

Syllabus for HIMT365

Healthcare Economics

NOTE: This syllabus document contains the basic information of this course. The most current syllabus is available in the full course.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of the structure of health care markets in the United States. You will evaluate the impact of the health care system in the United States on the competing goals of broad access, high quality, and affordability. You will also identify how consumers and providers respond to changes in incentives, and develop an appreciation for opposing views on health care reform. Topics covered include supply and demand modeling; cost-benefit analysis; the role of private and government health insurance; physician, hospital, long-term care, and pharmaceutical markets; and implications of the Affordable Care Act. Learning resources such as lectures, readings, and assessments are sequenced and organized to support authentic learning.

Prerequisite(s)

None.

Course Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the institutional structure of health care markets in the United States.
- Analyze how health care outcomes are influenced by changing market forces, social forces, and government forces.
- Explain the benefits and drawbacks of using cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analysis to guide evidence-based medicine.
- Explain how the provision and use of medical care are influenced by traditional insurance, cost-sharing measures, managed care restrictions, and consumer-driven health plans.
- Explain how government insurance programs affect participants, medical providers, and private insurance markets.

- Describe the different types of medical care data and how those measurements are driven by reimbursement and quality measurement needs.
- Evaluate the impact of health care reform from both the free-market and government-interventionist perspectives.
- Explain the impact of the major elements of the Affordable Care Act.

Course Requirements/Components

You will be asked to read chapters from your textbook, view the instructor's lecture videos (commentaries), participate in discussions, and complete quizzes, exams, and practice exercises.

Discussions

Your first discussion assignment will be to introduce yourself to your fellow classmates. Other discussions will ask you to answer specific questions or offer you an opportunity to review content in preparation for an exam.

All discussions are completed in the discussion area of the course. Each discussion assignment requires one original post and two reply posts.

Discussion Details

There will be two discussion assignments in which you will analyze a health care topic from an economic perspective. Following your initial posting, you will then be asked to critique a posting from one of your classmates.

For each discussion, you will receive up to 15 points based on the quality and effort of your initial posting and up to 10 points based on the quality and effort of the critique. All postings should be prepared in a professional, academic manner in order to receive full credit.

Please do not attach files to the discussion area. Rather, I would encourage you to prepare your postings using a word-processing program and then cut and paste your work into the body of the posting. This will make it easier to access the postings and provide you with a backup file in case there is a technical problem that causes you to lose your work.

Practice Exercises

I've recorded myself working through a number of problems and questions for you to use as practice. In the practice exercises, I present a number of exercises, give you some time to work through them yourself, and then offer solutions. The practice exercises will be needed to prepare for quiz and exam questions; not doing them will cause you to do poorly on those assignments.

Quizzes

The quizzes consist of most long answer questions, and the types of questions asked expect that you have more than just a surface-level understanding of the material.

Exams

The two exams in this course will consist of essay questions, which will be made available during the semester in the Content area.

Grading

The following grading scale will be used to evaluate all course requirements and to determine your final grade:

Grade	Percentage Range
A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	0 - 59%

Assignment	Points
Discussions (3 x 25 pts)	75
Quizzes (6 x 25 pts, lowest score dropped)	125
Exams (2 x 100 pts)	200
Total	400