned reading for the Tuesday evening class. The assigned reading for the first Monday afternoon class is: pp. 1-8 of the assigned Casebook (the antitrust statutes) and pp. 14-33, the *Addyston*, *Trenton* and *Appalachian* cases.

Class will not be held on March 6 (Spring Break).

DESCRIPTION

Econ 420 is designed to train students to think clearly and to explain their thoughts in a classroom setting. To this end, the class will be taught Socratically. Socratic courses require consistent preparation. Unless a student presents an excuse before a class begins, Mr. Elzinga will expect students to be prepared by reading the material assigned for that day. An unprepared student is a negative externality in a Socratic class. In addition to Socratic dialogue, at times Mr. Elzinga will lecture or use student breakout groups.

Econ 420 is about the federal antitrust laws: the laws Congress passed, the interpretation given them by the courts, and the efforts of two federal agencies to enforce these laws. Antitrust Policy will form the peg on which the Socratic dialogue hangs.

Econ 420 also is designed to train some students in research and writing skills through the composition of a term paper, which is optional. Completing a term paper meets the College's Second Writing Requirement.

TEXT

The text assigned for this course is The Antitrust Casebook (3rd ed.), edited by Elzinga and Breit. This reading primarily consists of legal cases. Prospective students should take this into account, as it is easier to learn content from a textbook than to tease it out of a court opinion.

ADMISSION PROCESS

Enrollment in Econ 420 is by instructor permission. A Course Action Form will be used *instead of* SIS.

Because it does not make sense to grant permission to a student who would not benefit from the class, before applying for admission, give thoughtful consideration as to whether this is an optimal course for you. Fourth year students should ponder whether Econ 420 is the type of course they want to take in the last semester of their last year at UVA.

To be considered for enrollment, please prepare a two-paragraph application: In the first paragraph, explain why this course is of interest to you. There is no one response that Mr. Elzinga is looking for. In the second paragraph, provide some information about yourself, including (but not necessarily limited to) your current year at UVA, your school, your major(s), and your aspirations after graduation (e.g., I am third year, in the College, majoring in Mathematics, and plan to sell fishing tackle in Idaho upon graduation). It may be that what students report in the second paragraph will connect to what they write in the first.

Please *email* your written application by **5:00 PM on November 2**, to Mr. Elzinga's Administrative Assistant, Sarah Lapp (sylapp@virginia.edu). Your application will receive a decision by **November 9**.