

INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH ECONOMICS
PBHS 38010 (graduate)
PBHS 28010 (undergraduate)
PPHA 38290

Winter Quarter, 2018

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Classes: M/W 10:30-11:50, **Room #**
Faculty office hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant office hours:

This course covers the foundations of the economics of health care. Content includes demand for health, medical care, and insurance; supply of medical care and behavior of health care practitioners; and economic perspectives on measurement in health care research. Using a combination of lectures, readings, and problem sets, the goal is for students to acquire a basic understanding of economic knowledge and thinking that can be applied to current challenges in health care policy and practice. The course is open to undergraduate and graduate students with at least one prior course in microeconomics.

The required textbook (available at Seminary Coop Bookstore) is: Health Economics by Bhattacharya, Hyde, and Tu. Students are expected to read carefully and be prepared to discuss each reading assignment on the date listed on the syllabus. Grades will be based on class participation (10%), paper and presentation (25%), problem sets (30%) and a final exam (35%).

Course Outline

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Jan 3 (TK)	Introduction / Demand for Health and Health Care	BHT Chapters 1 and 2
Jan 8 (RC)	The Grossman Model	BHT Chapter 3
Jan 10 (TK)	Socioeconomic Disparities in Health	BHT Chapter 4
Jan 15: MLK day – no class		
Jan 17 (RC)	Health Insurance	BHT Chapter 7
Jan 22 (TK)	Adverse Selection 1	BHT Chapter 8-10
Jan 24 (TK)	Adverse Selection 2	
Jan 29 (RC)	Moral Hazard	BHT Chapter 11
Jan 31 (TK)	Hospitals	BHT Chapter 6
Feb 5 (RC)	Physician Supply	BHT Chapter 5
Feb 7 (RC)	Health Policy	BHT Chapter 15
Feb 12	Student presentations	
Feb 14	Student presentations	
Feb 19 (TK)	Population Aging	BHT Chapter 19
Feb 21 (RC)	Innovation and Technology	BHT Chapters 12 and 13
Feb 26 (TK)	Technology Assessment	BHT Chapter 14
Feb 28 (RC)	Health Externalities	BHT Chapter 20
Mar 5 (TK)	Behavioral Health Economics	BHT Chapters 23-24
Mar 7	Review	
Exam Week	Final Exam	