

Liberal Arts and Professional Studies Department of Economics

Course: AP Econ 3510 3.0A: Health Economics

Course Webpage: <http://moodle.yorku.ca>

Term: Fall 2019

Lecture Time / Location: Tuesdays, 11:30AM – 2:30PM, DB 0010

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: Prerequisite: AK/ECON 1000 3.00 or equivalent. Course credit exclusions: None. PRIOR TO FALL 2009: Course credit exclusion: AK/ECON 3510 3.00.

Course Instructor

Gordana Colby
1044 Vari Hall
gcolby@yorku.ca

Course office hours: Tuesdays 10:00AM – 11:00AM or by appointment

TA: TBD TA office hours: TBD

Expanded Course Description

Health economics is a key area of research in academia, government and industry and has become a central theme in current public policy debates in Canada. By examining the role of economic analysis in rationalizing the resources allocated to the health care sector, this course aims to:

1. Familiarize students with the application of the tools of economic analysis to the field of health and health care.
2. Allow students to gain greater awareness of the economic underpinnings of health care delivery in Canada and their implications to contemporary health policy issues.

The course analyzes the economic determinants of supply and demand in the health care sector. Special focus will be placed on the role of health insurance, public financing, funding arrangements and reimbursement methods in the provision and utilization of health services. Economic analysis of physicians, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies and implications to current health policy debates will also be discussed.

Course Text / Readings

Lecture notes will be provided on the course website.

(Optional) Hurley, Jeremiah E. 2010. Health Economics. 1st edition. McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

Note: Additional readings may be assigned or recommended during the course.

Evaluation

The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

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|---------------------------|---|
| Midterm Test 1: | 25% (Tuesday, October 22 nd In Class) |
| Midterm Test 2: | 25% (Tuesday, November 19 th In Class) |
| Final Examination: | 50% (To be scheduled by the Registrar's Office) |

Note: Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

Your grade for this course will be based on two tests each worth 25% and a 2.5 hour final examination worth 50% of the final grade. Both the tests and the final exam will be closed book with multiple choice and short-answer written questions. Sample questions and answers are provided on the course website for practice. Each test will be comprised of material as indicated on the lecture schedule, and they are not cumulative (that is Test 2 will not cover Test 1 material). The final exam will cover material from the entire course but will be weighted heavier on material covered after the second test.

There are no make-up tests for any reason. Should you miss a test without a valid reason, you will receive a grade of zero. If you provide the instructor with proper documentation of a valid reason (e.g. [York Attending Physician Statement](#)), the weight of the missing test will be transferred to the final exam. Students that miss the final exam are required to notify the instructor and the main Economics office within 48 hours and prepare valid documentation to attest to the reason the exam was missed before a deferred exam will be granted.

Additional Information

Students are expected to check the course website found at <http://moodle.yorku.ca> regularly for updated course information.

Course Topics

Part 1: Canadian Health Care System, Efficiency and Equity, Economics of Markets

Part 2: Determinants/Demand for Health, Demand for Health Care

Part 3: Health Care Insurance, Financing and Funding

Part 4: Delivery of Health Care (Physicians, Hospital Services and Pharmaceuticals)

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage – <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
 - <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
 - <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=94>
- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities (Policy)
 - <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=68>
- Student Conduct Standards
 - <http://www.yorku.ca/oscr/standards.html>
- Religious Observance Accommodation
 - <https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs>

Religious Observances Dates 2019/20:

- <https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/religious-accommodation-guidelines-2019-2020>

Grading Scheme and Feedback (Senate) Policy:

- <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/grading-scheme-and-feedback-policy/>

FW 2019/20 Sessional Dates:

- <https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw19>

Course ADD/Drop Deadlines

	Fall Term 2019 (F)	Winter Term 2020 (W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 17	Jan. 19
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 1	Feb. 3
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 8	Mar. 13
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 9-Dec. 3	Mar 14- Apr. 5

****Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course:**

<http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>

**YORK UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

**AP/ECON 3510A: Health Economics
Fall 2019**

APPROXIMATE LECTURE SCHEDULE AND STUDY PLAN

Date	Description
Tues Sep 10 th	Topic 1: Introduction and Canadian Health Care System (Ch. 1)
Tues Sep 17 th	Topic 2: Efficiency, Equity and Evaluation (Ch. 2 and a little Ch. 4)
Tues Sep 24 th	Topic 3: Economics of Markets (Ch. 3)
Tues Oct 1 st	Topic 4: Determinants/Demand for Health (Ch. 5 and 6)
Tues Oct 8 th	Topic 5: Health Care as an Economic Commodity (Ch. 7)
Tues Oct 15 th	Fall Reading Week (no class)
Tues Oct 22 nd	Test 1 (topics 1-4), Location: TBD (will be announced in class) (no class will be held after the test but students may be assigned some reading)
Tues Oct 29 th	Topic 6: Demand for Health Care (Ch. 8) and Topic 7: Health Care Insurance (Ch. 9 and 10)
Tues Nov 5 th	Topic 8: Health Care Financing (Ch. 11)
Tues Nov 12 th	Topic 9: Health Care Funding (Ch. 12)
Tues Nov 19 th	Test 2 (topics 5-8), Location: TBD (will be announced in class) (no class will be held after the test but students may be assigned some reading)
Tues Nov 26 th	Topic 10: Delivery of Health Care (Physicians/Hospitals/Pharmaceuticals) (Ch. 13, 14 and 15)
Tues Dec 3 rd	This class will be used to finish any topics that have not been completed. More details will be announced in class as we approach this class.

- The above schedule may change slightly as the term progresses. Please check the course website for more info regarding the lecture notes, tests and final exam coverage.
- The chapter in the Hurley "Health Economics" textbook that is associated with each topic is posted in parentheses. The textbook has good practice questions at the end of each chapter. The textbook does not provide answers to these questions so you should discuss possible answers with friends in the course and people that sit around you. Practice questions with answers will also be posted on the course website.
- The appendices to the textbook chapters generally cover the topics in the chapter from a more advanced technical level, typically suited for students with a background in intermediate microeconomics. As such for this course we will generally be sticking to material outside the appendices and students are only required to know material from appendices if it is explicitly mentioned in the lecture slides.