

# Federal Trade Commission Seminar

Professor Timothy J. Muris

Syllabus (Fall 2005): Wednesdays 6:00 – 7:50 pm

We will study the FTC as an institution, as an enforcement agency, and as an advocacy and research agency.

Grades will be based upon a paper, which will be due the last class period, Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, at which time we will briefly discuss the papers. (I will ask each class member questions about his or her paper.) I will circulate a list of topics, from which you can choose to write your paper or we can mutually agree on another topic. We will have individual meetings on the topics on September 28<sup>th</sup>. (I will circulate a sign up sheet on September 21<sup>st</sup>.)

An outline, of at least 4-5 double spaced pages, will be due on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Individual meetings with me on the outlines will be on October 12<sup>th</sup>. (I will circulate a sign-up schedule on October 5<sup>th</sup>.)

Class sessions other than the final class and the individual meetings will cover:

- Overview of the Agency
- FTC History
- Antitrust: Non Mergers
- Antitrust: Mergers
- Consumer Protection: Privacy
- Consumer Protection: Non-privacy Issues
- Advocacy and Research

Although I may supplement this list from time to time, following are relevant materials:

## Overview

- Annual Reports (2004 and 2005)  
[www.ftc.gov/opa/2004/04/abareport.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2004/04/abareport.htm)  
[www.ftc.gov/opa/2005/04/05annualrpt.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2005/04/05annualrpt.htm)
- Clarkson & Muris – Chapters 1 and 15 (**on reserve**)
- *More than Law Enforcement: The FTC's Many Tools – A Conversation with Tim Muris and Bob Pitofsky*  
72 Antitrust Law Journal 773 (2005) (**on reserve**)

## History

- [www.ftc.gov/ftc/history/ftchistory.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/history/ftchistory.htm) (Marc Winearman Paper)

## Competition - General

- *Improving the Economic Foundations of Competition Policy*  
12 George Mason Law Review 1 (Fall 2003)
- *State Intervention/State Action – A U.S. Perspective*  
Fordham University School of Law, International Antitrust Law & Policy  
Chapter 22 (2003 Corporate Law Institute)
- *Looking Forward: The Federal Trade Commission and The Future Development of U.S. Competition Policy*  
2 Columbia Business Law Review 359 (2003)
- *Principles For a Successful Competition Agency*  
72 University of Chicago Law Review 165 (2005)
- “Protecting Competition and Consumers: A Conversation With Timothy J. Muris”  
22 Health Affairs 101 (November/December 2003), available on ftc.gov  
<http://www.ftc.gov/speeches/muris.htm>
- In Re: *In the Matter of Polygram Holding, Inc.*, Docket No. 9305  
[www.ftc.gov/os/adjpro/d9305/04706commissionopinion.pdf](http://www.ftc.gov/os/adjpro/d9305/04706commissionopinion.pdf) (7/24/03), Affirmed  
D.C. Circuit (7/22/05)

## Consumer Protection

- *The Federal Trade Commission and the Future Development of U.S. Consumer Protection Policy*  
Remarks by Timothy J. Muris  
**(On Reserve in GMU Library)**
- *The Interface of Competition and Consumer Protection*,  
Fordham University School of Law, International Antitrust Law & Policy  
Chapter 2 (2002 Corporate Law Institute)
- “Commercial Speech: Essential for Health of Consumers and Free Enterprise”  
Washington Legal Foundation, Vol. 20, No. 13 (March 25, 2005)  
[www.wlf.org/upload/032405LBMuris.pdf](http://www.wlf.org/upload/032405LBMuris.pdf)

## Advocacy & Research

- [www.ftc.gov/opa/2002/09/icnnaples.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2002/09/icnnaples.htm)
- [www.ftc.gov/reports/index.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/reports/index.htm) (Patents)
- [www.ftc.gov/reports/index.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/reports/index.htm) (Healthcare)