

HEALTH ECONOMICS, ECON 364
Department of Economics
St. Francis Xavier University
Fall 2016

Instructor: Teng Wah LEO

Time Blocks and Location: GH/HG (Monday & Wednesday, 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.), NH242

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Objective: The aim of this course is to introduce students to the application of economic analysis to healthcare delivery systems, policy, and related markets such as health insurance. The course will study the organization, financing, and delivery of health services in general, the economic evaluation of alternative methods of providing healthcare, and individual behavior choices pertaining to health. Specific analysis of various medical care provision systems particularly that of Canada's will be performed. Techniques that will be used to perform these analyses include basic Econometrics which will be introduced.

Evaluation:

1. 30% Two Assignments, 15% Each.
2. 30% Mid Term Examination, T.B.A.
3. 40% Final Examination, T.B.A.

All assessments are compulsory. Medical Letters must be provided should the student be unable to take the test. In addition, all students are expected to read all necessary materials prior to class, and be able to participate actively, and coherently in all class discussions. All classes are compulsory.

Required Text:

None.

Supplementary Reading:

Charles E. Phelps, Health Economics, 2010, 4th edition, Addison-Wesley. (CP)

Folland, Goodman and Stano, *The Economics of Health and Health Care*, 2004, 4th edition, Prentice Hall. (**FGS**)

When required, additional readings will be provided to you to supplement your readings from the texts and notes.

Course Outline:

1. Introduction to Health Economics: CP 1 & 2, FGS 1.
2. Production Function of Health: CP 3.
3. Demand for Medical Care: CP 4 & 5, FGS 6-9.
4. The Physician: CP 6 & 7, FGS 15 & 16
5. Hospitals as Suppliers of Medical Care: CP 8 & 9, FGS 13 & 14.
6. Health Insurance: CP 10, FGS 7-9 & 11
7. Government Provision of Health Insurance: CP 12, FGS 20.
8. Externalities in Health & Medical Care: CP 14, FGS 18 & 22.
9. Medical Care Market Regulation: CP 15.
10. Comparison of Health Care Systems: CP 16.