



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

## Department of Economics Course Outline

		<b>Term:</b>	Winter 2010
<b>Course:</b>	Economics 499.79 [Special Topics in Health Economics]	<b>Section:</b>	02
<b>Time:</b>	MWF 14:00 – 14:50	<b>Place:</b>	ST130
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Mingshan Lu		
<b>Office:</b>	SS 440	<b>Tel. No.:</b>	403-220-5488
<b>Office hours:</b>	M 13:10-14:00	<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:lu@ucalgary.ca">lu@ucalgary.ca</a>

### Textbooks:

*The Economics of Health and Health Care*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, by Folland, Goodman and Stano, Prentice Hall Canada.

*Financing Health Care: New Ideas for a Changing Society*, Lu, M. and J. Egon (eds.), 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim.

### Book(s) on Reserve:

*Financing Health Care: New Ideas for a Changing Society*, Lu, M. and J. Egon (eds.), 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim.

*The Economics of Health and Health Care*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, by Folland, Goodman and Stano, Prentice Hall Canada.

Culyer, Anthony J. & Joseph P. Newhouse (eds.), *Handbook of Health Economics (Volume 1A)*. Elsevier, 2000.

Culyer, Anthony J. & Joseph P. Newhouse (eds.), *Handbook of Health Economics (Volume 1B)*. Elsevier, 2000.

Newhouse, J. P., *Free for all? Lessons from the Rand Health Insurance Experiment*. Harvard University Press, 1993.

Evans, Robert, *STRAINED MERCY: The Economics of Canadian Health Care*, Toronto: Butterworth, 1984. .../2

**Blackboard:**

This course will make use of Blackboard - students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

**Course Outline (subject to changes):**

1. Overview: Economics and the Health Care System
2. Selective Topics in The Economics of Health and Health Care
  - The Demand for Health and the Production of Health
  - Patient -- the Demand for Health Insurance and Health Services
  - Physician -- Physician Agency and Physician-Induced Demand
  - Hospital -- Ownership and Competition
3. Selective Topics in Health Care Reforms and Financing in Health care
  - Canadian Health Care System and Reform Issues
  - The Public and Private Financing and Provision of Health Care
  - Provider Payment Systems and Economic Incentives
  - Selection and Risk adjustment
  - Efficiency and Equity of health and health care

**Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:**

Class Discussions and Presentations	20%
Test 1	25%
Test 2	25%
Term Paper	30%

Exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis. The course grade is calculated using the weights indicated above, then converted to letter grades. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	96-100	B	73-76	C-	60-62
A	87-95	B-	70-72	D+	55-59
A-	80-86	C+	67-69	D	50-54
B+	77-79	C	63-66	F	0-49

There will not be makeup tests. Unless you have a documented health problems or family emergencies, if you fail to take a test, your score for the missed test will be zero. Grades of assignments handed in after class on the due dates will be reduced by 50%. If for a legitimate reason you do miss a test, or two tests, the grade for the rest of the course will be given greater weight. Students who miss the final must take the final exam at a later date.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Non-programmable calculators will be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations, but will not be required.

Tests and exams will NOT involve multiple choice questions.

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

Meg Martin

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)

Students' Union Faculty Representative (Social Sciences)

Chris Kalantzis

Phone: 220-3913 Office: MSC 251

E-mail [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.):

[www.ucalgary.ca/sue](http://www.ucalgary.ca/sue)

#### Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor within *fifteen days* of the work being returned to the class.
- Make-up or deferred examinations will not be given. Students who are unable to write a midterm because of illness, family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm weight shifted to the final. Appropriate documentation is required in all cases.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

Emergency Assembly Point – SS Food Court

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