ECN6580 Health Economics

Personnel
Module leader Aki Tsuchiya
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C&F Times: Tuesdays and Fridays 1030-1130

Prerequisites
None

Module Aims and Objectives
Aims
1. to apply economic analysis to the market for health and health care and
2. to develop the skills required for the analysis of key issues in health
economics.

The intended learning outcomes are that by the end of the module you should demonstrate:
1. a comprehensive understanding of how advanced microeconomics can be
   used to address issues relating to the financing and provision of health care;
2. insight into the limitations of the neoclassical paradigm; the ability to
   understand, and critically assess the relevance of, recent contributions to the
   literature.

Transferable Skills
- Presentation skills
- Independent research
- Report writing

Timetable
- Ten 2-hr lectures between wk1 and wk10; Wednesdays 1000-1150 MB G27
- One 2-hr presentation session wk9: Friday 1300-1450 HI F24
- One 3-hr student conference wk10: Friday 1300-1550 IC Collaboratory 1

Student Responsibilities
- This is a 15 credit module and therefore it is expected it will require 150 study hours
  per student (including formal teaching hours). As a rough guideline this means you
  should expect to devote about 10 hours of study time per week to this module during
  a 15 week semester.
- Attendance at all lectures and the two Friday sessions is compulsory and will be
  monitored.
- Students should make use of staff consultation and feedback times to discuss any
  issues they have with the module.

Assessment
- The assessment of this module will be by unseen exam (75%), and assignment (25%).
- Coursework questions will be discussed during the wk1 lecture.
- Deadline: Mon 10 Dec (wk12)
- Word limit is strictly 3000 words.
- Harvard referencing must be used.
- Coursework must always be submitted in hard copy to the Enquiry Office, and by no later than 3.00pm on the day of the deadline. Unauthorised late submissions will incur a penalty of 5% of the mark per day for 5 working days and after that a mark of zero.
- A Turnitin submission should be made within 5 working days of the paper copy deadline. Failure to submit an assessment to Turnitin by this date will lead to a zero mark for the assessment.
- Marked coursework will be returned within 3 working weeks.
- The exam will be 2 hours long. A specimen paper is on the module website
- The pass mark for this module is 50% overall and there is a minimum mark required for every component of 40%.
- Any change to assessment arrangements will be announced in lectures and also via the website.

Reassessment
- In the case of students who fail the exam of this module, repeat assessment will be by re-sit exam. In the case of students who fail the coursework of this module, repeat assessment will be by re-submission of the coursework.
- Resit candidates must consult the website for further information, up until the time of the reassessment, not merely in semester time.

Website
- Students must read the module website regularly. The header on the homepage will indicate new posts but students should also check regularly for announcements.
- Where students are expected to have access to lecture notes in the lecture these will always be posted at least 24 hours before the lecture.

Student Feedback
- The module website has a Module Feedback Report which gives a detailed account by the module leader of the student experience on this module last year.
- Soon after coursework is returned to students, general feedback will be given on the website on performance in the coursework, in addition to the individual feedback given on the pink cover sheet which accompanies returned coursework.

Course Outline and Reading
There is no single textbook that covers all the material of the course, but the following books give basic introduction to a number of topics.
Elgar

Other general references
- Rice T (2003), *The Economics of Health Reconsidered*, 2nd ed, Health Administration Press

Specific reading by week

**wk 1: Introduction; and Characteristics of health and health care**

**wk 2: Production of health**
- Evans RG, Stoddart GL (1990), Producing health, consuming health care, *Social Science and Medicine*, 31(12): 1347-63
wk 3: Health care insurance

wk 4: Information

wk 5: Normative health economics

wk 6: Equity and equality

wk 7: Welfarist and non-welfarist health economics
* Birch S, Donaldson C (2003), Valuing the benefits and costs of health care programmes: where’s the ‘extra’ in extra-welfarism?, *Social Science & Medicine,*
wk 8: CBA vs CEA/CUA

wk 9: Incorporating public views in health care priority setting
* Dolan P, Olsen JA, Menzel P, Richardson J (2003), An inquiry into the different perspectives that can be used when eliciting preferences in health, Health Economics, 12: 545-551
- Richardson J, McKie J (2005), Empiricism, ethics and orthodox economic theory: what is the appropriate basis for decision-making in the health sector? Social Science & Medicine, 60: 265-275
* Schwappach D (2003), Does it matter who you are or what you gain? An experimental study of preferences for resource allocation, Health Economics. 12(4):255-262

wk 10: Health care systems
* http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/thenhs/Pages/thenhshome.aspx <accessed 08 Sep 2012>

Note that the schedule of topics may be altered.