



LUND
UNIVERSITY

School of Economics and Management

NEKG61, Economics: Health Economics, 7.5 credits *Nationalekonomi: Hälsoekonomi, 7,5 högskolepoäng* First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Board of the Department of Economics on 2011-06-07 and was last revised on 2023-02-14. The revised syllabus applies from 2023-09-01, autumn semester 2023.

General Information

This is a single subject intermediate course in economics belonging to the specialisation in 'Public Economics, and Health and Labour Economics'. The course is also an optional sub-course within NEKG11 'Intermediate Economics'. The course is optional within a number of undergraduate programmes at Lund University.

Language of instruction: English

In some semesters the course can be taught in Swedish, see the appropriate application catalogue.

Main field of studies

Economics

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

The student shall acquire a good understanding of how economic theory and methodology can be used to analyse

- individual health-related behaviour och demand for health care,
- the characteristics of the the health care market and the actors on this market (physicians, hospitals, patients etc),
- the characteristics of health insurance,
- different ways of organising and financing health care,
- the relevance of socio-economic and gender-related differences in health care

- consumption,
 - prioritisation in health care,
- and
- have a good understanding of methods of economic evaluation in health care.

Competence and skills

Students shall be able to

- independently identify relevant health-economic problems, and to analyse them,
- analyse the effects of reforms in the health care sector,
- assess various sorts of economic evaluations in health care,
- explain and communicate the results of their analyses in a concise and precise manner, orally as well as in writing.

Judgement and approach

Students shall have the ability to conduct independent studies in health economics and have sufficient competence to write papers on health economic issues. Students shall also be able to search for and evaluate relevant information.

Course content

Health economics comprises economic analyses of health and health care. The main aim of the course is to provide a good knowledge of how economic theory and methodology can help us understand the underlying conditions and characteristics of health care. We discuss the different areas of health economics, such as the demand for health, health care and health insurance, the providers in health care, the physician-patient relationship, the organisation and financing of health care, economic evaluation and equity issues. Illustrations are frequently taken from the problems and reforms in Swedish health care. Gender-related aspects are taken into consideration. The course normally includes guest lectures by health economists working outside academia. Economic evaluation is a particular focus in the course.

Course design

1. Teaching: Teaching consists of lectures and exercises. In addition, there are usually a number of guest lectures.

Assessment

1. Examination: The examination consists of two parts. The first part is a written exam at the end of the course. There will be further opportunities for examination close to this date. The second part consists of home assignments. Other forms of examination may be used to a limited extent.

2. Limitations on the number of examination opportunities: –

The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary action against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University for a specified period.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

1. Grade (Definition), Points or percentage out of maximum points, Characteristic
A (Excellent) 85-100 points/percent. A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) 75-84 points/percent. A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) 65-74 points/percent. The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

D (Satisfactory) 55-64 points/percent. The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) 50-54 points/percent. The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

U (Fail) 0-49 points/percent. The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

To pass the course, the students must have been awarded the grade of E or higher.

2. Weighting grades from different parts of the course: –

3. Grading scales for different parts of the course: –

Entry requirements

At least 20 ECTS-credits from the introductory course in economics, of which at least 7.5 ECTS-credits in microeconomics are needed for admission till all intermediate courses in economics. The course "Econometrics" or 15 ECTS in statistics are recommended.

Further information

1. Transitional regulations: The course replaces NEK17 "Health Economics".

2. Limitations in the period of validity: –

3. Limitations: The course cannot be included in the same degree as the sub-course in health economics in NEKG11 "Economics: Level 2" or NEKK17 "Health Economics".

4. Similar courses: The course has the same content as the sub-course in health economics in NEKG11 "Economics:Level 2".

5. Limitations in renewed examination: –

Subcourses in NEKG61, Economics: Health Economics

Applies from H12

1101 Health Economics, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A