

**William Paterson University**  
**Department of Economics, Finance, and Global Business**  
**ECON 4280: Healthcare Economics**  
 On-line

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

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**1. COURSE OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE**

Healthcare Economics studies the economics behavior of patients, physicians, and other stakeholders in the healthcare markets. In addition, it evaluates how state and federal government healthcare policies and interventions influence health outcomes. This course provides information on U.S. healthcare system.

**2. TEXT**

*Health Economics*, by Bhattacharya, Hyde, and Tu, Palgrave MacMillan 2014.

**3. COURSE OUTLINE**

Below is the course outline. These are some important core concepts in microeconomics which you need to review prior to going into health topics. *I have uploaded useful links to Youtube videos. Please watch them before you start studying the slides and chapters.*

<b>Description</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Microeconomics review	Watch the videos
Why health economics?, Demand for health care	1, 2
Demand for health	3
Socioeconomic disparities in health	4
Labor market for physicians, Hospital industry	5, 6
Demand for insurance	7
<b>Midterm from chapter 1 to 7</b>	
Technology and the price of health care	13
Market for nurses, Medical malpractices (Not on the text book, read the related slides and articles)	Watch the video on market for nurses/ Read the articles on medical malpractice.
The health policy conundrum	15
The American model	18
<b>Final from chapter 13, Market for nurses, Medical malpractices, 15, 18</b>	

**4. GRADING**

The course grade will be based on two homework assignments (15% each), one midterm (30%) and the final exam (30%). All assignments and exams are multiple choices questions. Assignments will be available on BlackBoard from 12/26/2014 and should be submitted by 11:59 pm on due dates. **Be careful not to miss the due dates.** Exams will be available on BlackBoard on the dates specified below from 00:00 am. You have 60 minutes to finish the exam.

**HW 1 due date: 01/06/2016**

**Midterm: Sunday 01/09/2016**

**HW 2 due date: 01/13/2016**

**Final: Thursday 01/14/2016**

**5. RECOMMENDED READINGS**

The following articles are uploaded on BlackBoard. I encourage you to go over them especially those related to medical malpractice.

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1,2	- Gruber J. (2006). The Role of Consumer Copayments for Health Care: Lessons from the RAND Health Insurance Experiment and Beyond.
3	- SMITH, J. P. (1999). Healthy Bodies and Thick Wallets: The Dual Relation Between Health and Economic Status. <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> . 13, 145-166.
4	- LUBOTSKY, D., PAXSON, C., & CASE, A. (2002). Economic status and health in childhood: the origins of the gradient. <i>The American Economic Review</i> (Evanston). 92, 1308-1334. - CURRIE, J., & STABILE, M. (2003). Socioeconomic Status and Child Health: Why Is the Relationship Stronger for Older Children? <i>American Economic Review</i> . 93, 1813-1823.
7	- Kaiser Foundation (2010). "The Uninsured: A Primer." <a href="http://www.kff.org/uninsured/upload/7451-06.pdf">http://www.kff.org/uninsured/upload/7451-06.pdf</a> . Read pages 1-12.
13	- CBO (2008). "Technological Change and the Growth of Health Care Spending." Download the full text in PDF format at <a href="http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/89xx/doc8947/01-31-TechHealth.pdf">http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/89xx/doc8947/01-31-TechHealth.pdf</a> . - CUTLER DM, & MCCLELLAN M. (2001). Is technological change in medicine worth it? <i>Health Affairs</i> .
Medical malpractice	- Background on Tort Reform, Congressional Budget office report. - Understanding medical malpractice insurance: A primer
15	- Cutler, David M. 1994. "A Guide to Health Care Reform." <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> , 8(3): 13-29. - June E. O'Neill & Dave M. O'Neill, 2008. "Health Status, Health Care and Inequality: Canada vs. the U.S," <i>Forum for Health Economics &amp; Policy</i> , Berkeley Electronic Press, vol. 10(1).
18	- GRUBER, J. (1997). Policy Watch: Medicaid and Uninsured Women and Children. <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> . 11, 199-208. - Kaiser Foundation (2010). "Medicare: A Primer." <a href="http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/7615-03.pdf">http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/7615-03.pdf</a> . Read pages 1-14; can skip pages 7-13 if not interested. - Kaiser Foundation (2010). "Medicaid: A Primer." <a href="http://www.kff.org/medicaid/upload/7334-04.pdf">http://www.kff.org/medicaid/upload/7334-04.pdf</a> . Read pages 1-4, 6-12.