



UNSW Course Outline

ECON7307 Health Economics - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ECON7307

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : UNSW Business School

Academic Unit : School of Economics

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

The course provides an economic approach to the analysis of health and medical care markets.

Topics covered include the production of health, the production and consumption of medical care, the role of health as human capital, the relation between health and wealth, health

insurance and the problems of adverse selection and moral hazard, the health workforce and the training of health professionals. Throughout the course reference is made to current government health policy.

Course Aims

In this course, we will review economic approaches to the understanding of markets for health care and more generally the behaviour of agents involved in the provision and consumption of health care. We also discuss characteristics that are integral to health economics, namely information problems, insurance, government intervention and the institutional environment generally. Students are exposed to the widest possible range of perspectives and are encouraged to form their own critical evaluation of the current state of health care provision in Australia and other countries. In addition, special attention will be paid to how to critically read challenging state-of-the-art empirical papers.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes	Program learning outcomes
CLO1 : Explain and analyse the underlying economic frameworks appropriate to study health and health care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLO1 : Business Knowledge
CLO2 : Describe market failures in the provision of health care and the justifications for government policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLO1 : Business Knowledge • PLO2 : Problem Solving • PLO6 : Global and Cultural Competence
CLO3 : Compare and contrast the different market environments in which health and health policy decisions must be made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLO1 : Business Knowledge • PLO2 : Problem Solving • PLO6 : Global and Cultural Competence • PLO7 : Leadership Development
CLO4 : Apply a rational approach in the evaluation of government intervention and programs in health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLO2 : Problem Solving • PLO5 : Responsible Business Practice
CLO5 : Critically and appropriately evaluate health economics research papers and prepare a quality academic presentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLO2 : Problem Solving • PLO3 : Business Communication • PLO7 : Leadership Development

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explain and analyse the underlying economic frameworks appropriate to study health and health care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam • Test • Participation in group discussions
CLO2 : Describe market failures in the provision of health care and the justifications for government policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam • Participation in group discussions
CLO3 : Compare and contrast the different market environments in which health and health policy decisions must be made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam • Participation in group discussions
CLO4 : Apply a rational approach in the evaluation of government intervention and programs in health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam • Participation in group discussions
CLO5 : Critically and appropriately evaluate health economics research papers and prepare a quality academic presentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam • Participation in group discussions

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

An ideal strategy (on which the provision of the course materials is based) might include:

- Reading of the assigned material before the lecture. This will give you a general idea of the topic area.
- Attendance at lectures. Here the context of the topic in the course and the important elements of the topic are identified. The relevance of the topic is explained. More complex material is reviewed using a variety of techniques and examples to allow more in-depth understanding.
- Complementing the lecture notes using assigned and suggested readings and identifying areas where more study or help is needed.
- Active participation in seminars. Each tutorial will cover an assigned paper that you should read and be prepared to discuss.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates	Program learning outcomes
Final Exam Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: 09/10/2012 09:00 AM Due Date: 10/10/2012 12:00 AM	• PLO2 : Academic Excellence
Test Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 5 during seminar.	• PLO2 : Academic Excellence
Participation in group discussions Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable	• PLO3 : Business Communication • PLO2 : Academic Excellence

Assessment Details

Final Exam

Assessment Overview

A final exam will be held for this course. The exam will cover the entire course. Please note: some questions in the test and/or final exam for those enrolled in ECON7307 will differ from those in shared course codes ECON4307 and ECON6307.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain and analyse the underlying economic frameworks appropriate to study health and health care.
- CLO2 : Describe market failures in the provision of health care and the justifications for government policy.
- CLO3 : Compare and contrast the different market environments in which health and health policy decisions must be made.

- CLO4 : Apply a rational approach in the evaluation of government intervention and programs in health.
- CLO5 : Critically and appropriately evaluate health economics research papers and prepare a quality academic presentation.

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Test

Assessment Overview

The test will cover the material covered in the first three weeks of the class. Sample questions will be provided in Week three.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain and analyse the underlying economic frameworks appropriate to study health and health care.

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Participation in group discussions

Assessment Overview

Each week in seminars we will discuss a pre-assigned paper. This paper will illustrate some of the material covered in the lecture in the previous week. Students should come to seminars prepared to participate in the class discussions; i.e., they are expected to read the pre-assigned paper in advance and be prepared to discuss it with the rest of the class. Marking is done continuously based on participation in discussions.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain and analyse the underlying economic frameworks appropriate to study health and health care.
- CLO2 : Describe market failures in the provision of health care and the justifications for government policy.
- CLO3 : Compare and contrast the different market environments in which health and health policy decisions must be made.
- CLO4 : Apply a rational approach in the evaluation of government intervention and programs in health.
- CLO5 : Critically and appropriately evaluate health economics research papers and prepare a quality academic presentation.

Generative AI Permission Level

Not Applicable

Generative AI is not considered to be of assistance to you in completing this assessment. If you do use generative AI in completing this assessment, you should attribute its use.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

In order to pass this course students must:

- Achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100
- Engage actively in course learning activities and attempt all assessment requirements
- Meet any additional requirements specified in the assessment details
- Meet the specified attendance requirements of the course (see Schedule section)

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Topic: Introduction, The Measurement and Production of Health
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Topic: Demand for Health Care Assessment/Other: - Seminars will be held in each of Weeks 2 through 5, and 7 through 10. Each seminar will discuss a paper related to the previous lecture. - Participation in discussions will be graded.
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Topic: Demand and Supply of Health Insurance
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Topic: Asymmetric Information and Moral Hazard
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Topic: Comparative Health Care Systems Assessment/Other: Test on materials from Weeks 1 to 4 during Seminar.
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Lecture	No lectures/tutorials.
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Topic: Comparative Health Care Systems, Healthy and Productive Ageing
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Topic: Aged Care
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Topic: Health Care in Emerging Asia
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Seminar	No lectures.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

The website for this course is on UNSW Moodle at: <http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au>

The website contains: the course outline; the tutorial documents; the lecture notes; course announcements; and other course hand-outs. Students should consult this website at least once a week as it contains important information about the course. It will be assumed that all students have seen any notice posted on the course website.

The textbook for the course is:

- Follan, Sherman, Allen Goodman and Miron Stano (2016). *The Economics of Health and Health Care*: Pearson New International Edition, 7th Edition, Routledge.

Recommended Resources

This is available online through the UNSW library. A useful additional reference is:

- Bhattacharya, J., T. Hyde and P. Tu (2014). *Health Economics*, Palgrave Macmillan.

A copy of this text has been placed on reserve at the library. Material from the textbook will be complemented with journal articles that can be downloaded from the respective journal websites through UNSW's library system.

For background knowledge in econometrics, it is recommended that you consult:

- Wooldridge, Jeffrey (2019). Introductory Econometrics, 7th Edition. Cengage Learning.
- Wooldridge, Jeffrey (2010). Econometric Analysis of Cross Section and Panel Data, 2nd Edition. MIT Press.

Course Evaluation and Development

Feedback is regularly sought from students and continual improvements are made based on this feedback. At the end of this course, you will be asked to complete the [myExperience survey](#), which provides a key source of student evaluative feedback. Your input into this quality enhancement process is extremely valuable in assisting us to meet the needs of our students and provide an effective and enriching learning experience. The results of all surveys are carefully considered and do lead to action towards enhancing educational quality.

The School of Economics strives to be responsive to student feedback. If you would like more information on how the design of this course and changes made to it over time have taken students' needs and preferences into account, please contact the Director of Education at the School of Economics.

Consent for De-Identified Data to be Used for Secondary Research into Improving Student Experience

To enhance your student experience, researchers at UNSW conduct academic research that involves the use of de-identified student data, such as assessment outcomes, course grades, course engagement and participation, etc. Students of this course are being invited to provide their consent for their de-identified data to be shared with UNSW researchers for research purposes after the course is completed.

Providing consent for your de-identified data to be used in academic research is voluntary and not doing so will not have an impact on your course grades.

Researchers who want to access your de-identified data for future research projects will need to submit individual UNSW Ethics Applications for approval before they can access your data.

A full description of the research activities aims, risks associated with these activities and how

your privacy and confidentiality will be protected at all times can be found [here](#).

If you **consent** to have your de-identified data used for academic research into improving student experience, you do not need to do anything. Your consent will be implied, and your data may be used for research in a format that will not individually identify you after the course is completed.

If you **do not consent** for this to happen, please email the [opt-out form](#) to seer@unsw.edu.au to opt-out from having your de-identified data used in this manner. If you complete the opt-out form, the information about you that was collected during this course will not be used in academic research.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Michael Kean e		Cepar E322		Tuesday 12:00-1:00	Yes	Yes
Lecturer	John Piggott		Cepar E310		Tuesday 12:00-1:00	No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

COURSE POLICIES AND SUPPORT

The Business School expects that you are familiar with the contents of this course outline and the UNSW and Business School learning expectations, rules, policies and support services as listed below:

- Program Learning Outcomes
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Student Responsibilities and Conduct
- Special Consideration
- Protocol for Viewing Final Exam Scripts
- Student Learning Support Services

Further information is provided on the [Policies and Guidelines](#) page.

Students may not circulate or post online any course materials such as handouts, exams, syllabi or similar resources from their courses without the written permission of their instructor.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) – under the Outcomes tab – are what you should be able to demonstrate by the end of this course, if you participate fully in learning activities and successfully complete the assessment items.

CLOs also contribute to your achievement of the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), which are developed across the duration of a program. PLOs are, in turn, directly linked to [UNSW graduate capabilities](#). More information on Coursework PLOs is available on the [Policies and Guidelines](#) page. For PG Research PLOs, including MPDBS, please refer to [UNSW HDR learning outcomes](#).

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Code of Conduct](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Code of Conduct, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

SHORT EXTENSIONS

Short Extension is a new process that allows you to apply for an extended deadline on your assessment without the need to provide supporting documentation, offering immediate approval during brief, life-disrupting events. Requests are automatically approved once submitted.

Short extensions are ONLY available for some assessments. Check your course outline or Moodle to see if this is offered for your assessments. Where a short extension exists, all students enrolled in that course in that term are eligible to apply. Further details are available the [UNSW Current Students](#) page.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances beyond your control interfere with your performance in a specific assessment task or tasks, including online exams. Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable.

Applications can only be made online and will NOT be accepted by teaching staff. Applications will be assessed centrally by the Case Review Team, who will update the online application with the outcome and add any relevant comments. The change to the status of the application immediately sends an email to the student and to the assessor with the outcome of the application. The majority of applications will be processed within 3-5 working days.

For further information, and to apply, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

LATE SUBMISSION PENALTIES

LATE SUBMISSION PENALTIES

For assessments other than examinations, late submission will incur a penalty of 5% per day or part thereof (including weekends) from the due date and time. An assessment will not be accepted after 5 days (120 hours) of the original deadline unless special consideration has been approved. In the case of an approved Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) provision, special consideration or short extension, the late penalty applies from the date of approved time extension. After five days from the extended deadline, the assessment cannot be submitted.

An assessment is considered late if the requested format, such as hard copy or electronic copy, has not been submitted on time or where the 'wrong' assessment has been submitted.

For assessments which account for 10% or less of the overall course grade, and where answers are immediately discussed or debriefed, the LIC may stipulate a different penalty. Details of such late penalties will be available on the course Moodle page.

FEEDBACK ON YOUR ASSESSMENT TASK PERFORMANCE

Feedback on student performance from formative and summative assessment tasks will be provided to students in a timely manner. Assessment tasks completed within the teaching period of a course, other than a final assessment, will be assessed and students provided with

feedback, with or without a provisional result, within 10 working days of submission, under normal circumstances. Feedback on continuous assessment tasks (e.g. laboratory and studio-based, workplace-based, weekly quizzes) will be provided prior to the midpoint of the course.

Faculty-specific Information

PROTOCOL FOR VIEWING FINAL EXAM SCRIPTS

UNSW students have the right to view their final exam scripts, subject to a small number of very specific exemptions. The UNSW Business School has set a [protocol](#) under which students may view their final exam script. Individual schools within the Faculty may also set up additional local processes for viewing final exam scripts, so it is important that you check with your School.

If you are completing courses from the following schools, please note the additional school-specific information:

- Students in the **School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation** who wish to view their final examination script should also refer to [this page](#).
- Students in the **School of Banking & Finance** should also refer to [this page](#).
- Students in the **School of Information Systems & Technology Management** should also refer to [this page](#).

COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Feedback is regularly sought from students and continual improvements are made based on this feedback. At the end of this course, you will be asked to complete the [myExperience survey](#), which provides a key source of student evaluative feedback. Your input into this quality enhancement process is extremely valuable in assisting us to meet the needs of our students and provide an effective and enriching learning experience. The results of all surveys are carefully considered and do lead to action towards enhancing educational quality.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Business School is actively monitoring student learning and quality of the student experience in all its programs. A random selection of completed assessment tasks may be used for quality assurance, such as to determine the extent to which program learning goals are being achieved. The information is required for accreditation purposes, and aggregated findings will be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of Business School programs. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential.

TEACHING TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Please note that teaching times and locations are subject to change. Students are strongly advised to refer to the [Class Timetable website](#) for the most up-to-date teaching times and locations.