

Course at a Glance

Spring 2017



Comparative Health Insurance Systems

PHC 6435



HEALTH
POLICY &
MANAGEMENT

Course Title: Perspectives on Health Insurance

Course Number: PHC 6435

Dept: HPM

Credits: 3

Traditional Section: 310

Reference Number: 115376

Instructor Name: Etienne E. Pracht, Ph.D.

Instructor Email: epracht@health.usf.edu

Course Description:

A recent syllabus and narrated course-review are currently available on the instructor's website (<http://personal.health.usf.edu/epracht/>).

Presents an overview of major health insurance systems and concepts, including demand, supply, employment based coverage, the uninsured, government sponsored programs, managed care, and various financing and organization approaches used internationally. The analysis based in part on microeconomic tools and is intended for management- or policy-oriented students with an interest in health insurance and health insurance systems.

Course Objectives:

Provide students with the tools to critically evaluate issues pertaining to the demand for health insurance, insurance markets, the uninsured, public insurance programs, managed care, and national health insurance.

Each year Americans spend hundreds of billions of dollars on private health insurance premiums and government sponsored health insurance programs. Surprisingly, millions of Americans remain without any health insurance. What are the supply and demand dynamics of the health insurance market? What determines whether an individual gets insurance and how much insurance that person gets? What types of health insurance plans can these individuals select from? How are health insurance plan selections made? What is the government's role in the insurance market? How does managed care fit in this picture? How does American health insurance compare internationally?

In broadly defined terms, the purpose of this course is to systematically address these questions and provide the student with an understanding of the health insurance market structure, the incentive systems affecting market participation, and a simplified typography of the health insurance realm.

Format of content presentation, activities and/or instructional methods:

Web-based with narrated presentations! Extensive use will be made of discussion boards as the topics discussed in this course typically lend themselves well to that format.

Course content organization:

The course is divided into seven topics (see syllabus) which will be made available on a weekly basis. While most units are designed for one week, some require two weeks. Content will be made available during the day on Mondays.

Textbook and Ordering materials:***Required Texts:***

Morrissey, Michael A. (2008) Health Insurance, Health Administration Press, Chicago

How to Order:

Purchase your textbook online on the [HSC Bookstore website](http://usfhsc.bncollege.com) (<http://usfhsc.bncollege.com>)

List of topics covered in this course:

1. Introduction: Health care systems concepts (General)
2. The Demand for Health Insurance (General and U.S.)
3. Employment based health insurance (U.S.)
4. Managed Care (abbreviated review) (U.S.)
5. Government sponsored health insurance programs in the U.S. (Medicare, Medicaid, SCHIP)
6. The uninsured (U.S.)
7. Health care systems
 - a. Germany
 - b. Japan
 - c. Canada
 - d. United Kingdom
 - e. Sweden

Types of assessments and activities in the course:

Case analysis #1: Critical review of the US insurance system

Class participation (x2)

Large data analysis population health simulation

Assessments: Two exams to be taken online

Course Expectations:

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the U.S. Health Insurance market from a structural perspective.
2. Identify economic issues relevant to the health care policy debate.
3. Discuss health policy related concepts involving efficiency and equality.
4. Evaluate policies from an economic perspective.
5. Evaluate the health care market place from a "systems" perspective.
6. Evaluate the incentive structures underlying health care plans.
7. Evaluate the government and private sector roles pertaining to health insurance.
8. Compare the U.S. health care market place to that of other westernized countries.

Required Dates to be Online or on campus:

No required dates to be online.

For more information about the Course, Contact:

Name: Etienne E. Pracht, Ph.D.

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Note: For problems accessing the course materials and other computer technical problems, click the **Tech Assistance** button in your course website and fill out a "Technical Problem Report Form". Tech Assistance button links to the Technical Assistance page of the Office of Educational Technology & Assessment website at: <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/eta/techsupport.html>. Students can also receive assistance via telephone at 813-974-6666, Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm, or via email at eta@health.usf.edu.

Technology Requirements (e.g. software or hardware):

Visit this website for software requirements and downloads:

http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/eta/students_tech_requirements.htm

Note: Broadband internet connection is **STRONGLY** recommended for this course.

Please Note: The information on this document is subject to change. The course instructor has the right to change any information posted in this document. Students should check the official course syllabus released during the first week of classes for any updates to this document.