



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

MPH202 Health economics and evaluation, 15 credits

Hälsoekonomi och utvärdering, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Institute of Medicine on 2016-10-19 and was last revised on 2018-05-18 to be valid from 2018-05-18, autumn semester of 2018.

Field of education: Medicine 100%

Department: Institute of Medicine

Other participating department

Department of Economics

Position in the educational system

The course is a compulsory course within the Master's Programme of Public Health Science with Health Economics. The course can also be offered as a single subject course on advanced level.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Public Health Science with Health Economics (M2FHH)

Main field of studies

Public Health Science with Health Economics

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Entrance to the course requires a Bachelor's degree of at least 180 higher education credits or equivalent, and knowledge of English equivalent to English B/English 6 (or equivalent knowledge verified by an international test IELTS or TOEFL).

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Explain and discuss fundamental economic theory
- Explain and discuss demand and supply of health and health care, in general and in relation to migration.
- Explain and discuss theories behind health economic evaluations, and identify relevant situations for different methods
- Explain and discuss the association between macroeconomic variables and health, with a specific focus on high income countries.

Competence and skills

- Plan and conduct a health economic evaluation
- Apply micro- and macroeconomic concepts and theories in order to understand health issues and inequities in health
- Analyse the association between health and economic, social, and environmental sustainability

Judgement and approach

- Critically evaluate research within the field of health economics, and define strength and limitations in specific studies
- Critically evaluate strength and limitations in health economic evaluations, as research methodology and as policy tool
- Reflect on the ethical principles that form the basis of health economic evaluations, and relate to human rights, inequities in health, and sustainable development.

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

Course content

The course consists of three main parts: 1) microeconomics and health, 2) macroeconomics and health, and 3) health economic evaluation methods. Within all three parts there will be a focus on high income countries.

The first part comprise basic microeconomics, demand and supply of health and health care, 'adverse selection' and 'moral hazard', the production of health and health care, and financing of health and health care.

The second part comprise basic macroeconomics and the association between macroeconomic variables (i.e. economic growth and development, economic inequity, poverty, economic conditions, and globalization) and health.

The third part comprise health economic evaluation methods, particularly 'cost-benefit' and 'cost-effectiveness' analyses. We regard questions about how economic costs and benefits of health interventions can be measured, how to handle uncertainty in health economic evaluations, and how this method may be used as a guide for prioritization.

Form of teaching

The teaching will consist of lectures, seminars, and presentations and discussions on the group assignment.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course will be examined through one individual written exam, one individual written assignment and two mandatory group works with written presentations.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

In order to Pass (G) the student will need to pass on the individual written exam, on the individual written assignment and on all mandatory group assignments. In order to get Pass with Distinction (VG) the student will need to earn a Pass with distinction (VG) on the individual written exam, the individual written assignment and a Pass (G) on all mandatory group assignments. For a Pass with distinction (VG) its required that the student accomplish 75% of all possible credits on the individual written exam and the individual written assignment.

Course evaluation

The course evaluation is carried out in writing and orally with the students. The course leader is responsible for analysing the evaluations and giving propositions for development. The analysis and propositions of development is shared with the students through the program council. The result and potential changes should be shared to both the students who carried out the evaluation and the students that are about to start the course.