

University of Colorado Boulder
Department of Economics
Econ 4646-001, Spring 2014

January 12, 2014

Health Economics

1 Course Description

Instructor: Shuang Zhang (Assistant Professor of Economics and International Affairs)

Contact: Economics 10

303-492-2585

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Course time: MWF 10:00 - 10:50 AM

Location: ECON 117

Office Hours: Wednesday 11am-12:30pm or by appointment

Location: Economics 10

Course Description:

Health economics is a growing field and is an important aspect of public policy in developed and developing countries. This course is designed to introduce upper level undergraduate students in economics to the field of Health Economics. The course focuses on two broad areas: 1) population health; 2) health care. We will cover a number of topics including basic economic concepts important for the study in health economics, human capital model of health, health and human development, aspects of the US health care market, health care in other countries, health care reform, health and economic development, etc.

Textbooks:

There is no required textbook. I will post required readings on D2L before class.

Recommended readings (some chapters from the following books will be covered):

Folland, Goodmand, and Stano. *The Economics of Health and Health Care*. Pearson Prentice Hall Press.

Jay Bhattacharya, Timothy Hyde and Peter Tu. *Health Economics*. Palgrave Macmillan Press.

3 Course Schedule

| Week | Date | Monday | Wednesday | Friday |
|------------|--------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| week1 | Jan 13-17 | Introduction | Research methods | |
| week 2 | Jan 20-24 | Human Capital model of health | | |
| week 3 | Jan 27-31 | Capacity formation model | | |
| week 4 | Feb 3-7 | Health and human development | | |
| week 5 | Feb 10-14 | Sex ratio imbalance | | Midterm 1 |
| week 6 | Feb 17-21 | Demand for Health Care | | |
| week 7 | Feb 24-28 | Health Care Insurance | | |
| week 8 | March 3-7 | Government's Role and US Health Care | | |
| week 9 | March 10-14 | Health Care Reform | | Midterm 2 |
| week 10 | March 17-21 | Health and Economic Development | | |
| week 11 | March 24-28 | Spring Break | | |
| week 12 | March 31 - April 4 | International comparison of health care | | |
| week 13 | April 7-11 | Group presentations | | |
| week 14 | April 14-18 | Group presentations | | |
| week 15 | April 21-25 | Group presentations | | |
| week 16 | April 28 - May 2 | Group presentations | | |
| Final week | May 3 - May 8 | Final exam schedule TBA | | |

Students with Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services by Jan 22nd so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>

Religious Observances

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments, or required attendance. If you have a conflict due to a religious obligation, please see me by Sept. 2nd so that alternate arrangements can