**Econ 3451 Health Economics Spring Semester 2016**

Class Hours: Wed 6:30-9:20, Room Oak 117 Instructor: Bill Pace

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**Syllabus and Course Structure**

**Course Description**

This course demonstrates how basic economic concepts, principles, and theories can be used to

think about and illuminate various health care issues. Rather than focus on a few current health care problems, attention is directed toward any array of health related topics. Students are provided with a set of economic tools to evaluate a theoretical or empirical argument relating to health or medical care. The course culminates with an in-depth analysis of the structure, conduct, and performance of the markets for physician, hospital, pharmaceutical, and long-term care services.

**Course Textbook**

*Health Economics: Theories, Insights, and Industry Studies,* Santerre and Neun, 6th edition,

Thomson/South Western, 2013.We will also read and discuss current articles related to health care economics.

There will be several quizzes and homework assignments throughout the semester. These will be announced in advance. There will be two in-term exams, dates will be announced soon and a final exam.

All University of Connecticut rules of academic honesty will be strictly followed. Please contact me with any questions regarding this important matter.

The following weights will be assigned to the various course responsibilities:

**Quizzes/Assignments 20%**

**In-term exams 25% each**

**Final Exam 30%**

**WEEK:** **DATES:** **TOPICS:**  **CHAPTERS:**

1, 2 1/20 & 1/27 Introduction & Health and Medical Care: 1&2

An Economic Perspective

3, 4 2/3 & 10 Cost and Benefit Evaluation Methods 3

5 2/17 Health Care Systems & Institutions 4

6 2/24 The Demand for Medical Care 5

7 3/2 The Demand for Medical Insurance 6

8 3/9 Medical Care Production & Costs 7

9 3/23 Structure, Conduct, Performance 8

and Market Analysis

10 3/30 Government, Health, and Medical Care 9

11 4/6 Government as Health Insurer 10

12 4/13 The Private Health Insurance Industry 11

13 4/20 Health Care System Reform 16

14 4/27 Selected Health Industry Sector Topics 12-15