

Academic Year: (2024 / 2025)

Review date: 12-04-2024

Department assigned to the subject: Economics Department

Coordinating teacher: REES , DANIEL IRA

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 4 Semester : 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Principles of Economics, Statistics I, Statistics II, Microeconomics

OBJECTIVES

Be able to apply scientific method to the economic, social and political questions of a global society; be able to formulate problems in this context, identify a possible explication or solution, and a method to contrast them by sensibly interpreting the data.

Be able to formulate and solve basic economic, social, political problems in an international context.

Be able to carry out case studies and apply comparative method to analyze institutions, processes and policies in different countries.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Knowledge of the main indicators and sources of data on global health and understanding of the evolution of these indicators worldwide.
- Understanding of the major global health risks and knowledge of the discussions on global health from an interdisciplinary perspective.
- Understanding the relationship between health and poverty and social inequality and health, as well as the main obstacles and major strategies for improving health in developing countries and to reduce social inequalities in access to health.
- Knowledge of the main existing health systems in the world, discussions about its effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

Economic, geographic , social and demographic factors on the distribution of disease and death worldwide. Evolution over time. Main indicators of health measurement and databases. The relationship between health and poverty, and inequality and poverty. Major existing health systems in the world: origin, impact, efficiency and sustainability. The political economy of health systems. Health and global economic policies and their impact on global health: case studies (AIDS , malaria , child mortality, adjustment policies, policies for the protection of pharmaceutical patents). Major global health risks and prevention policies.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Introduction to the Welfare State
 - 1.1. Introduction: the concept of Welfare State
 - 1.2. The causes of Welfare-state regimes
 - 1.3. De-commodification in Social Policy
 - 1.4. How to conceptualize the Welfare State
 - 1.5. European social model
 - 1.6. Beveridge Report

- 1.7. The Ages of Welfare
 - 1.7.1. Golden Age (1945-1975)
 - 1.7.2. Silver Age (1976-2007)
 - 1.7.3. Bronze Age (2008- ?)
- 1.8. Post-crisis Welfare development

2. Public Spending on Health
 - 2.1. A closer look at global trends
 - 2.1.1. Global trends in Health spending confirm the transformation of the World's funding of Health services
 - 2.1.2. Public spending on Health is central to universal Health coverage, but there is no clear trend of increased government prioritization of Health
 - 2.1.3. Primary Health care is a priority for expenditure tracking
 - 2.1.4. Allocations across diseases and interventions differ between external and government sources
 - 2.1.5. Performance of public spending on Health can improve
 - 2.2. The transformation of the world's funding of Health services
 - 2.2.1. Government prioritization of Health
 - 2.2.2. Conclusions
 - 2.3. Middle income countries: transitioning to domestic funding of Health
 - 2.4. Primary Health expenditure
 - 2.5. External aid for Health

3. Intellectual property Rights: An overview and implications in pharmaceutical industry
 - 3.1. Patents
 - 3.1.1. What is a patent?
 - 3.1.2. What can be protected by a patent?
 - 3.1.3. Excluded fields
 - 3.1.4. The Claims
 - 3.1.5. International variations
 - 3.1.6. Why should I apply for a patent?
 - 3.1.7. The Hatch-Waxman Act
 - 3.2. Supplementary protection certificates (SPCs)
 - 3.2.1. Concept
 - 3.2.2. How long does it take to get a drug authorized?
 - 3.3. Trade secret law
 - 3.4. Trademarks
 - 3.4.1. Definition
 - 3.4.2. Protection of a trademark
 - 3.4.3. The trademark owner has the following rights
 - 3.4.4. The functions of a trademark
 - 3.5. Industrial Designs
 - 3.5.1. Protection
 - 3.5.2. The Industrial Designs owner has the following rights
 - 3.6. TRIPS
 - 3.6.1. The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)
 - 3.6.2. TRIPS and pharmaceuticals
 - 3.6.3. Why strengthen patents?
 - 3.6.4. AIDS alters perceptions
 - 3.6.5. Price discrepancy
 - 3.6.6. The Dracula effect

4. Generics, biosimilars and branded drugs
 - 4.1. Generic drugs
 - 4.1.1. Concept
 - 4.1.2. Generic Drug Names
 - 4.1.3. Bioequivalence
 - 4.1.4. Myths around generics
 - 4.2. Enantiomers
 - 4.2.1. Introduction
 - 4.3. Branded drugs vs Generics
 - 4.3.1. Prescribers are Most Familiar with Branded Drugs
 - 4.3.2. Effective Advertising
 - 4.3.3. Follow the money

- 4.4. Biosimilars
 - 4.4.1. Biological Products
 - 4.4.2. What are biosimilar and interchangeable biological products?
 - 4.4.3. Are biosimilars generic versions of biological products?
 - 4.5. A study case: India
 - 4.5.1. Introduction
 - 4.5.2. Patent Law in India
 - 4.5.3. The Impact of the World Trade Organization on Pharmaceutical Patents (TRIPS)
- 5. Life styles
 - 5.1. Obesity
 - 5.2. Smoking
 - 5.2.1. Introduction
 - 5.2.2. The economic and social impacts of tobacco
 - 5.2.3. The tobacco supply chain
 - 5.2.4. Why smoking is still so widespread
 - 5.2.5. Cost of tobacco in USA
 - 5.3. Loneliness
 - 5.3.1. Where do they all come from?
 - 5.3.2. How to cope with loneliness?
 - 5.4. Social recluses: Hikikomori
- 6. Antibiotics & Vaccination (myths and abuse)
 - 6.1. Antibiotic
 - 6.1.1. When the drugs don't work
 - 6.1.2. Common failings
 - 6.1.3. Fighting antimicrobial resistance
 - 6.2. Vaccination
 - 6.2.1. Fighting antimicrobial resistance
 - 6.2.2. Prosperity and vaccination coverage
 - 6.2.3. Vaccines save lives
 - 6.2.4. How vaccines work
 - 6.2.5. The campaign against vaccination
 - 6.2.6. The fear factor
 - 6.2.7. Global decline in vaccine-preventable diseases
 - 6.2.8. The way ahead

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

% end-of-term-examination:	60
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	40

Article critiques or midterm (40%): Each student will write two article critiques which review and critique a journal article on the syllabus. You may write on any article that you choose. Critiques are due at the beginning of class on the day the article is being discussed. If there is article that you consider relevant and interesting for this course, but it is not on this list, please e-mail me to discuss whether it can be suitable for the review.

Final exam (60%): The exam will consist of two parts, A and B. Part A will comprise twenty multiple choice questions and students will be required to answer all twenty questions. Part B will consist of five essay questions and students will be required to answer any two questions.

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Cacioppo, J., Patrick, W. Loneliness, New York: Norton, 2009
- Crisp, N. What would a sustainable health and care system look like?., BMJ.com, 2020

- Drexl, J. and Lee, N. Pharmaceutical innovation, competition and patent law., books.google.com, 2013
- Esping-Andersen, G. The three worlds of welfare capitalism., Princeton: Princeton University Press., 1998
- Frondorf, E. Drug wars - how big pharma raises prices and keeps generics off the market., books.google.com, 2017
- Grubb, P., Thomsen, P., Wright, G. and Hoxie, T. Patents for chemicals, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology., Oxford University Press., 2016
- Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, <http://www.healthdata.org/data-visualization/financing-global-health>, 2020
- Merges, R. and Duffy, J. Patent law and policy., n.d., 1997
- Merson, M., Black, R., Mills, A. and Anderson, S Global Health, books.google.com, 2011
- Otero Lastres, J., Casado Cervinço, A., Garcıa-Escudero Maçrquez, P. and Borrego Cabezas, C Compendio praçtico sobre la proteccioçn de la propiedad industrial, Valladolid. Lex Nova, 2010
- The Economy, e book , [<http://www.core econ.org/>]
- Vanderslott, S., Dadonaite, B. and Roser, M. Vaccination, <https://ourworldindata.org/vaccination> , 2013
- Voet, M The Generic Challenge, books.google.com, 2020

BASIC ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- . The Economy: <http://www.core econ.org/>
- . The Economy: <http://www.core econ.org/>