

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