

**ENROLLMENT INFORMATION**  
MR. ELZINGA'S ANTITRUST POLICY CLASS (ECON 4200) • SPRING 2018

**SCHEDULE**

"Econ 420" normally will meet on Mondays from 3:30-6:00 PM. Spring semester classes begin on Wednesday, January 17, 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 16, 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. Assigned reading for the first regularly scheduled 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 5 (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* (3<sup>rd</sup> 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. It might be prudent to talk with current students who are veterans of Econ 420 (e.g., Lizzie Banks, Joey Paris, Kelsey Johnson, Gunnar Sturman). 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 submit 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).

Please *email* your written application by **5:00 PM on October 30**, to Mr. Elzinga's Administrative Assistant, Sarah Lapp ([svlapp@virginia.edu](mailto:svlapp@virginia.edu)). Your application will receive a decision by **November 3**.