HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT (HCMG)

HCMG 101 Health Care Systems
This introductory course takes a policy and politics angle to health care's three persistent issues - access, cost, and quality. The roles of patients, physicians, hospitals, insurers, and pharmaceutical companies will be established. The interaction between the government and these different groups will also be covered. Current national health care policy initiatives and the interests of class members will steer the specific topics covered in the course. The course aims to provide skills for critical and analytical thought about the U.S. health care system and the people in it. No pass/fail. Grade only.
Taught by: Harrington
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 202 The Economics and Financing of Health Care Delivery
The course provides an application of economic models to demand, supply, and their interaction in the medical economy. Influences on demand, especially health status, insurance coverage, and income will be analyzed. Physician decisions on how and form of their own services, and on the advice they offer about other services, will be considered. Competition in medical care markets, especially for hospital services, will be studied. Special emphasis will be placed on government as demander of medical care services. Changes in Medicare and regulation of managed care are among the public policy issues to be addressed. Prerequisite: If course requirement not met, permission of instructor required.
Taught by: Candon
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ECON 039
Prerequisite: ECON 001 OR ECON 010
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 203 Clinical Issues in Health Care Management: Doctors, Patients and Managers in Modern Society
This course will explore the effects of the changing health care environment on the physician, patient and health care manager. It is intended for any undergraduate with an interest in how 1/6th of the American economy is organized as well as those planning careers as health care providers and managers. The course complements other health care courses (that take a societal perspective) by focusing on the individuals who participate in the health care enterprise. There are no prerequisites, as the course will stand on its own content. The course will be divided into modules that focus on the participants of the health care process and the process itself. We will analyze the patient, the doctor, and manager in light of the patient-doctor interaction, the turbulent health care marketplace, expensive new technologies, resource allocation, and ethics.
Taught by: Asch
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 204 Comparative Health Care Systems
This course examines the structure of health care systems in different countries, focusing on financing, reimbursement, delivery systems and adoption of new technologies. We study the relative roles of private sector and public sector insurance and providers, and the effect of system design on cost, quality, efficiency and equity of medical services. Some issues we address are normative: Which systems and which public/private sector mixes are better at achieving efficiency and equity? Other issues are positive: How do these different systems deal with tough choices, such as decisions about new technologies? Our main focus is on the systems in four large, prototypical OECD countries—Germany, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom—and then look at other countries with interesting systems— including Italy, Chile, Singapore, Brazil, China and India. We draw lessons for the U.S. from foreign experience and vice versa.
Taught by: Lucarelli
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HCMG 859
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 213 Health Care Strategy and Management: the Business of Health Care
This introductory course takes a policy and politics angle to health care's three persistent issues - access, cost, and quality. The roles of patients, physicians, hospitals, insurers, and pharmaceutical companies will be established. The interaction between the government and these different groups will also be covered. Current national health care policy initiatives and the interests of class members will steer the specific topics covered in the course. The course aims to provide skills for critical and analytical thought about the U.S. health care system and the people in it. No pass/fail. Grade only.
Taught by: Harrington
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 215 Management and Economics of Pharmaceutical and Biotech Industries
This course provides an overview of the management, economic, and ethical issues facing the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. The course perspective is global, but with emphasis on the U.S. as the largest and most profitable market. Critical issues we will examine include: R&D intensive cost structure and rapid technological change; biotech startups and alliances with the pharma industry; pricing and promotion in a complex global marketplace where customers include governments and insurers, as well as physicians, pharmacists and consumers. We use Wharton and industry experts from various disciplines to address these issues.
Taught by: Alpert
Course usually offered in spring term
Prerequisite: HCMG 101 OR ECON 001 OR ECON 010
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
HCMG 216 Health Insurance and Health Care Strategy
This course combines the insights of health economics with a strategic perspective on the business of health. The first section will consider the costs and benefits of medical interventions, while the second considers insurance theory and places special emphasis on the challenges facing firms in the face of the rising costs of health benefits as well as opportunities for private insurers operating in publicly financed markets. The third section will analyze strategies of vertical and horizontal integration and their effect on the balance of power in local healthcare markets. Finally, the course will cover the effects of reform on firm incentives. The course will be taught using a mix of lectures and cases.
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 250 Health Care Reform and the Future of the American Health Care System
Under stress from COVID-19, this course provides students with a rigorous understanding of the current American health care system and how it is likely to evolve over the next decade. The course will focus on six topics: 1) the development of the current health care system; 2) challenges of health care costs, quality, and access; 3) lessons of previous attempts to reform the system including the Affordable Care Act (ACA); 4) analysis of current policies regarding provider payment, technology, and electronic health records and how various sectors (e.g. public health and hospitals) are evolving in the current system; 5) impact of COVID-19 on health care delivery and finance, and 6) future megatrends in American health care system. Throughout the course, lessons will integrate basic health economics, history, health policy, and politics to elucidate key principles for understanding the health care system. The course will also examine at least one other country's health system for comparison. The course will end with a consideration of the long-term outlook for the structure of the US health system and potential reforms.
Taught by: Emanuel, Schwartz
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: BIOE 575, HCMG 850
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 302 Economics and Financing of Health Care Delivery
This course provides an application of economic principles to the health care sector. By recognizing the importance of scarcity and incentives, this course will focus on the critical economic issues in producing, delivering, and financing health care. In particular, the course will analyze determinants of demand for medical care, such as health status, insurance coverage, and income; the unique role of physicians in guiding and shaping the allocation of resources in medical care markets; and competition in medical care markets, especially among hospitals. Special emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of policy instruments such as government regulation, antitrust laws, "sin taxes" on cigarettes and alcohol, and public health programs. This course is similar to HCMG 202, but uses more advanced quantitative methods and formal economic theory; knowledge of calculus and basic microeconomics is recommended. Students who take HCMG 302 may not also take HCMG 202 (ECON 039) for further credit.
Taught by: David
Course usually offered in fall term
Prerequisite: ECON 001 AND (ECON 002 OR BEPP 250)
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 352 Health Services Delivery: A Managerial Economic Approach
The purpose of this course is to apply economics to an analysis of the health care industry, with special emphasis on the unique characteristics of the US healthcare markets, from pre-hospital to post-acute care. This course focuses on salient economic features of health care delivery, including: the role of nonprofit providers, the effects of regulation and antitrust activity on hospitals, the degree of input substitutability within hospitals, the nature of competition in home health care, public versus private provision of emergency medical services, the effect of specialty hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers, the economics of direct-to-consumer advertising and its effect on drug safety, defining and improving medical performance in hospitals, specialization and investment in physical and human capital, and shifting of services between inpatient and outpatient settings and its effect on health care costs and quality.
Taught by: David
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HCMG 852
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 357 Healthcare Data and Analytics
In healthcare or anywhere else across science, or business, or sports, the importance of data and analytics is virtually unquestioned. That, however, does not mean that it needs no elucidation. In this course, we begin with a fundamental understanding of the state of data and analytics in healthcare and then move onto examples of its use in converting from business questions to implemented solutions. We 'sidestep' into the world of algorithms/machine-learning/AI and causal inference, but our focus is on business applications of these tools to the available data in the healthcare industry. As we discuss examples, we always seek to show how human creativity needs to be at the heart of the questions being probed. We highlight today's data universe in healthcare, the level of integration we have achieved, and the immensity of the remaining task, all with an eye to the business opportunities that exist now. We end with a showcasing of the art of the possible - in 2020 - and with (hopefully) a clear look ahead at what remains to be achieved. At the end of this course, students will: 1. Know the health care data landscape; 2. Understand the 'loop' that drives modern evidence-based businesses; 3. Dive into real health care data analytics problems, developing a first-hand familiarity with basic tools and concepts; 4. Anticipate the business opportunities evolving in health care data and analytics. Other experience in data science can serve as a substitute for the prerequisites. Knowledge of basic statistics is a must. Coding experience is a plus. Experience coding to solve data/statistics problems is ideal. Further training in data science is a plus, and we welcome those with more advanced preparation.
Taught by: Grennan, Mahadevan
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: HCMG 857
Prerequisite: STAT 101
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units
HCMG 391 Health Care Entrepreneurship
Delivering basic health care advances worldwide and continuing to increase lifespan and quality (in an affordable manner) represent some of the major societal challenges of our time. Addressing these challenges will require innovation in both medical technology and the ways in which health services are delivered. Through readings, cases, guest lectures, and your own entrepreneurial work outside of class, we will examine the environment facing prospective health care entrepreneurs: (1) sources of health care innovation; (2) the many ‘customers’ in health care: patients, doctors, hospitals, insurers, and regulators; (3) the powerful established firms with developed clinical and sales expertise; (4) the investing community. Along the way we will develop a framework for thinking about what is different (and what is not) about the challenges of health care entrepreneurship.
Taught by: Grennan
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 653 Health Care Field Application Project
This course focuses on leadership and management issues in health care organizations while providing students with a practice setting to examine and develop their own management skills. Each team acts as a consultant to a local healthcare organization which has submitted a project proposal to the course. The teams define the issue and negotiate a contract with the client organization. By the end of the semester, teams present assessments and recommendations for action to their clients and share their experience with the class in a series of workshops and cross-team consultations.
Course usually offered in spring term
Prerequisite: HCMG 841
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Seminar and workshop, a written and oral presentation of the team management study and an individual paper.

HCMG 841 Health Services System
This course provides an overview of the evolution, structure and current issues in the health care system. It examines the unique features of health care as a product, and the changing relationships between patients, physicians, hospitals, insurers, employers, communities, and government. The course examines three broad segments of the health care industry: payors, providers and suppliers. Within the payor segment, the course examines the sources and destinations of spending, managed care (HMOs, PPOs), employer based health insurance, technology assessment, payor strategy, and efforts to pay for the elderly, the poor & the medically indigent. Within the provider segment, the course examines the impact of cost containment and competition on hospitals and integrated delivery systems, long term care and disease management, and the important role of epidemiology in assessing population health needs and risks. Within the supplier segment, the course will examine developments in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical devices, genomics and IT industries. NOTE: This is a required course for Wharton Graduate Health Care Management majors; it counts as an elective course for all other Wharton Graduate students. It is also open to Law School and Nursing School students with a joint Wharton Program.
Taught by: Burns
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 845 US Payer and Provider Strategy
This course, co-taught with Brad Fluegel (former Chief Strategy Officer at Aetna, Anthem, and Walgreens and presently on the boards of several health care firms, including Fitbit and Premera Blue Cross), provides an overview of the challenges facing payers and providers in US healthcare as well as the strategies they use (or should use) to succeed. We cover all major aspects of the healthcare sector as seen from the perspective of payers and providers, starting from their core products and services (consumer preferences and health plan design, provider quality), the market environment they operate in (regulation and the role of public insurers, payment reforms, rising costs, and consolidation), and their strategic and operational responses (new organization models, mergers and acquisitions, and new ventures). The pedagogy is accordingly a mix of faculty lectures and talks by senior industry leaders to balance theory and practice.
Taught by: Gupta, Fluegel
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Lectures, cases, assignments, term project, and final presentation.

HCMG 849 Financial Management of Health Institutions
This course focuses on health care organizations' financing and financial decisions in the changing health care landscape. The course involves case analyses and lectures, including presentations by practitioners with extensive real-world experience. Students seeking careers in health care with minimal finance background will obtain a solid introduction to key areas of health care finance and financial decision making. Students with more background will extend and enhance their analytical skills in a variety of important areas.
Taught by: Harrington
Course usually offered in fall term
Prerequisite: FNCE 611 OR FNCE 614
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 850 Health Care Reform and the Future of the American Health Care System
Under stress from COVID-19, this course provides students with a rigorous understanding of the current American health care system and how it is likely to evolve over the next decade. The course will focus on six topics: 1) the development of the current health care system; 2) challenges of health care costs, quality, and access; 3) lessons of previous attempts to reform the system including the Affordable Care Act (ACA); 4) analysis of current policies regarding provider payment, technology, and electronic health records and how various sectors (e.g. public health and hospitals) are evolving in the current system; 5) impact of COVID-19 on health care delivery and finance, and 6) future megatrends in American health care system. Throughout the course, lessons will integrate basic health economics, history, health policy, and politics to elucidate key principles for understanding the health care system. The course will also examine at least one other country’s health system for comparison. The course will end with a consideration of the long-term outlook for the structure of the US health system and potential reforms.
Taught by: Emanuel,Schwartz
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: BIOE 575, HCMG 250
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
HCMG 852 Health Services Delivery: A Managerial Economic Approach

The purpose of this course is to apply economics to an analysis of the health care industry, with special emphasis on the unique characteristics of the US healthcare markets, from pre-hospital to post-acute care. This course focuses on salient economic features of health care delivery, including: the role of nonprofit providers, the effects of regulation and antitrust activity on hospitals, the degree of input substitutability within hospitals, the nature of competition in home health care, public versus private provision of emergency medical services, the effect of specialty hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers, defining and improving medical performance in hospitals, specialization and investment in physical and human capital, shifting of services between inpatient and outpatient settings and its effect on health care costs and quality, and innovation in primary care from retail clinics to patient-centered medical homes and retainer-based medicine.

Taught by: David
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HCMG 352
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 853 Management and Strategy in Medical Devices and Technology

Successful medical devices are an amalgamation of creative and innovative thinking, clinical expertise, and engineering know-how that endures intense regulatory and reimbursement scrutiny. This course will provide a foundation for understanding the nuances of the medical device industry. It will cover topics ranging from device design and discovery, regulatory issues, marketing, reimbursement, management, and strategy. Classroom activities will be supplemented with optional tours of hospitals, research and manufacturing facilities, and hands-on demonstrations of devices. Though the course is intended primarily for MBA students, it will be open to medical and engineering students as well as to hospital house staff.

Taught by: Grennan, Solomon
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 855 Management of Health Care for the Elderly

This mini course is designed to provide students with an appreciation of the good, the bad and the ugly of how our current health care system cares for one of our nation’s most precious resources - our seniors! This course will review care provided to seniors within a variety of institutional settings (hospitals, nursing facilities, various senior housing levels) as well as outpatient and home care services. Special attention will be paid to nursing homes and senior housing options and their past, present and future role within the overall health care system in the United States. The course will start with an overview of the senior population with special attention to their health and social needs. Several classes will be held off campus at selected nursing facilities and senior housing complexes.

In addition, a broad range of special programs and services will be reviewed such as sub-acute care, long term care insurance, Medicare Risk Programs, elderly housing, adult day care, managed care, Medicare Part D, case management, hospice and other recent developments. Throughout the course, emphasis will be placed on entrepreneurial opportunities to serve the senior market at all levels. Students are required to produce a paper for this course that focuses on a specific area impacting the senior market. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to select an area of personal interest and conduct an in depth review of that area including making direct contact with national experts within the topic selected. All student topics must be approved during the first two weeks of class and the depth of research required agreed upon by the by the student and the instructor. Interested students not in the HCMG major are urged to speak to the instructor before enrolling in the course.

Taught by: Whitman
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units
HCMG 857 Healthcare Data and Analytics
In healthcare or anywhere else across science, or business, or sports, the importance of data and analytics is virtually unquestioned. That, however, does not mean that it needs no elucidation. In this course, we begin with a fundamental understanding of the state of data and analytics in healthcare and then move onto examples of its use in converting from business questions to implemented solutions. We ‘sidestep’ into the world of algorithms/machine-learning/AI and causal inference, but our focus is on business applications of these tools to the available data in the healthcare industry. As we discuss examples, we always seek to show how human creativity needs to be at the heart of the questions being probed. We highlight today’s data universe in healthcare, the level of integration we have achieved, and the immensity of the remaining task, all with an eye to the business opportunities that exist now. We end with a showcasing of the art of the possible - in 2020 - and with (hopefully) a clear look ahead at what remains to be achieved. At the end of this course, students will: 1. Know the health care data landscape; 2. Understand the ‘loop’ that drives modern evidence-based businesses; 3. Dive into real health care data analytics problems, developing a first-hand familiarity with basic tools and concepts; 4. Anticipate the business opportunities evolving in health care data and analytics. Experience in data science if prerequisite not met. Other experience in data science can serve as a substitute for the prerequisites. Knowledge of basic statistics is a must. Coding experience is a plus. Experience coding to solve data/statistics problems is ideal. Further training in data science is a plus, and we welcome those with more advanced preparation.
Taught by: Grennan, Mahadevan
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: HCMG 357
Prerequisite: STAT 613 OR STAT 621
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

HCMG 859 Comparative Health Care Systems
This course examines the structure of health care systems in different countries, focusing on financing, reimbursement, delivery systems and adoption of new technologies. We study the relative roles of private sector and public sector insurance and providers, and the effect of system design on cost, quality, efficiency and equity of medical services. Some issues we address are normative: Which systems and which public/private sector mixes are better at achieving efficiency and equity? Other issues are positive: How do these different systems deal with the tough choices, such as decisions about new technologies? Our focus first on the systems in four large, prototypical OECD countries-Germany, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom - and then look at other developed and emerging countries with interesting systems - including Italy, Chile, Singapore, Brazil, China and India. We will draw lessons for the U.S. from foreign experience and vice versa.
Taught by: Lucarelli
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: HCMG 204
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 860 Managing Health Care Organizations
This course aims to improve enrollees' ability to effectively manage and lead health care organizations (HCOs, including hospitals, medical groups, insurers, biopharmaceutical firms, etc.). The course is designed to integrate previous course work in general management, health care, and health policy to further participants' understanding of organizational, managerial, and strategic issues facing HCOs and the health care workforce. The course will provide participants with a foundation for developing, implementing, and analyzing efforts to improve HCOs' performance. A major objective of the course is to sharpen the leadership, problem-solving, and presentation skills of those who aim to hold operational and strategic positions in health care organizations. Another objective is to introduce enrollees to leading HCOs. Through case studies, readings, in-class exercises and class discussions, participants will learn analytic frameworks, concepts, tools and skills necessary for leading and managing organizational learning, quality improvement, innovation, and overall performance in HCOs.
Taught by: Nembhard
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 863 Management and Economics of Pharmaceutical and Biotech Industries
This course provides an overview of the management, economic and policy issues facing the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. The course perspective is global, but with emphasis on the U.S. as the largest and most profitable market. Critical issues we will examine include: R&D intensive cost structure with regulation and rapid technological change; strategic challenges of biotech startups; pricing and promotion in a complex global marketplace where customers include governments and insurers, as well as physicians and consumers; intense and evolving M&A, joint ventures, and complex alliances; government regulation of all aspects of business including market access, pricing, promotion, and manufacturing. We use Wharton and industry experts from various disciplines to address these issues.
Taught by: Alpert
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
HCMG 866 E-Health: Business Models and Impact
Healthcare is in the early stages of extraordinary change in the business model of care delivery and financing. This transformation will lead to a system based on the proactive management of health, integration of care across the continuum, blurred boundaries between care providers and purchasers and the placement of the consumer at the center. As has been the case in other industries, this new business model will be based on a foundation of diverse, potent, and well implemented information technology. This course will help prepare students to lead a digital health future. Specifically, the course will cover three major areas. (1) The context of health care information technology: the size, composition and evolution of the digital health market; federal government agencies, and related regulations, that shape the market; leadership roles and factors that enable healthcare organizations to effectively implement and leverage information technology. (2) Emerging technologies that will fuel the transformation of healthcare: artificial intelligence and advanced analytics; interoperability; telehealth; consumer-directed digital health; use of behavioral economics to influence patient and provider decisions. (3) Digital health use by specific sectors of the healthcare industry: healthcare providers; health plans; retail-based primary care; life sciences; wellness and chronic disease management. The course will include lectures from industry leaders who will share their ideas and experiences.
Taught by: Glaser/Patel
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

HCMG 867 Health Care Entrepreneurship
The course focuses on the creation, funding, and management of digital health, biotech, medtech, and other health services enterprises. The course is designed to supplement other offerings in the Health Care Systems and Management Departments for those students with entrepreneurial interest in such ventures, and will focus on special issues surrounding the conceptualization, planning, diligence, and capitalization of these ventures and also includes management and compensation practices. In addition, course offers methods for self-assessment & development of business models and plans, techniques for technology assessment and strategy, develops foundation for capitalization and partnering strategies, and creates a basis for best practices in company launch and plan execution. Students must apply to take this course.
Please see the Health Care Management Department for the application.
Taught by: Kurtzman, Libson
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

HCMG 868 Private Sector Role in Global Health
Issues surrounding global health have captivated the attention of the public sector and foundations for many decades. Many of their initiatives are realizing progress on the health-related Millennium Development Goals. The private sector has been less engaged in global health, but has a significant role to play in providing resources and building infrastructure, human resource capacity and sustainability. This course explores entrepreneurial and other private sector solutions for health services and access to medicines and technologies in the developing world and other underserved areas. The course also encompasses study of creative programs to engage the private sector in development of vaccines and medicines for tropical and neglected diseases. Furthermore, the course addresses novel care systems and therapeutic strategies for the rapidly growing burden of chronic, non-communicable diseases in the developing world. In short, the course builds on the content of conventional global health courses from a managerial and entrepreneurial perspective. Learning is driven through readings, class discussion and a series of guest speakers representing a wide range of global health issues. Evaluation is largely based on a student group project.
Taught by: Sammut
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

HCMG 890 Advanced Study Project: Management of Health Care Service Businesses
HCMG 890-001: This course examines issues related to the Services Sector of the health care industry. For those interested in management, investing, or banking to the health care industry, the services sector will likely be the largest and most dynamic sector within all of health care. We will study key management issues related to a number of different health care services businesses with a focus on common challenges related to reimbursement, regulatory, margin, growth, and competitive issues. We will look at a number of different businesses and subsectors that may have been unfamiliar to students prior to taking the course. We will make extensive use of outside speakers, many of whom will be true industry leaders within different sectors of the health care services industry. Speakers will address the current management issues they face in running their businesses as well as discuss the career decisions and leadership styles that enables them to reach the top of their profession. Students will be asked to develop a plan to both buyout and manage a specific health care services business of their choosing and will present their final plans to a panel of leading Health Care Private Equity investors who will evaluate their analysis. Prerequisites: HCMG 841. Health Care Management MBA majors only Senior healthcare executives and policy leaders will be engaged as guest speakers.
Taught by: Present
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: WH 217
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 899 INDEPENDENT STUDY
Arranged with members of the Faculty of the Health Care Systems Department. For further information contact the Department office, Room 204, Colonial Penn Center, 3641 Locust Walk, 898-6861.
Activity: Independent Study
1.0 Course Unit
HCMG 900 Proseminar in Health Economics: Models and Methods
This course is intended to provide entering doctoral students with information on the variety of health economics models, methods, topics, and publication outlets valued and used by faculty in the HCMG doctoral program and outside of it. The course has two main parts: the first, to acquaint students with theoretical modeling tools used frequently by health economists. This part of the course involves a number of lectures coupled with students' presentations from the health economics, management and operations research community at Penn on a research method or strategy they have found helpful and they think is important for all doctoral students to know.
Taught by: David
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 901 Proseminar in Health Economics: Health Econometrics
This course will cover empirical methods used in economics research with an emphasis on applications in health care and public economics. The methods covered include linear regression, matching, panel data models, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, bunching, qualitative and limited dependent variable models, count data, quantile regressions, and duration models. The discussion will be a mix of theory and application, with emphasis on the latter. The readings consist of a blend of classic and recent methodological and empirical papers in economics. Course requirements include several problem sets, paper presentations, an econometric analysis project and a final exam. The course is open to doctoral students from departments other than Health Care Management with permission from the instructor.
Taught by: Gupta
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 902 Special Topics in Health Economics: The Industrial Organization of Health Care
This advanced PhD seminar will explore topics in the industrial organization of health care and structural econometric approaches in health economics. The focus in this course is the development of advanced econometric tools. The (tentative) topics covered include health insurance and hospital demand estimation, the analysis of hospital competition, insurer competition, quality competition, technology adoption, models of entry and exit and dynamic oligopoly games. The readings will focus on recent advances in economics. Students are required to present recent research from the field and write an empirical research paper that broadly based on the topics covered in the course.
With the permission of the instructor, the seminar is open to doctoral students from departments other than Health Care Management.
Taught by: Lucarelli
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 903 Economics of Health Care and Policy
This course applies basic economic concepts to analyze the health care market and evaluate health policies. The course begins with a discussion of productivity in health care and of the theoretical and empirical effects of asymmetric information and market failure. The second part of the course explores several topic areas in the health care economics literature: health insurance and the labor market; health policy interventions; and health as human capital. The third part of the course examines competition and the behavior of health care providers, with emphasis on the impact of policy on competition, behavior, and finally, bringing us full circle, health care productivity.
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

HCMG 904 Doctoral Seminar in Organizational Behavior and Theory in Health Care
This course introduces students to organizational behavior and theory (OBT) by examining key issues in OBT, different perspectives on key issues, and how OBT informs health services research and practice. This course examines 'micro' theories (i.e., social psychological theories of organizational behavior) and 'macro' theories (i.e., theories focused on the structural and environmental aspects of organizations). We will examine the strengths and weaknesses of various theories, how they can be used as a foundation for research, methods used to study them, and the implications for health policy and management. Examples of published health services research grounded in OBT will be discussed so that students become familiar with the theories-in-use and various publication outlets for health care management (HCM) research.
Taught by: Nembhard
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit