

Antitrust I: Principles (Fall 2026)

Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg, Professor of Law

Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University Office: 450-I

E-mail: dginsbur@gmu.edu

Welcome to Antitrust I: Principles

This course examines the laws that protect consumers by ensuring competition in the marketplace. Specific topics include agreements among competitors, joint ventures, mergers, and monopolization. We will examine Supreme Court doctrine, influential modern lower court decisions, and government enforcement guidelines. Economic concepts and thinking characteristic of modern antitrust analysis are integrated throughout the course.

This course is a prerequisite for Antitrust II. No background in economics is necessary or assumed.

Class: We will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:40 am to 11:40 am. Because this is a three-credit course in a four-credit time slot, we will meet on at least 20 of the 25 possible dates. **Class will not meet on October 13 and other dates to be determined.**

Office Hours: I am available by appointment, either in person or by Zoom.

Casebook: Andrew I. Gavil, William E. Kovacic, and Jonathan B. Baker, *Antitrust Law in Perspective: Cases, Concepts and Problems in Competition Policy* (2024) (5th Edition) and the current Update, which I will make available to you on TWEN. Every assignment from the casebook should be understood to include the corresponding pages in the Update.

We may also read recent cases, enforcement agency guidelines, scholarly commentary, and other supplementary materials that I will post on TWEN or that are otherwise available on the web.

Grading: The final exam will account for 100% of your grade, subject to a discretionary class participation adjustment of 1/3rd of a grade in **either** direction. **You should come to class having read and thought about the material, ready to participate in the discussion.**

Final Exam: The final exam is scheduled for December 11 at 12:00 PM. There is no make-up exam.

Final Exam Permissible Materials: Open book; your own notes; no commercial publications.

Tentative Syllabus: We may deviate from the present syllabus with assignments based