

## **Econ 4999-001 Economics in Action: Health Economics Group Paper Guidelines**

- 1) You must make class notes available at least 2 days before the lecture. You can send them to me and I will post them on the web. These are not to be handed in late. You will lose a full grade if handed in one day late, and you will get zero if they are not handed in the day before your presentation.
- 2) You may also want to make a reading or two available. Please send me the reading in advance and I will post it.
- 3) The paper should be concise and not more than 15 pages. You can make a shorter paper, but you need to have enough information to make an hour presentation.
- 4) The objective is to give the class an overview of your topic. It is up to you to choose what to include. Part of the exercise is for you to learn how to read a lot of literature and begin to figure out what the most relevant parts of the literature are. This is hard. Here is a suggested outline.
  - *Introduction:* discuss briefly why the topic might be important (relevant)
  - *History:* A brief history of the institution, topic or debate on topic can be useful.
  - *Theory:*
    - i. Discuss the economic theory on this issue that might highlight the relevance or help in the understanding of the issue. You don't have to give the theory in math you can talk about it in words. If the math makes it easier you can do that.
    - ii. During this section you may want to talk about the incentives of different actor, and how that might affect outcomes.
    - iii. There may be competing theories, you can discuss these.
  - *Empirical Evidence:* What is the empirical evidence, or what does that data show. You may also want to discuss why it is hard to provide empirical evidence. Maybe there is reverse causality, or it is hard to measure the phenomenon.
  - *Conclusions:* Try to provide a take home message in this part.
- 5) The paper should not read like five different people wrote it, it should flow. You should each be editing and reading each others sections so you can accomplish this.
- 6) A bibliography must be included. Make you are citing correctly. Pick a typically style and stick with it. If you are not sure about which style to pick look at the American Economics Review (top journal in economics) and follow that style.
- 7) Graphs are difficult to do, but you can use the "autosshapes" functions in Word to help you make those.
- 8) Similarly to your individual projects, your grade will be based on
  - How clearly it is written (this includes but it not limited to grammar, spelling, style of writing).
  - How well you have structured the paper.
  - Quality and relevance of the material

- How well the paper is sourced. I expect that you use a minimum of four sources. But those are four relevant and good sources. One that talks about topic in general, a theory source, an empirical source or two for instance.