

San José State University
Department of Economics
Econ 170: Health Economics
Spring 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instru fahmida.fakhrudin@sjs

Office Hours: By appointment or by zoom meeting
Class Days/Time: Tuesday & Thursday/ 10:30 am -11:45 am
Classroom: DMH 166
Prerequisites: Economics 001B, 101
Economics 3 is recommended but not required

Catalog Description

- 8 Q G H U V W D Q G W K H 3 X Q L T X H Q H V V ' R I W K H S U R E O H P V I D F H
2. Analyze the provision of health services, goods, and insurance using economic analysis.
 3. Explain the

n upper division course on economics of healthcare provision and payment. Health economics is one of the growing fields of microeconomics. In the last 30 years, some of the most controversial public policies contemplated by state and federal governments have involved issues that have been analyzed by health economists. This course uses microeconomic analysis to analyze the complexities of the demand and provision of healthcare services and goods.

We will learn about U.S. health care system and key economic concepts that health economists

use for analyzing health care markets. The goal of this course is threefold. First, is to better understand the economic theory of health and health care. Second is to learn about the specific institutional details and policies relevant to those markets. Third, is to learn how to evaluate and interpret empirical findings in health economics. So, students need to read intensively and be comfortable with basic statistical/econometric concepts.

Required Textbook and Supplementary Readings

Required Textbook

[Health Economics, 1st Edition, Jay Battacharya, Timothy Hyde, and Peter Tu, Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.](#)

Other Required Book/ Readings

These readings will be available on canvas.

Health Economics News and Blogs:

[The Health Care Economist](#)

[The Incidental Economist](#)

MYSJSU Messaging and Canvas

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, grades, messages regarding the class can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) to learn of any updates. See [University Policy F132](#) for more details.

Library Liaison

Christa Bailey, christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

Class Philosophy

Some of you start classes feeling isolated and lost but not in our class! This class is a community and each of you is part of the community. We all have the same objective: to learn. This class is

Course Expectations and Requirements

As this class is a four unit class, successful students should expect to spend about 180 hours (normally twelve hours per week or three hours per unit per week) throughout the semester, including reading, preparing for class, attending class, participating in course activities, and so on. More details can be found from [University Syllabus Policy S16](#)

It is expected that you will attend classes two times per week, participate in class discussions, finish assigned readings before class each week, turn in problem sets/paper on time, and take both midterm and final exam.

If you feel you are lost or experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. Please remember that I am just an email away. I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course fun and productive.

Course Assignments and Grading

Your grade will depend on the following assignments:

Problem Sets	15%
Term Paper	20%
Class Attendance and Participation	15%
Midterm	20%
Final Exam	30%

Converting number grades to letter grades:

97-100	A plus	93-96	A	90-92	A minus
87-89	B plus	83-86	B	80-82	B minus
77-79	C plus	73-76	C	70-72	C minus
67-69	D plus	63-66	D	60-62	D minus

Course Schedule and Readings

ECON 170/ Health Economics, Spring 2020

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice in class and on Canvas

Week	Date	Topics	Readings
1	1/23	Overview/ The Economic Way of thinking about Health Health Care Spending: Some Facts	BHT, Ch.1 Fuchs, ³ (FRQRPLFV 9DOXHVI 5HIRU American Economic Review 86 (

		<p>Insurance: Adverse Selection</p> <p>Social Insurance: Medicaid and Medicare</p>	<p>+ D Q G H O % ³ \$ G Y H U V H 6 H O + H D O W K , Q V X U D Q F H 0 D U N H American Economic Review ¹⁰³ (December, 2013): 2643-2682.</p> <p>BHT, Ch. 17 and 18</p> <p>Iglehart ³ 7 K H \$ P H U L F D Q + System: 0 H G L F T H E N E W E N G L A N D J O U R N A L O F Medicine ³⁴⁰ (5): 403-8</p>
6	2/25, 2/27	<p>Social Insurance: Medicaid and Medicare</p> <p>Uninsurance and the Affordable Care Act</p>	<p>Iglehart ³ 7 K H \$ P H U L F D Q + System: 0 H G L F T H E N E W E N G L A N D J O U R N A L O F Medicine ³⁴⁰ (4): 327-32</p> <p>Baicker, Ka W K H U L Q H H W D O ³ Experiment- The effects of Medicaid on Clinical 2 X W F R T H E N E W E N G L A N D J O U R N A L O F Medicine, May 2, 2013.</p> <p>Problem Set 1</p> <p>BHT, Ch. 18</p> <p>Baicker, Katherine and Chandra, Amitabh, 2008. ³ 0 \ W K V D Q G 0 L V F R Q F H S W L R 8 6 + H D O W K H E A L T H A F F O R D A B L E C A R E A C T Exclusive: w533-w543.</p> <p>* U X E H U - R Q D W K D Q ³ 8 L Q W K H 8 Q J O U R N A L O F E C O N O M I C H V Literature, 46(3): 571-606.</p> <p>. D L V H U) D P L O \) R X Q G D W L R R I W K H \$ I I R U G D E O H & D U H \$</p> <p>. O H L Q N H - ' ³ 7 K H & R Q V H U 2 E D P D F D U H ' 1 H Z < R U N 7 L P</p> <p>& X W O H U ' ³ 7 K H (F R Q R P L F \$ F W ' 1 H Z < R U N 7 1 0 P H V \$ X J</p> <p>Sommers, B, G. Kenney and AM Epstein. 2014. New Evidence on The Affordable Care Act:</p>

Coverage Impacts Of Early Medicaid Expansions
Health Affairs 33(1): 78-87.

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Douglas Holtz-Eakin and Michael J. Ramlet
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) H G H U D O % X G J H W ' H I L F L W V
Health Affairs 29(6):1136-41.

[30 Economists: We Need the Individual Mandate,
Health Insurance, July 2013](#)

[³< R X Q J \) L W D Q G 8 Q L Q W H I
January 2014.](#)

		Population Aging First Draft Due	³ , V 7 HFKQROR in Medicine & Health Affairs Sept/Oct. 2001. Problem Set 2
13	4/14, 4/16	Why are costs so High? Physician Decision Making Organizational Management and Efficiency	* DZHQGH \$ ³%LJ 0HG' 1HZ 2012. & XWOHU ' ³ :KHUH DUH WH Entrepreneurs? The Failure of Organizational , QQR YDWLRQ LQ +HDOWK & no. 16030, May, 2010. * DZHQGH \$ ³7KH &KHFNOL 2010.
14	4/21 4/23	Pharmaceutical Markets and Innovation	BHT, Ch. 12 /DNGDZDOOD ' HW DO ³8 LQ D *OREDO 0DUNHWSODF
15	4/28, 4/30	International Health Care Systems and Alternative Design	BHT, Ch. 15, 16 and 17
16	5/5, 5/7	International Health Care Systems and Comparison to U.S. Health Economics and Policy: Past, Present, Future Review for Final	³ 7KH 8 6 +HDOWK Perspective: WHP & RPSDULVRQ RI 7ZHOYH , Q The Commonwealth Fund, July 2011. Problem Set 3
17	5/18	Final Exam, Monday 05/18/2020 Final Paper Due	9:45 am to 12 pm