

Health Economics – E307

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Office Hrs: M, W 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
and by appointment

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Place: CA 239

Principles of Undergraduate Learning: E307 addresses the core communication and quantitative skills principle. It also approaches the critical thinking principle. Thus, students will be prepared to a) solve problems that are quantitative in nature, b) analyze complex issues, c) synthesize information to arrive at a reasoned decision and d) solve challenging problems.

Required Text: Health Economics and Financing 3rd Edition by Thomas Getzen

Course Description:

This course provides a deeper understanding of health economics and will show that, although there are characteristics that make health and health care different from other goods, economics can be used to analyze problems in the market for health care and to aid the allocation of resources within the health care sector. Some of the topics that we will study in this course include demand and supply of health care, role of hospitals, health insurance, managed care, and government provision of health care. We will also look at health care expenditures and the problems of unmet need faced in both publicly and privately financed health care systems around the world. **There are no pre-requisites to this course.**

Point Distribution: (TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE = 200)

4 Home work: Written exercises **40 points**

2 Mid term: **80 points (40 points each)**

Final Exam: **80 points**

Homework policy: Home work will be assigned periodically and is due the following class. **All homework must be done accurately and neatly for full credit.** 2 points will be deducted from homework for untidy/careless work. ***Total points possible = 40***

Mid-Term exam: Each mid term exam will consist of **20 multiple choice questions worth 20 points** and **two short answer questions worth 20 points.** Please bring your calculator and a #2 pencil for the exam. No make ups for exam (please see me in advance if there is a conflict). ***Total points possible/mid term = 40***

Final Exam: The final will consist of **20 multiple choice questions worth 40 points** and **four short answer questions worth 40 points.** and will be based on material covered after the mid term exams. Please bring your calculator and a #2 pencil. ***Total points possible = 80***

Academic Integrity: I abide by the university policy on cheating as stated in the Student Code of Conduct available at <http://life.iupui.edu/dos/code.htm>

LECTURE TOPICS AND REQUIRED READING: Tentative Schedule

I. HEALTH CARE IN THE ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK (4 weeks)

- **Introduction—Relevance of Economics to Health Care**

- *Required Reading: Getzen Chapters 1*

- *Further Reading Class Notes and Handouts*

- **Overview of the Market for Health Care**

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch.2*

- *Further Reading Class Notes and Handouts*

- **The Demand for Health**

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch.2*

- *Further Reading: Class Notes and Handouts*

Exam #1: Feb 6

II. POLICY ISSUES: HEALTH CARE IN THE ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK (4 weeks)

- **Overview of Market Failure in the Health Care Sector**

- (*Market Failure: Market Power*)

- (*Market Failure: Uncertainty*)

- (*Market Failure: Asymmetric information*)

- (*Market Failure: Externalities*)

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch4, ch8, ch.14, ch 15 page 334-335*

- *Class Notes and Handouts*

Exam #2: Mar 19

III. THE COST OF CARE AND SPECIAL TOPICS (4 weeks)

- **Cost Containment & Managed Care**

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch 5*

- **The Uninsured & Policies to Improve Access to Care (*Market Failure: Externalities*)**

- *Further Reading: Class Notes and Handouts*

- **Economics of the Hospital**

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch 8, ch 9*

- **Technology in Medicine & the Pharmaceutical Industry**

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch 11*

- **A Comparison of Health Care Systems**

- *Required Reading: Getzen ch 17*

Final Exam: Apr 28

(Please review Final exam schedule for time and room of exam)

IMPORTANT WEBSITES:

Registrar's website <http://registrar.iupui.edu/>

Course Syllabi: The School has specific guidelines for course syllabi. These can be found at the following web-link: <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/facultyassembly/curriculum/syllabusguidelines.html>.

Student Code of Conduct: available at http://life.iupui.edu/help/docs/Part_3all.html.

Academic Misconduct: <http://registrar.iupui.edu/misconduct.html>.

Disruptive Student Behavior:

<http://www.iupui.edu/~sldweb/rights/docs/IUPUI%20Guidelines%20for%20Dealing%20with%20Disruptive%20Student%20Conduct.pdf> If you encounter a situation that requires such intervention please contact our office and we can provide you with the appropriate forms for documenting the case.

Administrative Withdrawal: <http://registrar.iupui.edu/withdrawal-policy.html>

Drop Add dates and forms: <http://registrar.iupui.edu/drop.html>.

Students will be able to drop courses electronically through February 29th, after which the student will need the instructor's approval. For more information about electronic drops, visit http://registrar.iupui.edu/eDoc/eDrop_student.html In addition, beginning spring semester there is an on-line option to add courses using an electronic form. Faculty may receive e-mails from the Registrar noting that a student has submitted an "e-add" request. You will be directed to a link and may approve or deny the request at that point. There is also a "notes" function which allows you to specify instructions or a reason for the denial.

Finally, the Registrar's Office now has an online option for faculty to post grade changes, for more information visit <http://registrar.iupui.edu/grchgfac.html>

Final Exams: Be sure to check the "Schedule of Classes" or the Registrar's web page <http://registrar.iupui.edu/enrollment/4082/4082-final.html> for when your final exam is scheduled.