

Economics 679(L01) /MDCH 661 HEALTH ECONOMICS I

Instructor:	Prof. Mingshan Lu	Lecture Location:	ZOOM Delivery
Phone:	lu@ucalgary.ca	Lecture Days/Time:	MW 14:00 - 15:15
Office:	ZOOM Delivery		
Office Hours:	MW 13:00-13:50	Winter 2020	

<https://ucalgary.zoom.us/j/6796995035>

Course Description:

Health care industry is a multi-billion dollar industry; it is largely complex and constantly evolving. Health care reform is one of the most critical and challenging issues facing countries around the world; countries including Canada are experimenting with various approaches to make the existing system work more efficiently. These on-going efforts will generate profound impacts on all sectors in the health care industry for many years to come.

This course introduces students to the fundamental trade-offs and principles common to global health care systems. Students will learn how to apply basic economic concepts, theories, and analytical tools to understanding the special features of health care markets as well as the role of government interventions. Specifics of health care financing policy and reforms from the Canadian health care system as well as other systems that are of particular interest will be discussed. This highly interactive course is designed to help student to establish a conceptual framework to evaluate health care system and policy, to be able to understand and participate in evidence-based decision making in health care.

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All students with an interest in health economics, health services research, and health policy are encouraged to enroll; background in health care field or advanced economics is not required.

Course Outcomes:

This course is geared to graduate students with research interests in the fields of health economics, health services research, and health care policy. It is specifically designed to help students to apply the concepts and methodologies of health economics in health care. Throughout the term, students will be exposed to various applied health economics issues with high policy relevance. The course is designed to provide guidance for the students to explore, select and develop their own research project, which will lead to a research proposal or research paper delivered at the end of the term.

Course Outline (tentative; subject to change)

	<i>Topics to cover</i>
Week 1	Introduction: Canadian Health Care System
Week 2	Why is Health Care Industry Different?
Week 3	RAND Health Insurance Experiment
Week 4	Efficiency
Week 5	Equity
Week 6	Reading Week
Week 7	Does Treatment Work? – Determinants of Health
Week 8	Physicians: Payment Systems and Economic Incentives
Week 9	Hospitals
Week 10	Payment Systems and Economic Incentives
Week 11	Marketing in Health Care
Week 12	Term Project Class Presentation
Week 13	Term Project Class Presentation

Prerequisites/corequisites:

Economics 201/203, or with consent of the instructor.

Required Textbook(s):

None.

Recommended Textbook(s):

None. (For each topic covered, journal publications will be provided as reading materials.)

Books on Reserve:

Folland, Goodman and Stano. The Economics of Health and Health Care, 8th edition, Prentice Hall Canada.

Lu, M. & J. Egon (eds.) Financing Health Care: New Ideas for a Changing Society, 1st edition, Wiley – VCH, Weinheim.

Culyer, A.J. & J.P. Newhouse (eds) Handbook of Health Economics (Vol. 1A and 1B), Elsevier, 2000.

Evans, Robert Strained Mercy: The Economics of Canadian Health Care, Toronto: Buttersworth, 1984.

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

Lisa I. Iezzoni, Risk Adjustment for Measuring Health Care Outcomes, 4th Edition, Health Administration Press, 2013.

Joshua D. Angrist, Jörn-Steffen Pischke, Mastering 'Metrics: The Path from Cause to Effect", Princeton University Press, Dec 21 2014.

Drummond M et al. Methods for the economic evaluation of health care programmes. 3rd ed. Oxford. Oxford University Press. 2005

Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty. Publicaffairs: 2012

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Lectures:

Lectures will be delivered online at the Registrar scheduled times and delivered using ZOOM. The lectures will be recorded and subsequently posted to D2L.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Quizzes (3 @ 15 % each)	45%
Class Participation	15%
Class Presentation of Term Project	10%
Written Term Project	30%
	100%

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS:

Students are expected to attend all lectures and participate in the class discussions. Attendance will be taken for each class. Grade for class participation is based on attendance, interactions/contributions in class discussions, and demonstrated familiarity with course readings. There will be class discussions for almost every class (e.g. designing a project to address a specific policy relevant question). Students are expected to engage in these discussions and demonstrate their understanding of the course materials as well as research abilities.

Students must receive a passing grade on the final written term project and video presentation to pass the course.

The quizzes are take-home exams designed and intended to be completed in 90 minutes. The exam(s) will be open book. The exam(s) will be available on D2L. Student will download the exam from D2L, complete the exam, scan it, and submit using Dropbox in D2L. All students will be accommodated to have 100% additional time to complete and upload the exam, at a time of your choosing, within a 24-hour period determined by the instructor.

This course has no final examination. Instead, the course emphasized writing and presentation skills.

All other course components will also be accessed, submitted, and returned through D2L. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/tests/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the written final project; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.

To help cultivate learning environments that support diverse and inclusive perspectives and lived experiences, learners are invited to let instructors know if:

- they have names and/or pronouns they would prefer to use that differ from those that appear on official records
- scheduled class meetings conflict with religious events so that alternative arrangements can be made

If they are not already, learners are also encouraged to become familiar with the various opportunities for diverse engagement, learning, and support on campus, including, but not limited to the following resources:

The Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion^[SEP]
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/equity-diversity-inclusion>

The Q Centre^[SEP]
<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/programs-services/student-services/the-q-centre/>

The Writing Symbols Lodge^[SEP]
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/home>

Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Statement of Intellectual Honesty, see Calendar K.4

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-4.html>

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct, see Calendar K.5

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance;

failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade on the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

Academic Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-students.pdf> and http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/faq-faculty_0.pdf.

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>. Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

E-mail: econrep@fasaucalgary.ca and Web: www.fasaucalgary.ca.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625].

Student Support and Resources:

- See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds' Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- Online writing resources are available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

Notes:

1. Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.

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