HA 3950, Fall Semester 2015

**Health Economics**
Tuesdays, 1:30pm – 4:00pm
GSU Peachtree-Dunwoody Center, Room TBA

**Instructor:** Daniel Montanera, Ph.D.
**Office Hours:** By Appointment
**Office:** Rm. 813, Institute of Health Administration, RCB building
**Telephone:** (404) 413-7640
**Email:** dmontanera1@gsu.edu

**Prerequisites:** None

**Catalogue Description:**
This course will allow students to analyze and evaluate pressing issues in health care through an economic perspective. The course is intended to familiarize the student with the concepts, issues, and practices related to the economics of health care in the United States.

**Detailed Course Description:**
This course is intended to provide students with the structure to study the choices made by various players in the health care industry. It provides an overview of basic microeconomic theory. Students will be introduced to the market failures present in health care and health insurance industries, and the various mechanisms designed to compensate. Upon successfully completing the course, students will gain i) a sophisticated intuition behind the challenges setting health care apart from other goods and services, ii) knowledge of any tools available to a manager in overcoming these challenges, iii) the ability to comprehend scholarly writings in health economics, and iv) experience in solving problems using economic tools in a case-study format.

**Textbook and Readings:**
2. Supplemental readings listed below (RECOMMENDED)
Lecture Breakdown:

Week 1 (August 25, 2015): Introduction
SH Chapter 1 pgs. 1 – 4, 10 - 20
SH Chapter 2 pgs. 39 – 43

Week 2 (September 1, 2015): Traditional Competitive Markets
SH Chapter 3 pgs. 83 – 87, 115 – 118
SH Chapter 4 pgs. 127 – 142
SH Chapter 5 pgs. 171 – 174
SH Chapter 16 pgs. 701 – 704


Week 3 (September 8, 2015): The Production of Health and Health Care
SH Chapter 2 pgs. 43 – 54
SH Chapter 16 pgs. 710 – 712

Week 4 (September 15, 2015): Health Markets: Demand
SH Chapter 5 pgs. 184, 185, 188 – 192, 200 – 204

Week 5 (September 22, 2015): Health Markets: Supply
SH Chapter 17 pgs. 743 – 745
SH Chapter 5 pgs. 204 – 209

Week 6 (September 29, 2015): Health Markets: Supply Cont’d
SH Chapter 8 pgs. 325 – 329, 338 – 344, 349 – 352
SH Chapter 9 pgs. 379 – 384, 394 – 398

Week 7 (October 6, 2015): Health Insurance, Catch-up, and Midterm Review
SH Chapter 3 pgs. 100 – 113
SH Chapter 10 pgs. 417 – 421, 432 – 437

Week 8 (October 13, 2015): Midterm Examination + Montanera’s Game
Week 9 (October 20, 2015): Evaluation Methods I
SH Chapter 2 pgs. 54 – 62
SH Chapter 14 pgs. 617 – 623, 627 – 632, 636 – 652
SH Chapter 15 pgs. 683 – 685

Week 10 (October 27, 2015): Evaluation Methods II
SH Chapter 3 pgs. 97 – 100
SH Chapter 8 pgs. 346, 347

Week 11 (November 3, 2015): Market Failure I
SH Chapter 3 pgs. 87 – 95, 100 – 113
SH Chapter 7 pgs. 275 – 278
SH Chapter 740 – 743


Week 12 (November 10, 2015): Market Failure II
SH Chapter 4 pgs. 147 – 162
SH Chapter 6 pgs. 247 – 259
SH Chapter 10 pgs. 437 – 445
SH Chapter 11 pgs. 495, 496
SH Chapter 12 pgs. 519 – 522


Week 13 (November 17, 2015): Role of Government
SH Chapter 4 pgs. 145 – 147
SH Chapter 7 pgs. 286 – 295
SH Chapter 10 pgs. 427 – 432
SH Chapter 12 pgs. 503 – 508, 528 – 532

Week 14 (December 1, 2015): Catch-up and Review

Grading Components:

1. Classroom participation ........................................ 10%
2. Midterm examination (Oct. 13th but may change)......... 25%
3. Case studies (five planned) ........................................ 25%
4. Final examination (Dec. 8th) .................................... 40%

Case studies:

For each of five planned case study assignments, students will submit a one-page write-up of answers to a set of case questions. This write-up must be your own original work, and must reference at least one news or scholarly journal article to support your answers.

Grading Scale:

The GSU grade scale is in effect as follows: A = 100 – 90; B = 89 – 80; C = 79 – 70; D = 69 – 60; F = 59 or lower.

General Information:

1. Students are expected to attend all lectures and are thus responsible for all materials presented in the classroom.
2. Since students are expected to attend all lectures, and the midterm examination will be scheduled within class time, there will be no make-up midterm. If the midterm is missed for acceptable reasons, its weight on the final grade will be redistributed across the other grading components at the discretion of the instructor.
3. Late assignments will be subject to a 10% penalty per day overdue, up to a maximum penalty of 50%.
4. Any cheating, plagiarism, or other violations of academic integrity will be dealt with according to university policies available here: http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwfhb/sec409.html
5. This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; however deviations may be necessary.