**Health Economics**

**Course Description:-**

Health economics is a growing field and is an important aspect of public policy in developed and developing countries. This course is designed to introduce upper level undergraduate students in economics to the field of Health Economics. The provision and production of health care have different characteristics and incentives from other consumer goods making health related markets a unique topic for study. This will cover a number of topics including basic economic concepts important for the study in health economics, why health is different from other good, aspects of the health care market, health care in other countries, health care reform, as well as discussing the importance of health for development and some basic economic evaluation techniques.

**Pre-requisite**:- Nil

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| Learning outcomes:  At the end of the course, students should be able to:     1. Understand the key concepts of health economics. 2. Examine a theoretical model of the production of health. 3. Present and appraise the Grossman model of the demand for health. 4. Apply the theory of market failure to the finance and provision of health care. 5. Examine the market for health insurance. 6. Discuss the issue of equity as it relates to heath and heath care. 7. Describe and analyze the technique of health economic evaluation. 8. Discuss the role of economic evaluation in health care decision-making. 9. Define value for money or cost effectiveness in the health economic context. 10. Discuss new and emerging topics in the field of health economics. |

**COURSE PLAN**

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| **Week No.** | **Topics/Activities** |
| 1 | Introduction |
| 2 | Organization and funding of health care services |
| 3 | The costs of health care |
| 4 | The benefits of health care: outputs and outcomes |
| 5 | Evaluating health care interventions from an economic perspective |
| 6 | The role of health economics in decision-making |
| 7 | Considering the way forward |

**REFERENCES**

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| Philips, Ceri J. | Health Economics: an introduction  for health professionals | 2005 | BMJ Books |