

Please note: This is a preliminary syllabus and is subject to change. It provides useful introductory detail and additional course insight as you prepare for the application process.

HCMG 0001: Introduction to Health Economics

Course Description & Objectives

In Introduction to Health Economics, you will explore the application of economic principles to the health care sector. The course emphasizes the importance of scarcity and incentives in guiding the decision and interactions of key players, including care providers, payers, patients and producers. Course content highlights the critical economic issues in producing, delivering, and financing health care.

Through video lectures, synchronous class meetings, and discussions with your peers, you will learn to analyze determinants of demand for medical care, the unique role of physicians in resource allocation, the role of health insurance, and competition in medical care markets. The course focuses on the US health care context, but the economic principles applied are relevant to a range of systems

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the role of economics as it applies to health care markets, organizations, and individuals.
- Identify key challenges, both financially and organizationally, that health care delivery is currently facing.
- Analyze interactions between the players in a health care market, using economic frameworks and models.

Course Overview

This course is divided into 5 weeks, and course content is delivered via video lectures and synchronous class sessions. To be successful, you must actively engage with ideas presented in the course, and with those posed by your classmates.

Course Content & Schedule

Video Content and Readings

Video content includes pre-recorded lectures. Each week's lectures will guide course participants through the application of economic principles to a core topic like health insurance or care providers. We would encourage you to take careful notes and review transcripts.

Readings are not required because the scholarship that underlies the lecture content tends to be highly technical and often relies on economics and mathematics knowledge not required for the course. Some weeks will have recommended readings and supplemental resources, posted on the course page. If you have a background in economics or want to learn more about what kinds of material you mig

Course Assignments

Weekly quizzes will also be given to assess understanding of course content. Quizzes are open book and may consist of multiple-choice questions that ask you to identify a single correct answer, questions that ask you to identify multiple correct answers, and some free-answer questions. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Synchronous Classes

Synchronous classes offer the opportunity to explore questions about the course and materials beyond the lectures through live interactions—via Zoom—with the instructor. You must come to class prepared. Successful

Please note: This is a preliminary syllabus and is subject to change. It provides useful introductory detail and additional course insight as you prepare for the application process.

participation in class will reflect positively on your synchronous class participation grade, as will regular attendance and on-time arrival.

Assessments & Grading

Student assessments are grouped in the following categories:

	% of total
1) Collaboration and Active Synchronous Class Participation	30
2) Quizzes	30
3) Final Exam	20
4) Final Assignment	20

If you are having difficulty meeting a deadline, please contact the course instructors to arrange an extension before the assignment is due. All quiz assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time of the assigned due date. Late assignments are not accepted, even for partial credit. You must submit your assignments electronically via Canvas.

Final Project Assignment

The final project is a presentation that will challenge course participants to synthesize key concepts from the course to analyze critical aspects of the US health care environment. Potential topics include past or proposed health care policy reforms, marketplace or technology trends, or others. You will present your final project in a 10-minute presentation during the last week of class.

Final Exam

Your final exam will be delivered in the form of a 2-hour Canvas quiz (date and time, to be announced). During the final exam, you may not communicate with anyone, obtain assistance from other persons or sources, and you may only use class materials posted on Canvas.