

**Economics 4646-001: Health Economics  
Spring 2013 Course Syllabus (Preliminary)**

**Professor Tania Barham**

**Office:** Economics 114  
**Email:** [tania.barham@colorado.edu](mailto:tania.barham@colorado.edu)  
**Class:** 9:30am – 10:45am Econ 119  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 1:15-2:15pm in Economics 114  
**Course Website:** <http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/hb/barham/courses/econ4646/>

**Course Description**

Health economics is a growing field and is an important aspect of public policy in developed and developing countries. This course is designed to introduce upper level undergraduate students in economics to the field of Health Economics. The provision and production of health care have different characteristics and incentives from other consumer goods making health related markets a unique topic for study. We will cover a number of topics including basic economic concepts important for the study in health economics, whh0.2 (c) 0.2 (c) 0.2 (t) 0.2( of) -0.r basicn hect f (t) 0.2 j ET Q q 0.4f1 Tf (

## **Homework**

There will be two homework each worth

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services by Jan. 31st so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671 or by email at [disinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:disinfo@colorado.edu)

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries under Quick Links at

## **Reading List by Topic**

### **1. Introduction and Overview (FSG 1 - Introduction)**

Mehrotra, Ateev, Adams Dudley, and Harod Luft, 2003. "What's Behind the Health Expenditure Trend," Annual Review of Public Health.

#### Supplemental Reading

Davis, Karen et al. 2007. "Slowing the Growth of U.S. Health Care Expenditures: What Are The Options?" The Common Wealth Fund

### **2. Micro Review (FSG 2 – Microeconomic Tools for Health Economics)**

### **3. Impact Evaluation**

Chapters 3, 4, 6 of

Gertler, Paul, Sebastian Martinez, Patrick Premand, Laura Rawlings, Christel Vermeersch. 2011 *Impact Evaluation in Practice*. The World Bank Washington DC.

#### *Supplementary Readings*

Martin Ravallion, 2001 "The Mystery of the Vanishing Benefits: An Introduction to Impact Evaluation," *The World Bank Economic Review* 15(1), 115-140.

Laura Rawlings, 2005. "A New Approach to Social Assistance: Latin American's Experience with Conditional Cash Transfer Programmes," *International Social Security Review* 58(2), 133-161.

### **4. Measures of Health, Modeling Health Production, and Demand for Health Care**

**FSG 5 The Production of health**

**FSG 7 Demand for Health Capital**

**FSG 9 Consumer Choice and Demand**

Wagstaff, Adam 1986. "The Demand for Health: Theory and Applications," *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* 40(1), 1-11.

#### *Supplementary Readings*

Almond, Doug. 2006 "Is the 1918 Influenza Pandemic Over? Long-Term Effects of In Utero Influenza Exposure in the Post-1940 US Population," *Journal of Political Economy*, 114(4): 672-712.

Deaton, Angus. 2003. "Health, Inequality, and Economic Development," *Journal of Economic Literature* 41(1), 113-158.

Note: The journal Health Affairs has devoted the March/April 2002 issue to determinants of health.

### **5. Health Care Insurance, Moral Hazard, Adverse Selection, and Managed Care**

**FSG 8 : Demand and Supply of Health Insurance**

**FSG 10 Asymmetric Information and Agency**

**FSG 11 The Organization of Health Insurance Markets – Don't go through much of this.**

**FSG 12 Managed Care**

Manning, Willard G., et al. 1987. "Health Insurance and the Demand for Medical Care: Evidence from

Readings to be assigned closer to date of class so they are up-to-date

## **11. Health and Development**

### **FSG 24 Epidemiology and Economics: HIV/AIDs in Africa**

Miguel, Edward. 2005. "Health, Education and Economic Development," in Guillem Lopez-Casasnovas, Berta Rivera and Luis Currais eds. *Health and Economic Growth: Findings and Policy Implications*. MIT Press.

Sala-i-Martin, Xavier. 2005. "On The Health Poverty Trap," in Guillem Lopez-Casasnovas, Berta Rivera and Luis Currais eds. *Health and Economic Growth: Findings and Policy Implications*. MIT Press. READ section 2.

Strauss, John and Duncan Thomas. 1998. "Health, Nutrition, and Economic Development" *Journal of Economic Literature*. 36(2), 766-817. (READ TO PAGE 775 – read rest for general interest)

#### *Supplementary Readings*

Asian Development Bank. 2004. "Chapter 3: HIV/AIDS and Economic Development," in *Economics and Challenge of AIDS*.

Baird, Sarah, Joan Hick, Michael Kremer, and Edward Miguel. May 2011. "Worms at Work: Long-run Impact of Child Health Gains" [http://www.cgdev.org/doc/events/KLPS-Labor\\_2011-05-16-Circulate.pdf](http://www.cgdev.org/doc/events/KLPS-Labor_2011-05-16-Circulate.pdf)

Bloom, David, David Canning and Jaypee Sevilla. November 2001. "The Effect of Health on Economic Growth: Theory and Evidence", NBER Working Paper 8587.

Canning, David. 2006. "The Economics of HIV/AIDS in Low-Income Countries: The Case for Prevention," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* Prevention, "i1o7(pe) 0e Econom