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Fall 2015

ECON 6250

W. J. Lane
University of New Orleans

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W. J. Lane
ECON 6250
Fall, 2015

SYLLABUS

COURSE: **ECON 6250 – HEALTH CARE ECONOMICS**

PROFESSOR: **W. J. Lane**, 280-7145, fax 280-6397, wlane@uno.edu
Office hours: 10:00-11:30 and 2:00-3:00 M-Th

TEXT: *Health Economics and Policy 6th Ed.*, By James Henderson.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this course is to give students an overview of the major economic considerations in the health care industry and to demonstrate how economic ideas are crucial to an understanding of the functioning of the health care system from both policy (external) and health care management (internal) points of view. There will be a strong emphasis both on economic theory and on empirical studies of the various topics.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: After completing this course the student should be able to

- Describe the economic characteristics of hospitals, doctors, health insurance, managed care and government health care policy
- Apply key economic ideas such as supply, demand, equilibrium, marginal analysis, production and cost to health care issues
- Analyze the incentive structures evident in the health care sector and determine how it will affect the various agent involved
- Evaluate the economic impact of government policies on the health care sector
- Compare and contrast different health care systems in different countries

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: *Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu> .*

STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS: *It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu> .*

CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE	CHAPTER	TOPIC
Aug 25	Handouts	Introduction; Supply and Demand
Sept 1	1,2 Handout	Q1 ; Market Structure
Sept 8	3	Q2 ; Analyzing Medical Care Markets
Sept 15	4	Q3 ; Economic Evaluation
Sept 22	5	Q4 ; Demand for Health and Medical Care
Sept 29	6	Q5 ; The Market for Health Insurance
Oct 6	7	Q6 ; Managed Care
Oct 13	8	Q7 ; The Physicians' Services Market
Oct 20	9	Q8 ; The Hospital Services Market
		Term Paper Topic Due
Oct 27	10,11	Q9 ; Pharmaceuticals & Confounding Factors
Nov 3	12	Q10 ; Policies that Enhance Access
Nov 10	13	Q11 ; Policies to Contain Cost
Nov 17	14	Q12 ; Medical Care Systems Worldwide
Nov 24	15	Q13 ; Medical Care Reform in the United States
Dec 1		Q14 ; Term Paper Due
Dec 8	8-10 pm	Optional Final Exam

		Undergraduates	Grad Students
GRADING:	Quizzes	67%	50%
	Final Exam (optional)	33%	25%
	Term Paper		25%

There will be a quiz every class beginning with the second class period. Each quiz will cover the material from the previous period. There will be no makeups allowed for quizzes, however, the lowest two quiz grades will be dropped (excluding the **Quiz #14**). Students can take the optional comprehensive final exam to raise their grade if they so desire.