Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2020

6,260: Health Economics (Major Economics)

ECTS credits: 3

Overview examination/s
(binding regulations see below)
Central - Written examination (100%, 90 mins.)

Attached courses
Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer
6,260,1.00 Health Economics (Major Economics) -- Englisch -- Epper Thomas

Course information

Course prerequisites
- "Microeconomics II" (supply and demand, cost and production, market structures, substitution and income effect, elasticity, etc)
- "Empirical Economic Research" or "Statistics" (summary statistics, hypothesis testing, interpretation of regression output, causality/correlation, etc)

Learning objectives

- Students can evaluate the effects of policy measures (e.g. the implementation of new incentive schemes for general practitioners) and they can use economic reasoning to defend their point of view.
- Students are able to interpret empirical results and understand how economic theory can help to make a case.

Course content
The course provides an introduction to central aspects of health economics including a basic understanding of the demand (patient's view) and the supply (GPs, hospitals, pharmaceutical industry) sides in health care and services. Students will familiarise themselves with the necessary tools to analyse and discuss relevant issues. Students are encouraged to critically analyse current policy discussions and potential policy measures.

The following topics will be discussed (may slightly change):

1. Demand for health and health care
2. Supply of health care
3. Information economics (in particular health insurance)
4. Economics of health innovation
5. Health policy
6. Public health economics
7. Behavioral aspects of health economics

The course will equip students with a basic understanding of key concepts in health economics. Microeconomic and behavioral economic theory is applied to health-related issues.

At the end of the course, students should be able to critically discuss possible policy measures and economic incentives in the context of health economics. They should be able to apply health economic concepts to solve case studies.

Course structure
- Weekly lecture
Course literature

Additional course information
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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form
Central - Written examination (100%, 90 mins.)

Remark
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Examination-aid rule
Extended Closed Book
The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are exhaustively listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and mono- or bilingual dictionaries (no subject-specific dictionaries) without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids
No examination aids

Examination languages
Question language: English
Answer language: English

Examination content
All parts of the course.

Examination relevant literature
- Handouts/slides (available via StudyNet before the next lecture). The complete set of handouts will be available online before May 22, 2020.
- Lecture notes, including examples, cases and derivations provided during the lecture.
- Relevant book chapters in the above referenced textbook.
- Articles available via StudyNet (before May 22, 2020)
Please note

Please note that this fact sheet alone is binding and has priority over any other information such as StudyNet (Canvas), personal databases or faculty members' websites and information provided in their lectures, etc.

Any possible references and links within the fact sheet to information provided by third parties are merely supplementary and informative in nature and are outside the University of St.Gallen's scope of responsibility and guarantee.

Documents and materials that have been submitted no later than the end of term time (CW21) are relevant to central examinations.

Binding nature of the fact sheet:

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral) and examination type starting from the beginning of the bidding on 23 January 2020
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for decentral examinations after the 4th semester week on 16 March 2020
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for central examinations as from the starting date for examination registration on 6 April 2020

Please consult the fact sheet again after these deadlines have expired.