

Introduction to Health Economics

This module is designed to introduce the basic principles of health economics and equip you with the basic knowledge needed to interpret and appraise applied studies in health economics. The course covers issues including health and health care systems, methods of economic evaluation, setting priorities using health economics and the interface between health economics and health policy.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module you should be able to:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of the roles and limitations of markets and incentives in health systems;
- Distinguish between the different forms of economic evaluation and show an understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of the various approaches;
- Critically review published economic evaluations of health technologies;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the techniques used to measure both costs and benefits in the evaluation of health care.

Module outline

Monday:
Introduction to health economics: Issues in health economics; markets, supply and demand; market failure in health care; health economics and priority setting.

Tuesday:
Key principles of health economics: Welfare economics and social welfare; the demand for and the production of health; need, equity and efficiency.

Wednesday:
Introduction to economic evaluation part I: Methods of economic evaluation; measuring costs; measuring outcomes; applications and examples.

Thursday:
Introduction to economic evaluation part II: Dealing with uncertainty and other issues; frameworks for economic evaluation; using economic evaluation.

Friday:
Setting priorities using health economics: Practical applications; case studies; presentations of group work; group feed-back session.

Credits

20 credits

Module Attendance Required

1 block week of teaching

Module Dates

2014/15 dates:
29 September – 3 October 2014

Assessment

2 x 3000 word assignments (50% each)

Academics involved in the delivery of this module

Professor Tracy Roberts (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/haps/HealthEconomics/roberts-tracy.aspx>) (Professor for Health Economics)

Mr Raymond Oppong (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/haps/staff/list.aspx?ReferenceId=6780&Name=mr-raymond-oppong>) (Lecturer - Dept of Health Economics)

Stand Alone Course

This module can be taken as a stand alone course if required. To apply, please see below. For any further information please contact Helen Evans, Programme Administrator, 0121 414 7694, healtheconomics@contacts.bham.ac.uk (<mailto:healtheconomics@contacts.bham.ac.uk>).

To apply for a stand alone course

Please complete the application form and make payment [here \(http://shop.bham.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&prodid=511&deptid=4&catid=10\)](http://shop.bham.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&prodid=511&deptid=4&catid=10).

Fee if taken as a stand alone course

2014/15 module prices

UK/EU - £995 (Public Sector), £1495 (Private Sector)

Non UK/EU - £1517

This module can be taken on a stand alone basis however it will not be assessed and no credits will be awarded.

Entry requirements if taken as a stand alone course

There are no specific entry requirements to take this module as a stand alone, non assessed course.

[Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

