I. Objectives

This is a second year graduate course in Health Economics. It is designed to provide students with a thorough overview of selected topics in the field. The course will focus on empirical work with an emphasis on theory and methodology. The primary objective of the course is to acquaint graduate students with both classic and frontier work in the field with the ultimate aim of preparing them for serious research in health economics and empirical micro-economics.

II. Readings

The readings will primarily be from journal articles. These articles should all be available from the library’s electronic resources. However, some others will be available on the web as working papers. Links will be provided on this syllabus when possible.

Some books will also be useful such as:


III. Grading

Your grade will be determined by (1) an in-class presentation (30%), (2) a term paper (40%) and (3) class participation (30%).

IN-CLASS PRESENTATIONS BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 4.

IV. Course Structure

Section 1: Health Investment

AUGUST 24


AUGUST 26


OTHER READINGS


Section 2: Consumption, Health and Inequality

AUGUST 31
Section 3: Income Volatility and Health

SEPTEMBER 14


SEPTEMBER 16


SEPTEMBER 21


SEPTEMBER 23


OTHER READINGS:


*Section 4: Health, Labor Supply and Retirement Behavior*

SEPTEMBER 28 AND 30

Chapters 1 – 3 of Adda/Cooper

OCTOBER 5


OTHER READINGS:


*Section 5: Treatment Effects, Propensity Scores and Instrumental Variables*

**OCTOBER 7**


**OCTOBER 12**


**OTHER READINGS:**


Chapter 18 of Wooldridge

*Section 7: Cost-Effectiveness Analysis*

**OCTOBER 14 AND 19**

Sections from Drummond

*Section 8: Health Insurance*

**OCTOBER 21**

OCTOBER 26


OCTOBER 28


NOVEMBER 2


OTHER READINGS:

Selections from Newhouse

Selections from Laffont


PRESENTATIONS BEGIN NOVEMBER 4

We will decide jointly how to allocate the remaining time. Some possible topics include:

**The Gradient**


**Health Measurement**


**Peer Effects and Health Outcomes**

Chapter 7 of Manksi

