

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Contact Hours:** This is a 3-credit course, offered in accelerated format. This means that 16 weeks of material is covered in 8 weeks. The exact number of hours per week that you can expect to spend on each course will vary based upon the weekly coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend 14-20 hours per week in each course reading material, interacting on the discussion boards, writing papers, completing projects, and doing research.

**Faculty Information:** Faculty contact information and office hours can be found on the faculty profile page.

---

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES**

---

**Course Description:**

This course provides students with practical knowledge and application of economic theories and principles so that they understand healthcare economic issues related to the amount, organization, and distribution of healthcare resources in the United States. Students will learn and apply economic principles such as supply and demand, economic theories, resources allocation, competitive markets, market evaluation methods, and cost effectiveness analysis. They also examine decision making and the consequences of resource scarcity in the healthcare industry. Students will discuss issues and controversies surrounding the federal and state government's role in financing and regulating health services.

**Course Overview:**

In this course, students examine a comprehensive overview of healthcare economic concepts, theories, principles, market forces, controls, and techniques used to distribute scarce resources in the United States health and medical care delivery system. Economic concepts will be discussed taking into consideration the perspectives of the various stakeholders involved (providers, investors, third-party payer, consumers, governments, etc.). Students will also be provided with a foundation in the use of relevant economics tools and methodologies that will enable them to better understand the healthcare economic literature and other academic and industry-based resources, and to perform effective analysis within the healthcare system.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

1. Evaluate the role, value, and applications of the economic theories, principles, and tools required to address complex issues for in U.S. healthcare delivery system.
2. Compare and contrast the impact of government economic policies on healthcare and Medicare.
3. Assess the impact of complex economic principles such as economic evaluation of health services and financing of healthcare, public health insurance, reform, regulation, and antitrust policy in healthcare.
4. Review how the competitive markets, labor markets, and health insurance impact healthcare delivery system.
5. Examine evolving trends, forces, and issues in healthcare and future economic challenges in the national and global healthcare markets.

---

## PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE

---

Prompt and consistent attendance in your online courses is essential for your success at CSU-Global Campus. Failure to verify your attendance within the first 7 days of this course may result in your withdrawal. If for some reason you would like to drop a course, please contact your advisor.

Online classes have deadlines, assignments, and participation requirements just like on-campus classes. Budget your time carefully and keep an open line of communication with your instructor. If you are having technical problems, problems with your assignments, or other problems that are impeding your progress, let your instructor know as soon as possible.

---

## COURSE MATERIALS

---

### Required:

Sloan, F. A., & Hsieh, C. R. (2016). *Health economics* (2nd ed.). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.  
ISBN: 9780262035118

**NOTE:** All non-textbook required readings and materials necessary to complete assignments, discussions, and/or supplemental or required exercises are provided within the course itself. Please read through each course module carefully.

---

## COURSE SCHEDULE

---

### Due Dates

The Academic Week at CSU-Global begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday.

- **Discussion Boards:** The original post must be completed by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. MT and peer responses posted by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT. Late posts may not be awarded points.
- **Opening Exercises:** Take the Opening Exercise before reading each week's content to see which areas you will need to focus on. You may take these exercises as many times as you need. The Opening Exercises will not affect your final grade.
- **Mastery Exercises:** Students may access and retake Mastery Exercises through the last day of class until they achieve the scores they desire.
- **Critical Thinking:** Assignments are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT.
- **Live Classroom:** Although participation is not required, Live Classroom sessions are held during Weeks 2, 5 and 6. There are three total sessions.

---

## WEEKLY READING AND ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

---

### Module 1

#### Readings

- Chapters 1 & 2 in *Health Economics*
- Blackwood, R., & Currie, C. (2016). *Measures of supply and demand*. Retrieved from <https://www.healthknowledge.org.uk/public-health-textbook/research-methods/1c-health-care-evaluation-health-care-assessment/measures-supply-demand>

- Patterson, J. (2017). *Access to health care strengthens communities: Vanderbilt study* [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://news.vanderbilt.edu/2017/01/16/access-to-health-care-strengthens-communities-vanderbilt-study/>

**Opening Exercise (0 points)**

**Discussion (25 points)**

**Mastery Exercise (10 points)**

## **Module 2**

### **Readings**

- Chapters 12 & 13 in *Health Economics*
- Eren Vural, I. (2017). Financialisation in health care: An analysis of private equity fund investments in Turkey. *Social Science & Medicine*, 187, 276-286.
- Rigby, E., & Hatch, E. M. (2017). Economic policy as health policy. *Public Health Post*. Retrieved from <https://www.publichealthpost.org/research/economic-policy-health-policy/>

**Opening Exercise (0 points)**

**Discussion (25 points)**

**Live Classroom (0 points)**

**Critical Thinking (90 points)**

### **Option #1**

#### **The Role of Economics in the Health and Medical Care Industry**

Economists prepare economic analysis briefs to provide insight into how economic market forces operate. For this assignment, prepare an economic analysis brief that describes the role of economics in the health and medical care industry in the U.S. or abroad. Discuss and synthesize key elements from at least two recent scholarly articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Determine the distribution and allocation of scarce resources.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Offer objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.
- Evaluate the economic health of the nation or state.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and formatted accordingly:

- Title page
- Introduction—What is the topic, why is important, and what are the objectives of your brief?
- Body—What are the key elements of the scholarly articles that support the objectives of your brief? What economic models or concepts apply?
- Conclusion—What are the future implications, policy recommendations, etc.?
- References page

Your paper should be 2 to 3 pages (not including title and references pages) in length and conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

## Option #2

### The Role of Government and Its Economic Impact on Health and Medical Care

Economists prepare economic analysis briefs to provide insight into how economic market forces operate. For this assignment, prepare an economic analysis brief in the form of a PowerPoint presentation that describes the role of government, economic policies, and/or mandates in the healthcare industry. You can choose to examine the U.S. or an international government. Discuss and synthesize key elements from at least two recent scholarly articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Describe the types of government intervention used to address health and medical care needs.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions in government economic policies.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and should include:

- A minimum of 6-8 slides (not including the title and reference slides);
- Speaker's notes containing 50-100 words per content discussion slide to elaborate on the visual/text content on the slide;
- Appropriate graphics, multi-media, and other visual elements to enhance the presentation delivery;
- In-text citations on the slides; and
- References page.

A properly formatted reference slide that conforms to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

### Mastery Exercise (10 points)

## Module 3

### Readings

- Chapter 3 in *Health Economics*
- Arndt, R. Z. (2018). Inventory management: Where supply and demand meet. *Modern Healthcare*, 48(31), 0014.
- Healthcare Triage. (2014, January 7). *RAND and the moral hazard: Healthcare triage #10* [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://nerdfighteria.info/v/q00tUbDYdxw/>
- Miller, J. (2015, October 5). *Paying for health care with time* [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2015/10/paying-for-health-care-with-time/>
- Wahyuni, H. (2015). Infant health production function: Role of prenatal care. *Journal of Indonesian Economy and Business*, 30(1), 72-89.

### Opening Exercise (0 points)

### Discussion (25 points)

### Mastery Exercise (10 points)

### Portfolio Milestone (25 points)

### Options #1 & #2

## Portfolio Project Descriptions

Review the Portfolio Project Descriptions in the Module 8 folder. Post any questions or comments about the assignment and its requirements, this week or at any time during the course, to the discussion forum called Portfolio Project Discussion and visit the forum periodically to read your peers' thoughts on the project.

Whether you have a question about the assignment or not, contribute a question or comment about the Portfolio Project by the end of Week 3. This is a *required* component of the Portfolio Project assignment, due this week.

### Module 4

#### Readings

- Chapters 4, 10, & 11 in *Health Economics*
- Barlow, R. (2016). Physician preference: Supply chain matters for patient, industry health: Four MDs shatter professional stereotypes about attitudes, motives and business relationships. *Healthcare Purchasing News*, 40(7), 10, 12, 14, 16.
- Jacobs, P. (2018). Mandating health insurance coverage for high-income individuals. *National Tax Journal*, 71(4), 807-828.

#### Opening Exercise (0 points)

#### Discussion (25 points)

#### Critical Thinking (90 points)

#### Option #1

#### The Role and Impact of the Health Insurance Market

Prepare an economic analysis brief that describes the role and impact of the health insurance market in the U.S. healthcare. Discuss and synthesize key elements from at least two recent scholarly articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Determine the performance of the health insurance industry.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Offer objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and formatted accordingly:

- Title page
- Introduction—What is the topic, why is important, and what are the objectives of your brief?
- Body—What are the key elements of the scholarly articles that support the objectives of your brief? What economic models or concepts apply?
- Conclusion—What are the future implications, policy recommendations etc.?
- Reference page

Your paper should be 2 to 3 pages (not including title and references pages) in length and conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

#### Option #2

## **The Role and Impact of the Health Insurance Market**

Interview an administrator on their perspective on the role and impact of the health insurance market in the U.S. healthcare. This can be a hospital or clinical administrator, a manager or director for a health insurance company, or anyone else you can interview who has an appropriate position. Prepare interview questions for them to cover the following:

- The performance of the health insurance industry.
- Inquiring about economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assessing economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and should include:

- A minimum of 2-3 pages (not including the title and reference pages);
- Written in third-person narrative;
- Include an appendix of the prepared questions;
- Formatted according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements; and
- Include at least two references from peer-reviewed articles beyond the text or other course materials. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find peer-reviewed articles.

**Mastery Exercise (10 points)**

**Portfolio Milestone (25 points)**

### **Final Project References**

Submit at least 10 current and credible sources for your Portfolio Project. Make sure that five articles are from peer-reviewed journals. Additional quality references are welcomed. The CSU-Global Online Library is a good place to find these references. Format your bibliography according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

## **Module 5**

### **Readings**

- Chapters 6, 8, & 9 in *Health Economics*
- Barros, P., Brouwer, P., Thomson, W., & Varkevisser, B. (2016). Competition among health care providers: Helpful or harmful? *The European Journal of Health Economics*, 17(3), 229-233.
- Reinhardt, U. (2015). *Commentary: Why hospitals need a different physician management model*. Retrieved from <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20150110/MAGAZINE/301109977>
- Sarnak, D. O., Squires, D., & Bishop, S. (2017). *Pay for prescription drugs around the world: Why is the U.S. an outlier*. Retrieved from <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2017/oct/paying-prescription-drugs-around-world-why-us-outlier>

**Opening Exercise (0 points)**

**Discussion (25 points)**

**Live Classroom (0 points)**

**Critical Thinking (90 points)**

## Option #1

### The Role and Impact of Hospitals

Prepare a comparison table that summarizes at least 3 scholarly articles on the role and impact of hospitals in the healthcare industry in the U.S. versus that of another country. Look for peer-reviewed articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Determine the performance of the hospital industry.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Offer objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.
- Make specific comparisons of the role and impact of hospitals in the U.S. to that of another country of your choice.

Your comparison table should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and include the following:

- Focus of each article,
- Summary of methodology,
- Results of each article, and
- Key discussion elements.

This should conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

## Option #2

### The Role and Impact of Hospitals

Prepare an economic analysis brief that describes the role and impact of the hospitals in the healthcare industry in the U.S. or abroad. Discuss and synthesize key elements from at least two recent scholarly articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Determine the performance of the hospital industry.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Offer objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.
- Evaluate the economic health of the nation or state.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and should include:

- A minimum of 6-8 slides (not including the title and reference slides);
- Speaker's notes containing 50-100 words per slide to elaborate on the visual/text content on the slide; and
- Appropriate graphics, multi-media, and other visual elements to enhance the presentation delivery.

A properly formatted reference slide that conforms to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

## **Mastery Exercise (10 points)**

### **Module 6**

#### **Readings**

- Chapters 14 & 15 in *Health Economics*
- Ni, H., Paul, J. A., & Bagchi, A. (2017). Effect of Certificate of Need Law on the intensity of competition: The market for emergency care. *Socio-Economic Planning Sciences*, 60, 34-48.
- Yamaki, K., Wing, C., Mitchell, D., Owen, R., & Heller, T. (2018). Impact of medicaid managed care on Illinois's acute health services expenditures for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 56(2), 133-146.

#### **Opening Exercise (0 points)**

#### **Discussion (25 points)**

#### **Live Classroom (0 points)**

#### **Critical Thinking (100 points)**

#### **Option #1**

### **The Role and Impact of Market Competition Forces on Health and Medical Care Outcomes**

Antitrust laws and managed care have had a significant influence on market competition in the healthcare industry, yet impediments to a more competitive healthcare market persist.

Prepare an economic analysis brief that describes the role and impact of market competition force on healthcare outcomes. Discuss and synthesize key elements from at least two recent scholarly articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Determine the performance of the competitive market.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Offer objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and formatted accordingly:

- Title page
- Introduction—What is the topic, why is important, and what are the objectives of your brief?
- Body—What are the key elements of the scholarly articles that support the objectives of your brief? What economic models or concepts apply?
- Conclusion—What are the future implications, policy recommendations etc.?
- Reference page

Your paper should be 3 to 4 pages (including title and references pages) in length and conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

#### **Option #2**

### **The Role and Impact of Market Competition Forces on Health and Medicare Care Outcomes (100 Points)**



Antitrust laws and managed care have had a significant influence on market competition in the healthcare industry, yet impediments to a more competitive healthcare market persist.

Prepare an economic analysis brief that describes the role and impact of market competition force on healthcare outcomes in the U.S. or abroad to demonstrate an understanding of Module 6. Discuss and synthesize key elements from at least two recent scholarly articles (found in the CSU-Global Library) that address one of the following points:

- Determine the performance of the competitive market.
- Apply economic models, theories, or assumptions.
- Offer objective methods for attempting to predict future market behavior in response to events, trends, and cycles.
- Assess economic policy recommendations for healthcare stakeholders.
- Evaluate the economic health of the nation or state.

Your analysis should be thoughtful and thorough, well-written, and should include:

- A minimum of 6-8 slides (not including the title and reference slides);
- Speaker's notes containing 50-100 words per slide to elaborate on the visual/text content on the slide; and
- Appropriate graphics, multi-media, and other visual elements to enhance the presentation delivery.

A properly formatted reference slide that conforms to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements.

**Mastery Exercise (10 points)**

## **Module 7**

### **Readings**

- Chapter 5 in *Health Economics*
- Bendix, J., Krivich, R. S., Martin, K. L., Mazzolini, C., & Shryoch T. (2017, December 25). Top 10 challenges facing physicians in 2018. Retrieved from <http://www.medicaleconomics.com/medical-economics-blog/top-10-challenges-facing-physicians-2018>
- Gillette, B. (2018). Nursing shortage. *The Mississippi Business Journal*, 40(32), 15-16.

**Opening Exercise (0 points)**

**Discussion (25 points)**

**Mastery Exercise (10 points)**

## **Module 8**

### **Readings**

- Chapter 16 & 17 in *Health Economics*
- Frost & Sullivan. (2017, March 1). The healthcare industry in 2017: Hype and speculation loom over technology trends and potential policy shifts. *MENA Report*.
- Nghiem, S., Graves, N., Barnett, A., & Haden, C. (2017). Cost-effectiveness of national health insurance programs in high-income countries: A systematic review. *PLoS ONE*, 12(12), E0189173.

**Opening Exercise (0 points)**

**Discussion (25 points)**

## **Mastery Exercise (10 points)**

## **Portfolio Project (300 points)**

### **Option #1**

#### **U.S. Healthcare Systems**

The U.S. healthcare system is influenced by shifting political climate, constant economic development, rapidly evolving technological innovation, diffusion and social values, demanding workforce issues, and demographics trends. Also, the U.S. system differs from other countries' systems on many dimensions, such as lack of a central governing agency, limited coordination, high cost but only yields average health outcomes, imperfect market conditions, the dominant private sector market, multiple organizational forms and players, and the conflict between market goals and social justice.

The concern over the economic future of healthcare delivery system revolves around three broad issues: cost, quality, and access. Gaps in coverage, combined with the upward trends in medical care spending over the past several decades, add to the commonly-held belief that the U.S. healthcare delivery system is in crisis.

As a final project, prepare and submit a scholarly paper that discusses the following:

- Describe the economic foundation of the U.S. healthcare delivery system and the role of economics in healthcare.
- Compare and contrast the use of various economic models to explain the role of economics in healthcare and how the concept of the market equilibrium works in healthcare.
- Assess the role of production of health and demand and supply for medical care and health insurance, and relation of income and the demand for healthcare.
- Compare the economic benefits and challenges of individual versus population health.
- Assess the international comparisons of health among the United States and other developed countries (cost, quality, access to care, and any other relevant measure).

The paper is due at the end of week 8 and must be:

- In CSU-Global APA format,
- Double-spaced, and
- A minimum of 6-8 pages in length (not including cover and reference pages).

Make sure you include headings, per APA guidelines. Include a minimum of 10 current and credible sources. Five of the sources must come from peer-reviewed journals. Sources should be adequately chosen to provide substance and perspectives on the issue.

### **Option #2**

#### **Competitive Markets and Market Power**

You are the Chief Executive Officer of a large and complex integrated health delivery system (IHDS). IHDS is a for-profit health system that is located in a major metropolitan area market in the United States. The metropolitan market is highly competitive with multiple and similar large integrated health delivery systems (private and public) that compete directly with IHDS. One of the characteristics of this

market is booming economic activities, dynamic and diverse population, labor market shortages, and high uninsured population (25% of the total population), which has been trending higher.

IHDS operates multiple long-term acute care facilities and affiliated teaching hospitals, outpatient and surgical centers, rehab and ancillary facilities, wellbeing and urgent care outlets, and multiple physician group practices (primary care and subspecialties clinics in different locations). IHDS also has affiliation agreements with regional and national managed care plans and third-party payers. Also, IHDS has an international medical facility that caters to international clientele from other countries who seek advance medical treatment in the U.S.

The recent healthcare reforms (Affordable Care Act, Accountable Care Organizations, shift from volume-based to value-based healthcare delivery systems, bundled payment system, etc.) is starting to impact the economic model (macro and micro level impact) and the competitive advantage current position and outlook for IHDS. The Board of Directors (BOD) has asked you to prepare an executive report about the economic impact of these trends and the forces mentioned above and to assess the economic outlook for your organization.

As your final project, prepare and submit an executive report that discusses the following:

- Assess the economic assumptions of a competitive market model on IHDS and identify the evidence for and against the competitive model.
- Evaluate the potential economic consequences of the applied community rating and experience rating on IHDS.
- Compare and contrast alternative delivery arrangements for IHDS in terms of their micro economic efficiency.
- Describe the determinants of market power for IHDS and assess how IHDS can use the market power to demonstrate superior economic efficiency and effectiveness. Explain how market power can affect labor market outcomes for your organization.
- Identify several alternative measures of IHDS market competitiveness and economic evaluation.

The report is due at the end of week 8 and must be:

- In CSU-Global APA format,
- Double-spaced, and
- A minimum of 6-8 pages in length (not including a title page, and reference pages).

Make sure you include headings, per APA guidelines. Include a minimum of 10 current and credible sources. Five of the sources must come from peer-reviewed journals. Sources should be adequately chosen to provide substance and perspectives on the issue.

---

**COURSE POLICIES**

---

<b>Grading Scale</b>	
A	95.0 – 100
A-	90.0 – 94.9
B+	86.7 – 89.9
B	83.3 – 86.6
B-	80.0 – 83.2
C+	75.0 – 79.9
C	70.0 – 74.9
D	60.0 – 69.9
F	59.9 or below

**Course Grading**

20% Discussion Participation  
0% Opening Exercises  
0% Live Classroom  
8% Mastery Exercises  
37% Critical Thinking Assignments  
35% Final Portfolio Project

---

## IN-CLASSROOM POLICIES

---

For information on late work and incomplete grade policies, please refer to our [In-Classroom Student Policies and Guidelines](#) or the Academic Catalog for comprehensive documentation of CSU-Global institutional policies.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /repurposing your own work (see CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA for percentage of repurposed work that can be used in an assignment), unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration. The CSU-Global Library provides information on how students can avoid plagiarism by understanding what it is and how to use the Library and internet resources.

### **Citing Sources with APA Style**

All students are expected to follow the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA when citing in APA (based on the most recent APA style manual) for all assignments. A link to this guide should also be provided within most assignment descriptions in your course.

### **Disability Services Statement**

CSU-Global is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Coordinator at 720-279-0650 and/or email [ada@CSUGlobal.edu](mailto:ada@CSUGlobal.edu) for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

### **Netiquette**

Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults, or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, demeaning written or oral comments of an ethnic, religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.