Overview and Grading

This doctoral seminar provides an overview of current topics in health and mental health economics. The seminar this semester is organized into four major topical modules: (1) unhealthy behaviors; (2) topics in mental health; (3) topics in health care systems; and (4) comparative effectiveness and cost-effectiveness. In addition, we expect presentations from three distinguished UW faculty members on topics relating to their own research in these fields.

Grading for the seminar will be based on the quality of student presentations and critiques, the quality of class participation, and the quality of the end-of-semester research presentation. All students (whether taking the class for a grade or auditing) are expected to provide roughly the same number of in-class critiques of assigned papers. (All papers will be available on the Learn@UW course page.) Students are also expected to give a formal presentation of their own research at the end of the semester. Specific details about the structure of such presentations will be provided at mid-semester, but students are encouraged to discuss their topics with any of the professors at an early date.

Semester Schedule

Jan. 19  Time to be rescheduled in May for Research Presentations

Please schedule approx. 30 minutes on your own to view the webcast by Prof. Colm O'Muircheartaigh, Dean of the Harris School at Univ. of Chicago, an excellent discussion of empirical issues and public policy.

http://ms.harrisschool.uchicago.edu/aimspp2.wsx

Jan. 26  Introduction and Overview

Feb. 2  Unhealthy Behaviors I -- Using Incentives to Improve Health

Charness, G. and U. Gneezy. 2009
Volpp, K.G. et al. 2009

Feb. 9  Unhealthy Behaviors II -- Smoking Bans

Adda, J. and F. Cornaglia. 2010
Shetty, K.D. et al. 2009
Feb. 16  **Guest**: Prof. David Weimer, LaFollette School of Public Affairs


Feb. 23  **Unhealthy Behaviors III -- Obesity**

Bhattacharya, J. and M.K. Bundorf. 2009
Meltzer, D.O. and Z. Chen. 2009
Powell, L.M. 2009

Mar. 2  **Mental Health I -- Current Clinical Issues**

Busch, S.H. and C.L. Barry, 2009
Crystal, S. et al. 2009
Fournier, J.C. et al. 2010
Ludwig, J. et al. 2009

Mar. 9  **Mental Health II -- Economic Aspects**

Frank, R.G. and E. Meara, 2009
Ojeda, V.D. et al. 2009

Mar. 16  **Guest**: Prof. Max Schmeiser, School of Human Ecology


Mar. 23  **Issues in Health Care I**


Mar. 30  **SPRING BREAK**
Apr. 6  Issues in Health Care II


Apr. 13  **Guest:** Prof. David DeMets, Department of Biostatistics: Issues in Comparative Effectiveness and Non-Inferiority Trials

Fleming, 2008
Ware and Antman, 1997

Apr. 20  Comparative Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness I -- General Issues

Congressional Budget Office. 2007 (*background*)
Evans, W.N. and C.L. Garthwaite. 2009
Pearson, S.D. et al. 2008
Teutsch, S.M. et al. 2005
Volpp, K.G. and A. Das. 2009

Apr. 27  Comparative Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness II -- Comparative Effectiveness and Mental Health/Substance Abuse

Rosenheck, R.A. et al. 2006
Stroup, T.S. et al. 2007

May 4  Empirical Issues in Health Economics -- Power and p-Values, Instrumental Variables and (Natural) Experiments

Deaton, A.S. 2009
French, M.T. and I. Popovici. 2009
McCloskey, D.N. and S.T. Ziliak. 1996

TBA  Research Presentations (Tentatively May 10 & 11)

**Please Note: Other Visitors / Key Dates**

March 15:  Prof. Peter Bearman (Columbia): Monday Noon PHS Seminar, 1309 HSLC
April 9:  Prof. Amitabh Chandra (Harvard): Special PHS Seminar (Time/Place TBA)
April 19:  Prof. Kosali Simon (Cornell): Monday Noon PHS Seminar, 1309 HSLC
Bibliography


