GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: Chi-Wa Yuen
Email: cwyuen@hku.hk
Office: KK927
Phone: 2859-1051
Consultation times: by appointment

Tutor: TBA
Pre-requisites: Microeconomic Analysis or equivalent
Co-requisites: NA
Mutually exclusive: NA

Course Website: Moodle
Other important details: NA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course applies the tools of economic analysis to issues about the organization, delivery, and financing of health care. Topics include (but are not restricted to) the following:

- demand for health, for health-care services, and for health insurance;
- supply of health-care services—physicians, hospitals, drugs, medical technology, ...—and of health insurance;
- health-care policies, systems, and reforms.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of health economics
   - to learn concepts and theories of the economics of health and health-care;
   - to develop skills and intuition for analysis of the healthcare sector.

2. Application and integration of knowledge
   - to identify major healthcare issues and real-world problems;
   - to apply relevant models to support managerial decision-making in health and health-care organizations, under different conditions and assumptions regarding for-profit orientation and non-profit orientation, information, risk-bearing, external effects, public-good characteristics, the regulatory framework, and public policy;
   - to develop the capacity to gather, process, and analyze health data and other information about health-care;
   - to interpret and assess the economic and policy implications of current problems and issues in health and health-care production, delivery, management, and reform.

Course Learning Outcomes | Aligned Programme Learning Outcomes
---|---
CLO1 Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of health economics | PLO1, PLO2
CLO2 Application and integration of knowledge | PLO3
### COURSE TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Teaching and Learning Activities</th>
<th>Expected contact hour</th>
<th>Study Load (% of study)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T&amp;L1. Lectures</td>
<td>36 hours</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T&amp;L2. Self study</td>
<td>84 hours</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120 hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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### Assessment Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>Brief Description (Optional)</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Aligned Course Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1. Term essay</td>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>PLO1, PLO2, PL03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2. Midterm exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>PLO1, PLO2, PL03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3. Final exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>PLO1, PLO2, PL03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td>PLO1, PLO2, PL03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STANDARDS FOR ASSESSMENT

**Course Grade Descriptors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A+, A, A-</th>
<th>Candidate has consistently demonstrated a thorough grasp of the subject as evidenced by original or exceptionally astute analysis and synthesis, critical interpretation and presentation of principles, concepts and arguments presented within this course.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B+, B, B-</td>
<td>Candidate frequently demonstrated a substantial grasp of the subject as evidenced by an astute analysis and synthesis, critical interpretation and presentation of principles, concepts and arguments presented within this course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+, C, C-</td>
<td>Candidate has occasionally demonstrated a general grasp of the subject as evidenced by some analysis and synthesis, critical interpretation and presentation of principles, concepts and arguments presented within this course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+, D</td>
<td>Candidate has demonstrated a partial grasp of the subject as evidenced by little analysis and synthesis, critical interpretation and presentation of principles, concepts and arguments presented within this course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Candidate has demonstrated a poor grasp of the subject with evidence of largely inaccurate understandings of principles, concepts and arguments presented within this course.</td>
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</table>

**Assessment Rubrics for Each Assessment** *(Please provide us the details in a separate file if the space here is not enough)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Exam</th>
<th>Open books, open notes</th>
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</table>
**COURSE CONTENT AND TENTATIVE TEACHING SCHEDULE**

We shall try to cover as many of the following topics (not necessarily in the same order) as time permits.

- Production, demand, supply, resource allocation, and markets for health and health care, with special reference to the risks and risk-bearing associated with sickness, information imperfection and asymmetry, and insurance and agency problems.
- Institutional structure of the health and health-care markets, especially with regard to the characteristics of for-profit and non-profit organizations, as well as health-care institutions and systems in different countries.
- Formulation and implementation of policies and regulations in health and health care. Efficiency, equity, and need basis of government intervention in market activities and initiatives towards reform.

**REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED READINGS & ONLINE MATERIALS** *(e.g. journals, textbooks, website addresses etc.)*

Lectures will be based on the following two texts as well as some book chapters and papers (reading list to be posted on Moodle).


**MEANS/PROCESSES FOR STUDENT FEEDBACK ON COURSE**

- conducting mid-term survey in additional to SETL around the end of the semester
- Online response via Moodle site
- Others: communication via Facebook

**COURSE POLICY** *(e.g. plagiarism, academic honesty, attendance, etc.)*

- The use of mobile phones and any devices that may cause disturbance to anyone is strictly prohibited. Those found violating this rule would be invited to leave the lecture room immediately.
- Cheating in exams is a "crime" under University Regulations. Students found cheating would be subject to severe punishment.
- Plagiarism and copying of copyright materials are serious offences and may lead to disciplinary actions. You should read the chapters on "Plagiarism" and "Copyright" in the Undergraduate/Postgraduate Handbook for details. You are strongly advised to read the booklet entitled, *What is Plagiarism?*, distributed to you upon your admission into the University, a copy of which can be found at www.hku.hk/plagiarism. A booklet entitled, *Plagiarism and How to Avoid it*, is also available from the Main Library.

**ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION** *(e.g. e-learning platforms & materials, penalty for late assignments, etc.)*