Faculty of Medicine

MPHP14, Health Economics and Health Systems, 12.5 credits
Hälsoekonomi och hälsoystem, 12,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Master's Programmes Board on 2016-04-26 to be valid from 2016-07-01, autumn semester 2016.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of the Master (120 credits) of Medical Science programme in Public Health

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies
Public Health Science

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements
A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

- Account for basic economic theories with health economics relevance
- Account for and explain basic health economics theories
- Account for and explain health economics analyses and applications.

Competence and skills
On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

- Analyse and review economic evaluations with relevance for the public health field critically

This is a translation of the course syllabus approved in Swedish
• Apply and analyse the effects of market regulations on the incentive structure on health markets nationally and internationally, with relevance for the public health field,
• Classify, analyse and compare different systems for health care and funding with relevance for the public health field
• Carry out and report a basic health economics analysis in the public health field
• Present and review methods and results in health economics studies with relevance for the public health field critically as well as identify strengths and weaknesses in own health economics analyses
• Participate in a Public Health-oriented policy discussion from a health economics perspective constructively based on relevant and current literature.

Judgement and approach
On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

• Assess ethical aspects and sequences of health economics analyses with relevance for the public health field with special focus on just resource allocation and outcome critically.

Course content
The course constitutes a general orientation in health economics theories and applications with relevance for the public health field. The course is divided into four parts that all treats a specific field in economics and health economics: (1) Basic economic microeconomics, (2), Market analysis and regulations (3) Health economics evaluation, (4) health care system. The course has an international perspective, especially with respect to applications and analyses.

Part 1 treats basic economic principles and theories (microeconomics) that underlies the other course content. Part 2 contain different markets for health care and during which preconditions these can be expected to function optimally. An important part in this component is market failures and which measures the state and the actors of the market can take to regulate these markets. In part 3, health economics evaluations (cost efficiency) with a focus on prevention and efforts are included to improve or protect the public health. Part 4 is directed towards health care systems from a macro perspective. Particularly, the aims of the systems and roles as well as how implementation and quality can be measured are studied.

Course design
The teaching of the course consists of three various types of working methods. The first form is lectures based on the textbook of the course and on supplementary materials. The other working method is seminars on particularly important aspects on public health from an economic perspective. Finally, the course also contains a number of exercise sessions, where the students are trained in to solve assignments often of quantitative nature.

The students will be given three written assignments (defendant to the parts 2-4 above) that should be solved in small groups. feedback on assignments come to give
Assessment

Examination consists of three written group assignments where individual’s contribution can distinguish and assess active and constructive participation in seminars as well as an individual written examination.

If there are special reasons, other examination formats can be applied. 
Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.
The grading scale that is applied on the written examination: Failed- Passed- Passed with distinction

The grading scale that is applied on the group assignments and seminars are: Failed-Passed

For the grade Pass on the whole course, the grade Pass on all test parts is required.

To pass the course with distinction, the grade Pass with distinction on the individual written examination as well as the grade Pass on the group assignments and seminars are required.

Entry requirements

A Bachelor’s degree or the equivalent. Specific entry requirements: English B from Swedish upper secondary school or the equivalent.
Subcourses in MPHP14, Health Economics and Health Systems

Applies from V17

16S1  Individual written exam, 8.0 hp
     Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
16S2  Written group assignments, 3.0 hp
     Grading scale: Fail, Pass
16S3  Active participation in seminars, 1.5 hp
     Grading scale: Fail, Pass