

# ECO-327: HEALTH ECONOMICS

## STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

FALL 2018: Tu/Th, 1:00 - 2:20, HARRIMAN HLL 116

### I. COURSE INFORMATION

#### INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Estefanía Vergara-Cobos

Office: SBS S-626

Office Hours: Tu/Th 2:30pm - 3:30pm or by appointment

Email: estefania.vergaracobos@stonybrook.edu

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

An application of microeconomics to the health sector of the economy. Topics include the demand for health care; the roles of hospitals, physicians, and HMOs in the supply of health care; the role of the government in the provision of health care; and the detriments of health care costs.

Prerequisite: C or higher in ECO 303 and ECO 305.

#### TEXTBOOK & COURSE MATERIAL

- 1) "Health Economics". Author: Sloan. Edition: N/A. ISBN: 9780262016766. Publisher: MIT Press
- 2) Other materials such as academic papers, videos, lectures to be posted on BlackBoard.

#### COURSE OUTLINE

<b>Decision Analysis at Individual and Firm Levels</b>		
<b>Demand Side (Part I)</b>	<b>Supply Side (Part II)</b>	
Demand for Health and Health Behavior (2)	Physician Firms (5)	Quality (7)
	Hospitals (6)	
Demand for Health Care (3)	Nurses (8)	
Demand for Health Insurance (4)	Pharmaceutical Firms (9)	
	Private Insurer Firms (10)	
<b>System Analysis at Market Level (Part III)</b>		
Cash System and Private System (11)		
Semi-Public System (12)		
Public-System (13)		
<b>Performance of Health Care Sector: Positive and Normative Aspects (Part IV)</b>		
Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (14)		
Cost-Benefit Analysis (15)		
The Link Between Health and Economic Sector (16)		
Frontiers of Health Economics (17)		

\* Numbers in parenthesis refer to chapters of this book

## COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to introduce students with a strong background and interest in the health sector of the economy. Emphasis will be placed on the definitions and methodologies used in the study of health and economics, so that students will be more prepared to read research papers published in scientific journals, as well as general news about health economics. At the end of the course the student must have clear understanding about: the demand and supply side of the health industry, the types of systems working in the health market, and the overall performance of the health care sector.

## II. GRADING POLICY

Percent of final grade	Description
15%	Tasks and Blackboard assignments
30%	Midterm Exam 1
30%	Midterm Exam 2
25%	Final Project
<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>

## LATE WORK POLICY

Pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make-up assignment/exam without documentation of serious and compelling issues submitted within ONE WEEK OF THE MISSED ASSIGNMENT or EXAM. The medical/emergency waiver-letter must be submitted with necessary attachments to the course faculty for potential approval. Examples of acceptable documentation include a physician's note if you are ill, a letter from a clergyman or other person officiating at a funeral, or proof of death of a close family member.

## VIEWING GRADES IN BLACKBOARD

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the Blackboard Grade Book. Click on the My Grades link on the left navigation to view your grades. The instructor will update the online grades each time a grading session has been complete—typically within 5 days following the completion of an activity. You will see an announcement on Blackboard when grades are available.

## LETTER GRADE ASSIGNMENT

Final letter grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and may be assigned as follows\*:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A Range (A- thru A)	88 and up	Nearly Excellent/Excellent Work
B Range (B-, B, B+)	75-87%	Mostly good work/good work/very good work
C Range (C and C+)	58 – 74%	Acceptable Work/marginally good work
D	50-57%	Poor Work
F	Below 50%	Failing Work

\*NOTE: These letter grades are threshold scores only. Actual final scores needed to earn a certain letter grade may be lowered if warranted based on the difficulty of the exams.

### **III. COURSE POLICIES**

#### **PARTICIPATION**

Students are expected to participate actively during lectures.

#### **BUILD RAPPORT**

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution including potentially dropping the course.

#### **INCOMPLETE POLICY**

Under emergency, students may petition for an incomplete grade. Circumstances must be documented and significant enough to merit an Incomplete. Inform your instructor of any accommodations needed.

#### **WITHDRAWALS FROM CLASSES**

The academic calendar, published in the Undergraduate Class Schedule, lists various dates that students must follow. Only the Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Standing and Appeals or the Engineering and Applied Sciences Committee on Academic Standing may grant permission for a student to withdraw from a course after the deadline. The same is true of withdrawals that will result in an academic under-load. A note from the instructor is not sufficient to secure a withdrawal from a course in the above circumstances.

#### **DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS) STATEMENT**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

#### **CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT**

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.

#### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/HONESTY STATEMENT**

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty is required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, and Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at [http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic\\_integrity/index.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/index.html)

#### **BLACKBOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS/EMAIL POLICIES**

The principal way we will officially communicate with you for this course is through the Blackboard Announcement system and your official Stony Brook email account. It is your responsibility to make sure you receive and

read your email in your official University email account. For most students that is Google Apps for Education (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud>) If you need technical assistance please contact Client Support at (631) 643-9800 or [supportteam@stonybrook.edu](mailto:supportteam@stonybrook.edu) Course policies are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be posted in Blackboard.

## **COURSE MATERIALS AND COPYRIGHT STATEMENT**

Course material accessed from Blackboard, SB Connect, SB Capture or a Stony Brook Course website is for the exclusive use of students who are currently enrolled in the course. Content from these systems cannot be reused or distributed without written permission of the instructor and/or the copyright holder. Duplication of materials protected by copyright, without permission of the copyright holder is a violation of the Federal copyright law, as well as a violation of Stony Brook's Academic Integrity and Student Conduct Codes. <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/ucs/docs/universitystudentconductcode.pdf>