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<https://hserv.washington.edu/courses/course/view.php?id=184>

Sample Syllabus Summary:
The assignments and readings are from a previous Quarter. They will most likely change – use as an example ONLY.

Extended MPH Degree Program

Advanced Economics – Decision Analysis
HSMGMT 515

Paul Fishman
287-2925 (office)

e-mail: fishman.p@ghc.org

Course Outline and Reading List

Course Description:

This course develops skills that will allow students to become informed consumers of economic evaluations of health programs. Students will also have the opportunity to develop skills necessary to conduct economic analyses of public health and health service programs. We will review the different analytic approaches available for the economic evaluation of health programs, examine the different steps involved in each of these approaches and provide a critical examination of each of these steps.

Course Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Critique economic evaluations of health programs
- Conduct economic analyses of public health and health service programs
- Use different analytic approaches available for the economic evaluation of health programs
- Examine the different steps involved in each of these approaches
- Critically analyze each of the steps involved in each of these approaches
- Apply the information gained to real life situations

Student Preparation:

Students should have completed the first graduate health services course in economics and in biostatistics. Because this is a distance learning experience the student must feel comfortable independently reading and evaluating literature that draws on these disciplines. Students will be expected to interpret and critically evaluate economic and statistical models as they are applied to health care evaluations.

Student Assignments:

Most sections of the course include a prepared lesson and several include a required assignment that will allow students to check their progress with the course material. Completed assignments will be forwarded to the instructor and will contribute to the final grade. Students should review the prepared lecture and all of the assigned readings before attempting the section progress review.

Please note that lessons require different investments of time and each specific lesson includes a sense of how much time the student should devote to the material.

In addition to the assignments following selected lessons students will choose from ONE of the two following options:

Option 1

Students will prepare two critical analyses of papers from the peer-reviewed literature that uses the evaluation methods we will cover in class.

Each evaluation will contribute 30% of the final course grade.

Option 2

Students will write a paper that should not exceed 15 pages -, which will present a detailed analysis plan for an economic evaluation.

This course should be completed within one academic quarter and the course project options are intended to allow every student to successfully complete the course in this time. Some students will have access to data that will allow them to directly apply the tools we have covered during this course but the course will not require students to learn tools and obtain data within one quarter. Some students may have a specific analysis they are prepared to undertake and they are encouraged to do so.

To ensure that students are making progress toward completing the paper and to allow the instructor to provide proper feedback, students will meet several milestones while completing the paper. These milestones are:

- 1) a one page proposal describing the program or intervention the student has chosen and the economic evaluation method chosen for the analysis – due before Lesson 3
- 2) annotated outline of the paper plan - due before Lesson - 5
- 3) paper draft - due before Lesson - 8
- 4) final paper - due by end of quarter

1 credit - all assignments required plus a journal review

2 credits - all assignments required plus 2 journal reviews

3 credits - all assignments required, 2 journal reviews and a written paper

Paul Fishman is the instructor. This course was added at the suggestion of EDP graduates who, as a whole, said knowledge of economics has been incredibly valuable to their career. Paul works individually with each student, so the coursework can be spread out to accommodate your schedule.