

Course Syllabus

Course Information

ECON 3330.501 83743	Economics of Health (3 Credits)	Wed : 5:30pm-8:15pm; FO2.702
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Course Number/Section HMG1 3330 (ECON 3330.501)
Orion Course Code
Course Title Economics of Health
Term Fall 2017
Days & Times Wednesday: 5:30pm-8:15pm; FO 2.530-

Professor Contact Information

Professor Doric E. Earle, MBA PhD
Email Address Dee011000@utdallas.edu
Office Location Virtual
Office Hours By Appointment
Other Information Materials posted on <http://elearning.utdallas.edu>

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Course Description

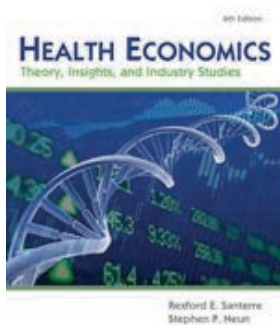
This course builds on the topics of healthcare systems and financing. Students gain an advanced understanding of the economic challenges faced by healthcare decision-makers, policy-makers, stakeholders and consumers in today's society and learn to identify causes of and solutions to delivery inefficiencies. Topics include healthcare reform, supply/demand, resource utilization, competitive strategies and regulatory restrictions. We will also touch briefly on the concept of Healthcare Analytics and Behavioral Economics as they relate to your understanding the Healthcare ecosystem. We will also examine the economic impact of social media on the healthcare market.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- Understand basic components of the healthcare market.
- Understand the impact of current consumption, provider, payer, policy behavior in the healthcare market.
- Provide you tools and various conceptual frameworks with which to gain a better understanding of the healthcare market and issues.
- Understand how to apply economic principles to a range of policy questions.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts



Health Economics: Theory, Insights, and Industry Studies, 6th Edition

Dr. Rexford E. Santerre; Dr. Stephen P. Neun
 ISBN-10: 1-111-82272-7
 ISBN-13: 978-1-111-82272-9

Required Materials

Course Policies

1. *Make-up exams*

No make-ups unless you have a doctor's note.

2. *Extra Credit*

TBA

3. *Late Work*

Late work will not receive full credit.

4. *Special Assignments*

TBA

5. *Class Attendance*

Your grade is weighted 10% on class participation, and your absences will negatively affect your class participation grade. You must contribute to class discussion through your questions and interaction.

6. *Classroom Citizenship*

You are expected to be prepared to engage in a class discussion on the readings and homework for the week when you arrive. This will be an important part of your class participation. You will also be expected to make oral presentations on the readings.

Grade Composition

1. Two (2) Essays: 15 points each (30 points total) – see writing guide & rubric in eLearning
2. Exam I: 15 points
3. Exam II 15 points
4. In Class Group Presentations: 20 points
5. Class Participation & Attendance by Submission Discussion Questions 10/12 weeks -10 points total
6. Two (2) Quizzes, Five (5) points each – 10 points
7. Total 100 points

- A = 100-92.75,
- A- = 92.74-88.75,
- B+ = 88.74-85.75,
- B = 85.74-81.75
- B- = 81.74-78.75,
- C+ = 78.74-75.75,
- C = 75.74-71.75,
- C- = 71.74-67.5,
- D = 67.4-63.5,
- F = BELOW 63.4

Tests – 30 (%)

- **Scantron – multiple choice**
- Covers the lectures and readings
- Not cumulative
- Or T/F

In-Class Group Presentations (20%) rather than try and rush to have each group present a topic at the end of semester along with exam preparations and all the other work you have, we will do one group presentation each non-lecture class. This will be a topic you (a group of four or five students of your choice) select and submit to me the week before in class. It should pertain to either current material presented in the text or relate to a current topic in the world of healthcare economics.

- The presentation will be approximately half the class, five minute per participant
- Collaborate amongst yourselves as to how each of you will present some aspect of that topic
- It can be multimedia (PowerPoint, text, etc.)
- Do not just grab a YouTube video or stream a news story unless you provide analysis and dialog along with it

Discussion Questions – (10%)

- Once per week, students will need to submit one *original thought* (1) question, comment, or “in the news” item based on the readings assigned for the week. This question and comment will be used to facilitate class discussions, you are expected to attend each class with the possibility of reading your question in class. Accordingly, these questions/comments must be submitted to eLearning 24 hours in advance of the Wednesday class. These questions must be submitted by 5 PM on the Tuesday prior to class. Students may skip submitting questions/comments two times (2 weeks’ worth) throughout the semester with no penalty to their grade.
- If you choose to skip a week, you may not submit partial questions. As topics and discussions will evolve in this class, please refrain from submitting your questions more than a week in advance.

Class Attendance – Mandatory

Class participation is required and expected. It is assessed in a variety of ways. Class participation is an important indication of your commitment and engagement in the material and is critical to your success in class. You will have the opportunity to participate in class through class discussions and in-class writing activities. Lecture content will frequently cover topics and current events that are not found in the text and will not be provided on lecture notes. In addition, there will be in-class activities which will require student participation. If you are unable to stay for the entire class, please let the professor know and you will be credited for partial attendance. The attendance grade is based on a percent of classes attended (allowing for 2 un-excused absences). Students can miss up to two (2) classes with no penalty to their Class Participation grade. There will be no opportunities to make-up missed Class Participation credit, regardless of the reason. I frequently hear from students (frequently enough in fact, that I’ve added it to this syllabus) after missing the first two classes that they had an excellent reason for the third class they missed, such as illness, family emergency, or car trouble. I highly recommend saving up your freebies for unforeseen circumstances that may indeed arise.

Students do not need to submit any documentation for missed days of lectures, the first two missed days will simply be dropped, and all subsequent missed days will result in a deduction, regardless of the reason (this does not apply to Exams; see below).

Classroom Behavior: Please come to class on time and stay for the duration of the class session. You should be seated and ready to begin on time. Please be respectful of your classmates and your professor and refrain from talking to each other during lectures. Coming and going during class and talking to your neighbors is disruptive and distracting. **Electronics policy:** There are no electronics allowed in the classroom on Lecture Days. Cell phones must be silenced and put away during class.

Lecture notes will be posted weekly on eLearning. These are for student's use only and are not to be distributed in any other format. Note: These notes are meant as an outline for class and will not contain all information discussed and reviewed in class.

Exams (30%)

Two non-cumulative exams focusing on the assigned readings and lecture material will be given to assess your mastery of the material in each section of the course.

Exams will be multiple-choice and fill in the blank.

DON'T MISS AN EXAM! You must be present for all exams. Make-up exams will be given only if: (a) you were seriously ill and have verifiable documentation from a physician, or (b) you were detained the day and time of the exam, or (c) you made arrangements prior to the exam to attend an urgent family affair (e.g., funeral).

In any of these cases, you must notify your professor in advance of the scheduled time of the exam (call and leave a voice-mail message if you can do nothing else) and you must also provide the appropriate documentation. Otherwise, you will receive a 0 for that exam. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that an exam is made up within one week of the scheduled time. If you do not come to the make-up exam at the scheduled time you will receive a 0 for the exam. Beware, make-up exams are designed to be more comprehensive to compensate for having more study time. If you have a concern about an exam grade, please contact your instructor within one week of the grades posting to discuss the issue.

Current Reading / Topical Essays (30%)

You will be responsible for writing two seven page (minimum) essays in the course of the semester. Each essay will address a particular topic or topics that will be discussed in class and preparation will be aided with additional readings and activities. Each essay will be submitted electronically on eLearning (due dates are on the syllabus calendar). **No assignments will be accepted after the due date.** The assignments will be discussed in greater detail in class and detailed descriptions and specific instructions will be posted on eLearning.

Extra credit: The course is designed to provide a variety of grading opportunities. It is at the Professor's discretion to offer.

Plagiarism: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings. **Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism** (see general catalog for details).

Quizzes on Lecture Material (10%)

Two "surprise" quizzes will be given to ensure students are keeping up with and comprehending the textbook-based lectures.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates

Date / Week #	Day	Chapter Readings	Comments
Wk1 - 8/23	Lecture Half	Review Objectives & Syllabus,	Readings, homework questions and quizzes are subject to change depending on potential guests & field trips
		Discuss: Fundamentals of HealthCare Economics	
		Discuss: Group Project - 4 Ps - Follow the \$	
	Project	Discuss group projects & Essay #1 Topics	Read Chapter 1 & Appendix
Wk2 - 8/30	Lecture	Chapter 1: Introduction Healthcare Economics	Read Chapter 1 & Appendix See Grossman's Model
	Group Proj.	Macro economic basics expanded	
Wk3 9/6	Lecture	Chapter 2: Health and Medical Care: An Economic Perspective	Read Chapter 2 / Group Topic
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 1	Group 1 Presents
Wk4 9/13	Lecture	Chapter 3: Cost and Benefit Evaluation Methods	Read Chapter 3 / Group Topic
	Group Proj.	Essay 1 Due Discussion Questions / Group Project 2	Group 2 Presents / Essay 2 topics
Wk5 9/20	Lecture	Chapter 4: Health Care Systems and Institutions...	Quiz 1
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 3	Group 3 Presents
Wk6 9/27	Lecture	Chapter 5: The Demand for Medical Care	
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 4	Group 4 Presents
Wk7 10/4	Lecture	Chapter 6: The Demand for Medical Insurance: Traditional and Managed Care	Chapter 6 Reading -Guest Lecture (James Gleason – SVP Lockton Insurance)
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 5	Group 5 Presents
Wk8 10/11	Lecture	Prep for Exam I	Prep Topics For Exam I
	Group Proj.	Exam I	Chapters 1-6
Wk9 10/18	Lecture	Chapter 8: Structure, Conduct, Performance and Market Analysis,...	Read Chapter 8 – Group Topic -
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 6	Group 6 Presents
Wk10 10/25	Lecture	Behavioral Economics (Special Reading) Lecture	Handout - Different approach?
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 7	Quiz II Group 7 Presents
Wk11 11/01	Lecture	Chapter 9: Government, Health, and Medical Care...	Read Chapter 9 – Group Topic
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 8	Group 8 Presents
Wk12 11/08	Lecture	Essay 2 Due: Chapter 10: Government as Health Insurer	Read Chapter 10 – Group Topic
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 9	Group 9 Presents
Wk13 11/15	Lecture	Guest Lecture Dr. Sean Black, Baylor ER MD / Chapt 11	Guest Lecture Dr. Sean Black, Baylor ER MD / Read Chapter 11 –
	Group Proj.	Payer Discussion Ch 11 & 16 HC System reform	Intro to Chapter 16 / 17 (16.1-16.4)
11/22		Winter Break	
		Thanksgiving	
Wk14 11/29	Lecture	Healthcare Data Analytics - What is Big Data? (Special Reading) Lecture	Handout - What to do with all that data?
	Group Proj.	Healthcare Data Analytics Discussion	
wk15 12/6	Lecture	Review & Discussion Lecture	8-11, 16, Behavioral Econ., Big Data
	Group Proj.	Discussion Questions / Group Project 10	Group 10 Presents
		Review for Exam II	8-11, 16, Behavioral Econ., Big Data
		Exam II (TBD date)	

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

Student Conduct and Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UT Dallas printed publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is available to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Series 50000*, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, and in *Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities* of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>.

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct. [Added July 2010] Students are expected to be attentive during class and to participate actively in group activities. Students are expected to listen respectfully to faculty and to other students who are speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism, and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in class. Classes may discuss issues that require sensitivity and maturity. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty: Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submitting for credit any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, or any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source, is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of *turnitin.com*, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (*Title 17, United States Code*) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe upon the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy ([UTDPP1043](#)). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://copyright.lib.utexas.edu/copypol2.html>.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's UT Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UT Dallas student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individuals corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UT Dallas furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at UT Dallas provides a method for students to have their UT Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Class Attendance

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Absences may lower a student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the instructor. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal from any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course inventory and in the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, a professor or other instructor cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in university policy [UTDSP5005](#) (<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5005>). In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originated.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Disability Services

It is the policy and practice of The University of Texas at Dallas to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. However, written notification from the Office of Student Accessibility (OSA) is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for a course, please discuss it with an OSA staff member and allow at least one week's advanced notice. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact the Office of Student Accessibility for a confidential discussion.

The primary functions of the Office of Student Accessibility are to provide:

1. academic accommodations for students with a documented permanent physical, mental or sensory disability
2. non-academic accommodations
3. resource and referral information and advocacy support as necessary and appropriate.

OSA is located in the Student Services Building, suite 3.200. They can be reached by phone at (972) 883-2098, or by email at disabilityservice@utdallas.edu.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, *Texas Code Annotated*.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of *TEC 51.911(b)*, and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

Avoiding Plagiarism

[Adapted from Duke University's guidelines for writers; added July 2010]

Take time to make careful choices among--and learn to use--the research tools available to you. You will probably find that your favorite web search engine is not adequate by itself for college-level research. Consult with your professor or a librarian. You may need to use specialized research tools, some of which may require learning new searching techniques.

Expect to make trips to the library. While you can access many of the library's resources from your home computer, you may find that you need to make several trips to use materials or research tools that are not accessible remotely. Of course, you will be seeking the best information, not settling for sources simply because they happen to be available online.

Allow time for gathering materials that are not available at UT Dallas. The InterLibrary Loan Office can borrow articles and books from other libraries, but this process takes additional time.

Allow time for reading, rereading, absorbing information, taking notes, synthesizing, and revising your research strategy or conducting additional research as new questions arise.

Sloppy note-taking increases the risk that you will unintentionally plagiarize. Unless you have taken note carefully, it may be hard to tell whether you copied certain passages exactly, paraphrased them, or wrote them yourself. This is especially problematic when using electronic source materials, since they can so easily be copied and pasted into your own document.

Identify words that you copy directly from a source by placing quotation marks around them, typing them in a different color, or highlighting them. (Do this immediately as you are making your notes. Don't expect to remember days or weeks later what phrases you copied directly.) Make sure to indicate the exact beginning and end of the quoted passage. Copy the wording, punctuation and spelling exactly as it appears in the original.

Jot down the page number and author or title of the source each time you make a note, even if you are not quoting directly but are only paraphrasing.

Keep a working bibliography of your sources so that you can go back to them easily when it's time to double-check the accuracy of your notes. If you do this faithfully during the note-taking phase, you will have no trouble completing the "works cited" section of your paper later on.

Keep a research log. As you search databases and consult reference books, keep track of what search terms and databases you used and the call numbers and URLs of information sources. This will help if you need to refine your research strategy, locate a source a second time, or show your professor what works you consulted in the process of completing the project.

You must cite direct quotes.

You must cite paraphrases. Paraphrasing is rewriting a passage or block of text in your own words. If you paraphrase, you must still cite the original source of the idea.

You must cite ideas given to you in a conversation, in correspondence, or over email.

You must cite sayings or quotations that are not familiar, or facts that are not "common knowledge." However, it is not necessary to cite a source if you are repeating a well known quote or familiar proverb. Common knowledge is something that is widely known. For example, it is widely known that Bill Clinton served two terms as president; it would not be necessary to cite a source for this fact.

These types of sources should be cited as well. Printed sources: Books, parts of books, magazine or journal articles, newspaper articles, letters, diaries, public or private documents; *Electronic sources:* Web pages, articles from e-journals, newsgroup postings, graphics, email messages, software, databases; *Images:* Works of art, illustrations, cartoons, tables, charts, graphs; *Recorded or spoken material:* Course lectures, films, videos, TV or radio broadcasts, interviews, public speeches, conversations.

Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your UT Dallas account you may email assist@utdallas.edu or call the UT Dallas Computer Help Desk at 972-883-2911.

Field Trip Policies, Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities.

Resources to Help You Succeed

The Student Success Center (SSC) offers assistance to students in the areas of writing, mathematics, communication, multiple science fields, reading, study skills, and other academic disciplines. These services are available through individual and small group appointments, workshops, short courses, and a variety of online and instructional technologies. All students enrolled at UT Dallas are eligible for these services.

The **Math Lab** supports all undergraduate math course. The **Writing Center** offers a collaborative learning environment for one-to-one and small group assistance with general and advanced writing assignments and overall writing skills.

The **Peer Tutoring** program offers free tutoring assistance in multiple locations for many of the historically challenging undergraduate subjects at UT Dallas. Tutoring sessions, offered every weekday on a drop-in basis, are one-on-one or in a small group format.

The **Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL)** program provides an active, engaged learning experience for students who meet in small groups once a week with a Peer Leader who helps guide them through potentially difficult gateway course.

Supplemental Instruction (SI) provides free, peer-facilitated weekly study sessions for students taking historically difficult courses. SI sessions encourage active, collaborative learning based on critical thinking and transferable study skills.

The **Communication Lab (CommLab)** offers one-on-one and group consultations where you will gain practical feedback for improving oral and group presentations.

Success Coaching is available for individual student appointments to discuss study skills, time management, note taking, test taking and preparation, and other success strategies.

The Student Success Center's main office is located in the McDermott Library Building and can be contacted by calling 972-883-6707 or by sending an email to ssc@utdallas.edu.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.