

Syllabus  
Economics 211  
Economics of Health and Health Care  
Fall 2008  
Tues/Thurs. 6b (2:20 – 3:30)

Instructor:

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Professor of Economics  
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Office Hours:

Monday/Wednesday: 1 – 2:30PM  
Tuesday/Thursday: 10:30 – 11:30AM  
Others by Appointment

Required texts:

*Health Economics: Theories, Insights and Industry Studies*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition  
Rexford E. Santerre and Stephen P. Neun

**The goals and expected outcomes** of this course are

- To become familiar with the various industries that make up the Health Care sector of the economy.
- To learn to use appropriate economic models to analyze and describe the activity and changes in those sectors.
- The Health Care industry is vital to the economy as a whole, and is changing at a very rapid pace. Therefore, part of our challenge is to become familiar enough with these changes to be able to recognize and suggest good policy.

**Assessment.** Your grade will consist of six components: three hourly exams, two essays and a final. Attendance and participation are expected. Participation requires that you attend class with readings complete such that you can participate in and add to the discussion. Unexcused absences in excess of three will result in grade reductions. Grades will be weighted as follows:

Exams (1-3)	15% each	45%
Essays	15% each	30%
Final		25%

You must notify me **BEFOREHAND** if you need to reschedule an exam. If you do not take an exam on the date it is given without first making alternative arrangements, you will receive a score of zero for that exam.

**Academic Honesty:** I endorse and strictly enforce the college's academic honesty policy. Violations of this policy will result in failure for the semester, no exceptions. The academic honesty policy can be found in the student handbook under "Academic policies and Regulations" and in the college catalog (p.46). Make sure you have read and understand these important policies. If you have any questions, **PLEASE** ask.

Schedule (may be adjusted as necessary – note that this is VERY likely in the last month)

### August

26	Introduction/Class business	Ch. 1
28	The economic perspective on health	Ch. 2

### September

2	The economic perspective on health	Ch. 2
4	Cost/Benefit Analysis Video “Who Plays God”	Ch. 3
9	Remainder of Video/ discussion	
11	Health Care systems and institutions	Ch. 4
16	Health Care systems continued	Ch. 4
18	<b>Exam #1 (Chapters 1 – 4)</b>	
23	The demand for medical care	Ch. 5
25	The demand for care and insurance	Ch. 5/6
30	The demand for insurance	Ch. 6

### October

2	The supply of medical care	Ch. 7
7	<b>No Class Fall Break</b>	
9	Supply of medical care (con't) <b>ESSAY #1 due</b>	Ch.7
14	The Structure, Conduct and Performance Model	Ch. 8
16	The Structure, Conduct and Performance Model Plus review for exam	

- 21        **Exam #2 (Chapters 5 – 8)**
- 23        Government health and medical care        Ch. 9, 10
- 28        Hospital services market        Ch. 13
- 30        Guest speaker – HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR

November

- 4        The physician services market        Ch. 12
- 6        Guest lecture – Dr. James Reid, Orthopedist
- 11        Guest lecture – Jon Conrad - Moravian College
- 13        **Exam #3**
- 18        Long Term Care Market        Ch 15 through p.488
- 20        The pharmaceutical industry        Ch. 14
- 25        Guest Speaker, Dr. Matthew Schultz, GlaxoSmithKline  
**Essay #2 due**

December

- 2        Video: Health care meltdown: looking for solutions;  
Health care reform        Ch. 16
- 4        Video: John Stossel: Whose Body is it anyway?  
Sick in America
- 9        review/catch up/end of class business
- 12 – 19        Finals DO NOT SCHEDULE TRAVEL