COURSE OBJECTIVES

Building on 11.4830, this course examines US domestic health policy issues from an economics perspective. Topics covered will be influenced by the current policy topics under discussion in the US. We will focus on the tradeoffs and contrasts between a market-based versus a government-based system. There will be a strong focus on applying theoretical insights from 11.4830 and interpreting the relevant empirical literature.

PREREQUISITES

P11.1018 Microeconomics for Public Management, Planning and Policy Analysis
P11.1011 Statistical Methods for Public, Nonprofit and Health Management
P11.4830 Health Economics: Principles

Students must have a working knowledge of basic economic and statistical concepts such as supply-demand analysis, elasticity, economic surplus analysis, decision-making by firms under perfect and imperfect competition, hypothesis testing and multivariable regression. Students are also expected to have a basic understanding of the U.S. health care delivery system.

BLACKBOARD AND EMAIL

All course materials will be posted on the Blackboard site for this class. Students can login to Blackboard at http://classes.nyu.edu/ using your NYU net ID and password. Some class announcements will be distributed via e-mail (as well as posted on Blackboard), thus, it is important to actively use your NYU e-mail account, or have appropriate forwarding set up on NYUHome (https://home.nyu.edu/).

READINGS


Health Care Economics References


Other Required Readings

All other readings are posted on Blackboard.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Readings

Before each class, students should complete the readings for that week and be prepared to summarize and discuss them in class.

Assignments/Exams

Two take home assignments and a final take-home will focus on problem solving with questions that involve quantitative and graphical analysis, interpretation, and writing (essay questions). Exam questions could anything from multiple choice responses to open-ended, essay questions. Both exams will be closed note and closed book. Both topics in lectures covered in lecture and/or readings are “fair game” for the tests. We won’t have an extensive review, but will talk about the exams in class before each one.

Class Participation

Participation and discussion are expected. Throughout the semester, discussion questions and newspaper articles may be distributed in class or posted on Blackboard, and students will be encouraged to comment on them in class or in discussion forums on Blackboard.

Grading

Overall course grades will be based on the following weights:

- 20% take-home assignment 1
- 20% take-home assignment 2
- 50% term paper
- 10% class participation

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As members of the NYU Wagner community, we are all expected to adhere to the highest standards of intellectual and academic integrity. Wagner, as a community, has adopted a disciplinary process, which is available at http://www.nyu.edu/wagner/current/policies/. It is important that all Wagner students are aware of both the type of activities that qualify as infractions and the consequences of
academic dishonesty. You are encouraged to review the academic code as soon as possible and to use it as a resource to guide you academically and professionally.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings (Assignments)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course,</td>
<td>• Folland, Chapter 4.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>Health care reform and cost control.</td>
<td>• Assignment 1 posted.</td>
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<td>• Trasande L. How much should the US invest in childhood obesity prevention? <em>Health Affairs</em>, 2010 Mar-Apr;29(3):372-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 22</td>
<td>Protecting Children from Environmental Exposures: An Economic Priority.</td>
<td>• Trasande L., Schechter C, Landrigan PJ. Public Health and Economic Consequences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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November 29

Innovation in Health Care -- from Pharma to IT and Elsewhere. (Guest Lecturer: Dan Makarov)

Folland, Chapter 17.
Danzon PM and Pauly MV, “Insurance and New Technology: From Hospital to Drugstore” Health Affairs, 2001 Assignment 2 posted.

December 6

Behavioral economics. (Guest Lecturer: Brian Elbel)

Jessica Greene Paper on Consumer Behavior. Assignment 2 due at start of class.

December 13

So where do we go from here? TBN

TBN

Term Paper Due December 20, 5pm