

The University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Introduction to Health Economic Evaluation Methods

Winter 2019

Instructor: Jacquelyn Marsh, PhD

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Office Room Number: Elborn College, Room 1400

Office Hours: By appointment only

Time and Location: Monday 9:30am – 11:30am, HSB 35 and Wednesday 10:30am-11:30am, HSB 35

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites

This course will introduce basic concepts in methods for the economic evaluation of health interventions, and discuss how they are used to assess “value for money” in health care. Students will learn how to recognize and interpret health economic studies in the literature and develop skills to critically appraise economic evaluations. No prior background in economics is required.

The learning objectives of this course are to:

Understand the role of economic evaluations in the process of health care resource allocation and health policy making;

Identify components necessary to conduct an economic evaluation;

Identify different types of economic evaluations and when to use them;

Recognize the strengths and weaknesses of existing evidence in the medical literature (critical appraisal)

Required Textbook: M. F. Drummond et al. Methods for the Economic Evaluation of Health Care Programmes. 4th Edition. Oxford University Press.

Additional readings may be posted on the course OWL website throughout the term.

Quizzes (10%)

There will be six short quizzes throughout the term, consisting of multiple choice questions based on material from lecture and assigned readings of the previous week. Quizzes will be written at the beginning of class on Mondays. Your grade will be based on the highest 5 quizzes (lowest marked will be dropped). If you are absent for a quiz, you will receive a grade of 0 on that quiz.

Midterm Exam (25%)

The midterm will be held in class on Monday February 11th. The format will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer. Questions will evaluate your understanding of the course material and ability to apply the concepts to different contexts. If you miss the midterm due to a legitimate absence, please speak to an academic counsellor and submit appropriate documentation to the Dean's office. You may be offered to write the midterm on an alternate date or have the midterm weight deferred to the final exam.

Group Assignment & Presentation (25%)

In groups of 4-5 students, you will be responsible for developing a research proposal for an economic evaluation in your choice of clinical area or healthcare field of interest, and prepare a 10 minute presentation to the class. Detailed instructions will be provided on OWL. An electronic submission of the proposal must be uploaded to the course OWL site on Wednesday April 5th. Late submissions will be

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any of the following electronic devices during ANY of the tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations: cellphones, smart phones, smart watches, smart glasses, audio players or recorders of any sort, video cameras, video games, DVD players, televisions, laptop/notebook/netbook computers, flashlights or laser pointers.

During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is

