ECON 3301-001  Economics of Health

Instructor:  Kathy Kelly
Semester:  Fall 2012
Scheduled class time:  TTh 2:00-3:20p
Scheduled class room:  239 Business Building
Office Number:  311 Business Building
Phone Number:  817-272-3330
Office Hours:  MWF 11:00-noon; TTh 1:00- 2:00; or by appointment
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Prerequisites:  Econ 2306 (Principles of Microeconomics)

Course Description:  Determinants of health status; impact of economic forces on the health sector; demand for and supply of health services; role of competition new organizational entities; the changing regulatory climate.

Student Learning outcomes:  The student will be able to:
- explain the impact of the third-party payer on the health care industry
- analyze the production of health and medical care from an economic perspective
- identify the role of the government in the health care industry
- explain the structure of the physician services, hospital services, and pharmaceutical industries
- compare the health care system in the United States to health care systems in other countries
- analyze the benefits and costs of suggested reforms to the health care system in the United States


Course Outline:
Chapter 1 – Introduction
Chapter 2 – Health and Medical Care: An Economic Perspective
Chapter 5 – The Demand for Medical Care
Chapter 6 – The Demand for Med. Insurance: Traditional and Managed Care Coverage
Chapter 3 – Cost and Benefit Analysis
Chapter 7 – Medical Care Production and Costs
Chapter 8 – Structure, Conduct, Performance, and Market Analysis
Chapter 9 – Government, Health, and Medical Care
Chapter 10 – Government as Health Insurer
Chapter 11 – The Private Health Insurance Industry
Chapter 12 – The Physician Services Industry
Chapter 13 – The Hospital Services Industry
Chapter 14 – The Pharmaceutical Industry
Chapter 15 – The Long-Term Care Industry

Chapter 4 – Health Care Systems and Institutions
Chapter 16 – Health Insurance Reform

(This outline may be adjusted because of time constraints.)
**Exams:** There will be four exams. The exams will contain multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer essay/graphing questions.

- Exam 1 – (tentative) Sept. 13, 2012
- Exam 2 – (tentative) Oct. 11, 2012
- Exam 3 – (tentative) Nov. 8, 2012
- Exam 4 (Final) – Dec. 11, 2012

**Grading and Methods of Evaluation:** Each exam is 25% of your grade.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A = 89.5 – 100
- B = 79.5-89.4
- C = 69.5-79.4
- D = 59.5-69.4
- F = 59.4 and below

**Make-up Exams:** Make-up exams are available if you miss an exam for a valid reason. I reserve the right to determine validity and require proof for the absence. Please see me to schedule a make-up exam as soon as you return to class.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend each class. Students who must miss a class are responsible for securing any and all coursework missed. I do not give out my lecture notes. If you miss a class, you will need to get lecture notes from one of your classmates.

**Blackboard:** I will use Blackboard, an electronic learning software platform, for the distribution of course information. Go to [http://elearn.uta.edu/](http://elearn.uta.edu/) to log in. Be sure to check our Blackboard site on a regular basis for announcements, exam reviews, and other material related to class.

**Classroom Behavior:**

1. All cell phones should be turned to silent prior to the start of class. Cell phones must be turned off and put away before distribution of an exam. You may not use your phone as your calculator or clock during an exam.
2. Laptops may be used to take notes, however, surfing the web, answering e-mail, online shopping and other such activities are not appropriate uses of your laptop during class time. Such activities will result in the laptop privilege being removed for the entire class.
3. Do not carry on conversations with classmates during the lecture.

**Grade Grievances:** You have one calendar year from the date the course grade is assigned to initiate any grievance.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

**Note:** Oct. 31, 2012 is the last drop date. There will be absolutely no drops after the official last day to drop.
Academic Integrity: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. “Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22)

University of Texas at Arlington Honor Code

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Student Support Services Available: The University of Texas at Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit www.uta.edu/resources for more information.

Electronic Communication Policy: the University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active after graduation from UT Arlington.