

**ANTITRUST
LAW 6550 CLASS 23884
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW
PROFESSOR WENTONG ZHENG—3 CREDITS
FALL 2025**

SYLLABUS

(Updated Aug. 6, 2025)

COURSE INFORMATION

Credit: 3

Class meeting time and place: Tue/Thu, 1:15-2:40 pm, Classroom: HH 355C

Office hours: Tue: 2:45-3:45 pm; Thursday: 12:00-1:00 pm

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is about the law of competition, monopoly, and markets—the laws that protect consumers by ensuring competition in the marketplace. We will discuss many questions, some of which are front and center in today’s biggest antitrust challenges. What are the goals of antitrust law and why? What makes a monopoly unlawful? What rules limit businesses in dealing with their competitors and those in their supply chain? When does tough competition become unlawful exclusion? And how does all this work when applied to massive entities like Big Tech? When should one entity be prevented from buying or merging with another? We will explore these and other important questions throughout the course, with a focus on some of the most pressing issues of today.

The class is aimed towards those who are new to antitrust law. Topics for discussion will include agreements among competitors, monopolization, merger review, and the intersection of antitrust and intellectual property. We will examine Supreme Court doctrines, influential modern lower court decisions, and government enforcement guidelines.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the goals of antitrust, its basic institutions, and enforcement structures;

2. Understand the antitrust and enforcement policies governing mergers, including Section 7 of the Clayton Act, the 2010 Horizontal Merger Guidelines, and vertical merger analysis;
3. Understand the antitrust laws and enforcement policies governing horizontal restraints of trade, including Section 1 of the Sherman Act; and
4. Understand the antitrust laws and enforcement policies governing monopolization and vertical restraints of trade, including Section 1 and 2 of the Sherman Act.
5. Understand the antitrust laws and enforcement policies governing intellectual property, particularly antitrust issues in the standardization setting.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Antitrust Principles, Cases, and Materials (ABA, 3d Edition)
Daniel Francis & Christopher Jon Sprigman

This casebook is open source and is available for free download here:

<https://antitrustcasebook.org/>

Other supplementary materials will be posted on Canvas. Please make sure to register for this course on Canvas and have the required materials with you in print or easily accessible electronic form in class. You are responsible for checking your Canvas page and the e-mail connected to the page on a regular basis for any class announcements or adjustments.

COURSE WORKLOAD

It is anticipated that you will spend approximately 6 hours outside of class every week, reading assigned materials and preparing for class.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and you are expected to be on time. Beginning in the second week of the semester, you will be required to sign an attendance sheet for every class. However, I understand that circumstances beyond your control may cause you to miss classes. Therefore, each student is allowed to have four (4) absences with no negative consequences. Provided that your total number of absences does not exceed four (4), you do NOT have to notify me of the absences in advance or provide any justifications for them.

If you expect your total number of absences to exceed four (4), however, please do notify me in advance of the anticipated absences. If the circumstances causing the anticipated absences are extraordinary—a determination to be made by me alone—I may exempt you from the class attendance policy for the absences. Extraordinary circumstances include, but are not limited to, medical emergency (with doctor's note), protracted illness (with doctor's note), and job interviews (with interviewer's note). Absences due to observance of religious holidays are exempted from the class attendance requirement, too.

If your total number of absences in the semester exceeds four (4) and you did not obtain advance approval from me, I reserve the right to lower your final grade by one level (A to A-, A- to B+, and so on). If your total number of absences in the semester exceeds eight (8) and you did not

obtain advance approval from me, I reserve the right to lower your final grade by two levels (A to B+, A- to B, and so on).

CLASS PARTICIPATION

You will be assigned to a panel of students who will be “on call” for one—and only one—week in the semester. Please make sure that you are prepared for class discussions during your assigned week. You are encouraged to participate in class discussions even if you are not on call. I reserve my right to adjust your final grade based on your class participation record (see also Grading).

FINAL EXAMINATION

Date: December 10, 2025

The final exam for this course will be a three-hour open book exam consisting of ten short-answer questions and two essay questions. Your performance in the final exam will account for 100 percent of your final grade, with possible adjustments for class attendance and class participation as described below.

GRADING

The composition of your final grade for this course is as follows:

Final Exam: 100%

As explained above in Class Attendance, I reserve the right to adjust your final grade based on your class attendance record.

As explained above in Class Participation, I reserve the right to adjust your final grade based on your class participation.

The Levin College of Law’s mean and mandatory distributions are posted on the College’s website and this class adheres to that posted grading policy. The following chart describes the specific letter grade/grade point equivalent in place:

| Letter Grade | Point Equivalent |
|------------------|------------------|
| A (Excellent) | 4.0 |
| A- | 3.67 |
| B+ | 3.33 |
| B | 3.0 |
| B- | 2.67 |
| C+ | 2.33 |
| C (Satisfactory) | 2.0 |

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|-------------|------|
| C- | 1.67 |
| D+ | 1.33 |
| D (Poor) | 1.0 |
| D- | 0.67 |
| E (Failure) | 0.0 |

The law school grading policy is available at <https://www.law.ufl.edu/life-at-uf-law/office-of-student-affairs/current-students/uf-law-student-handbook-and-academic-policies>.

Generally, I will grant grade change requests only for calculation errors. Substantive review and re-grading of answers to specific questions will not be granted unless answers to ALL questions are reviewed and re-graded.

COMPLIANCE WITH UF HONOR CODE

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Law Honor Code located [here](#). The UF Law Honor Code also prohibits use of artificial intelligence, including, but not limited to, ChatGPT and Harvey, to assist in completing quizzes, exams, papers, or other assessments unless expressly authorized by the professor to do so.

OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

UF Law respects students' [observance of religious holidays](#).

- Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith.
- Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence.
- Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.

EXAM DELAYS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The law school policy on exam delays and accommodations can be found [here](#).

STATEMENT RELATED TO ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center (<https://disability.ufl.edu/>). Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (Assistant Dean Brian Mitchell). Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester. Students may

access information about various resources on the UF Law Student Resources Canvas page, available at <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/427635>.

STUDENT COURSE EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Click [here](#) for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and may complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students [here](#).

RECORDINGS OF CLASS

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor and Student Conduct Code.

Class Schedule and Assignments

The following table sets out the class schedule along with the assignment for each class. Chapters in the assignment table refer to chapters in the casebook. Both the schedule and the assignments are subject to change.

| Dates | Topic | Assignment | Class Panel |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|-------------|
| Module I: Agreements | | | |
| Aug. 19 | Overview; Agreements (I) | Chapter I, Sections A-E: pp. 1-24; Chapter IV, Sections A-B.1: pp. 127-137. | -- |
| Aug. 21 | Agreements (II) | Chapter IV, Sections B.2: pp. 138-164; supplemental reading. | -- |
| Aug. 26 | Agreements (III) | Chapter IV, Section C: pp. 165-176, 177-184 (stop before Ohio v. Amex), 185-196. | |
| Aug. 28 | Horizontal Agreements (I) | Chapter V, Sections A-B: pp. 199-201 (stop before DOJ and FTC Guidelines), 202-208, 210-225 (stop before US v. Apple). | |
| Sept. 2 | Horizontal Agreements (II) | Chapter V, Section C: pp. 230-231 (stop before U.S. v. Sealy); 238-246, 248-254. | |
| Sept. 4 | Vertical Agreements (I) | Chapter VI, Sections A&C: pp. 266-269 (stop before Easterbrook excerpt); 277-287 (stop before Brandeis excerpt); 289 (start with Leegin)-294. | |
| Sept. 9 | Vertical Agreements (II) | Chapter VI, Sections D-F: pp. 296-300 (stop before the Superscripts Litigation); 306-312 (stop before Epic Games v. Apple), 313 (start with The Single Monopoly Profit Theorem)-315; 316-317 (stop before Section G). | |
| Module II: Monopolization | | | |
| Sept. 11 | Antitrust Economics | Chapter II: pp. 35-62 (stop before Section K) | |

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| Sept. 16 | Market Power and Market Definition | Chapter III: pp.66-80 (stop before the Facebook case), 82-88, 111, 113-121 (stop before the Rebel Oil casenote). | |
| Sept. 18 | Monopolization (I) | Chapter VII, Sections A-C.2: pp. 324-330 (stop before the Facebook case), 333-337 (stop before the Krattenmaker and Salop excerpt), 340 (start with Section 2)-346 (stop before the NYNEX case). | |
| Sept. 23 | Monopolization (II) | Chapter VII, Section C.3: pp. 348-362 (stop before the Alcoa casenote). | |
| Sept. 25 | Monopolization (III) | Chapter VII, Sections D.1-D.3: pp. 368-378 (stop before “Conditional Dealing or Refusal to Deal”), 380 (stop before the Salop excerpt), 381-389. | |
| Sept. 30 | Monopolization (IV) | Chapter VII, Sections D.4-E: pp. 390-404. | |
| Module III: Merger Review | | | |
| Oct. 2 | Merger Control (I) | Chapter VIII, Sections A-B.2(a) & Chapter XI, Section E: pp. 405-426 (stop before “Analytical Methods for Mergers”), 428-431 (stop before the H&R Block casenote), 675-680. | |
| Oct. 7 | Merger Control (II) | Chapter VIII, Sections B.2(b)-B.2(d): pp. 438-443, 450-451 (stop before the Marine Bancorporation casenote), 452-454, 457 (start with Section d)-463. | |
| Oct. 9 | Merger Control (III) | Chapter VIII, Sections C and D: pp. 466-479, 485-496 (stop before “Out-of-Market Benefits and PNB”), 497-499 (stop | |

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| | | before the Otto Bock HealthCare case). | |
| Oct. 14 | Merger Control (IV) | Chapter VIII, Sections E.1-E.3: pp. 503-516 (stop before the Evanston Hospital casenote), 517. | |
| Module IV: Enforcement | | | |
| Oct. 16 | Immunities and Exemptions | Chapter IX, Sections A-C: pp. 522-537. | |
| Oct. 21 | Government Enforcement | Chapter XI: pp. 640-653 (stop before the Ohlausen excerpt), 658 (start with Section 4)-659 (stop before Nat'l Petroleum Refiners Ass'n), 664 (start with Section C)-666 (stop before US v. Intuit), 668-671. | |
| Oct. 23 | Private Enforcement | Chapter XII, Sections A-B.3: pp. 701-718 (stop before the Jeld-Wen casenote), 719-724 (stop before the Pepper casenote). | |
| Module V: Special Topics | | | |
| Oct. 28 | Intellectual Property and Antitrust (I) | Chapter X: pp. 567-572 (stop before Section 3), 586-590 (stop before the Eastman Kodak casenote), 592-601, 611-618. | |
| Oct. 30 | Intellectual Property and Antitrust (II) | Chapter X, Section D & Supplemental reading: pp. 621-626, 631-634, supplemental cases: FTC v. Qualcomm (district court), Continental Automotive Sys., AG v. Avanci, LLC. | |
| Nov. 4 | Digital Platforms Antitrust | pp. 80-82, 107-109, 330-333, 679-680; 225-230, 312-313, 318, 724-725, supplemental reading. | |
| Nov. 6 | Comparative Antitrust: EU | Supplemental reading | |
| Nov. 13 | Comparative Antitrust: China | Supplemental reading | -- |
| Nov. 18 | Review | | -- |