

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
SYLLABUS FOR PHARMACOECONOMICS/PHAD 490**

Winter , 2001 (2 Credit Hours)

Instructor:	Gregory Wellman, PhD
Office (room number/building):	209 College of Pharmacy
Office Phone:	591-2239
Office Hours:	As posted
E-Mail:	wellmang@ferris.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to give the student an overview of pharmacoeconomics and some of the health outcomes measurement principles that apply to this discipline.

COURSE OBJECTIVE/FOCUS: At the completion of this course, the successful student will have an understanding of:

- 1) Why pharmacoeconomics distinguishes itself as a unique “toolbox” for use in analyzing the economic impact of pharmaceuticals on health care systems.
- 2) How different perspectives influence pharmacoeconomic analysis and costing of drugs and services.
- 3) How to derive the relevant cost and revenue streams needed to conduct a pharmacoeconomic analysis.
- 4) The basic research methods available to analyze the financial impact of pharmaceuticals on health care systems including:
 - a) Cost-minimization;
 - b) Cost-effectiveness;
 - c) Cost-benefit;
 - d) Cost-of-illness; and
 - e) Cost-utility.
- 5) How pharmacoeconomics is currently incorporated into the drug development process.
- 6) The basic principles of health status measurement, as they relate to conducting pharmacoeconomic analysis.
- 7) Principles of drug utilization evaluation.
- 8) The application of pharmacoeconomics to drug therapy decision and formulary management.

The course will be presented using a combination of lecture, case review and classroom recitation. Published works in the area of pharmacoeconomics will be reviewed and critiqued by students.

COURSE MATERIALS:

1. Textbook(s) (Recommended):	Drummond MF, O'Brien B. <i>Methods for the Economic Evaluation of Health Care Programmes</i> . 2 nd Edition. Oxford University Press. New York, New York. 1997.
2. Other Materials:	Pharmacoeconomics Casebook.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Session	Date	Topic
1	1/14	Introduction and Costs
2	1/21	NO CLASS (Holiday)
3	1/28	Cost Minimization (Case 1)
4	2/4	Cost Effectiveness (Case 2)
5	2/11	Cost Benefit (Case 3)
6	2/18	Willingness-to-Pay (Case 4)
7	2/25	Decision Tree (Case 5 & 6)
8	3/4	Exam #1 (All material including 2/25)
9	3/11	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
10	3/18	Quality of Life Assessment – General (Case 7)
11	3/25	Quality of Life Assessment – Specific (Case 8)
12	4/1	Cost Utility #1 (Case 9)
13	4/8	Cost Utility #2 (Case 10)
14	4/15	Pharmacoeconomics in Drug Development (Case 11)
15	4/22	Applying Pharmacoeconomics to Drug Treatment Decisions (Case 12)
16	4/29	Drug Utilization Evaluation (Case 14)
17		Cumulative Final Exam (During Finals Week)

Cases must be read prior to class. Go through the case walk-through on WebCT and take the quiz associated **before** class. WebCT quiz points count toward your grade and quizzes will be set to turn off at the beginning of class.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA: Students will be evaluated based on their understanding of the course material and their ability to apply it. This will include communication of their understanding through classroom discussion, course examinations and an out-of-class assignment.

Pharmacoeconomic analysis primarily involves appropriate model selection, accurate identification of costs, outline of assumptions, and application of results. Assessment of student understanding will be focused on these principles, NOT on number crunching.

EXAMS AND HOMEWORK: There will be one in-class examinations given. In addition, students will have the opportunity to select one of two out-of-class assignments to complete. The out-of-class assignments are outlined in the course casebook, and test the student's ability to apply to material learned in class. One assignment involves the critiquing of a published work in pharmacoeconomics. The second assignment gives the student the opportunity to design an appropriate pharmacoeconomic study comparing two drugs.

Outside of the out-of-class assignment, student homework should consist of review of cases to be covered in the upcoming class and taking the associated case quiz.

GRADING POLICIES: Grades will be assigned for the course based on accumulated points for the following:

Item	Points
Assignment	100 points
Exams	200 points
Attendance, class exercises and participation	100 points
Case walk-through quizzes	100 points

ATTENDANCE, TARDINESS AND ANY SPECIAL CONDUCT POLICIES: Because the course is a combination of lecture and case review, attendance is essential. Course material will be presented, in many cases, by discussion of published work in the area of pharmacoeconomics with an eye to the manner in which the research was conducted and how it might be applied. Course attendance, small in-class assignments, and contribution to discussion will contribute to "Attendance and Participation" points.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: All Ferris State University instructors are expected to maintain a classroom environment conducive to learning for all students. Because of this, appropriate classroom decorum is expected of all students. This includes arriving to class on time and using class time to focus attention on the material being covered for this course. **Final Note: Other adjustments may be made to this Syllabus as deemed appropriate by the instructor.**