

Research Project Due on the Last Day of the Class (200 points)

A **minimum** of a 8-10 page paper on **US health care or health insurance industry**. You may focus on *economic* impact of the governmental policy on the health care industry or related industries such as pharmaceuticals or nursing homes, etc. (must be closely related).

You should discuss the following in the *economic* context:

- Market Structure – specifically how does market structure impact business decisions?
- Production Decision – how much to “produce”? How does profit maximization play a role?
- Evolution of a Competitive Market – how has the marketplace evolved over time?
- Impact of Governmental Regulation
 - Historic and current policy (Affordable Care Act, ACA or “Obamacare”)
 - What is currently being discussed for legislation? What is “TrumpCare?”
 - What impacts will this have on the economy?
 - Make sure to cite the sources for the projections, such as Congressional Budget Office, Health and Human Services, etc.
 - Debate on the issue: merits and weaknesses of each side.
 - **Present both sides!**
- Application to our Microeconomics classes if applicable:
 - Supply and Demand
 - Governmental Policy
 - Strategic Behavior
 - Market Structure
 - Asymmetric Information
 - Adverse selection and Moral Hazard
- Your own position and its *economic* defense

Cheating: If you are caught cheating you will be receive a zero on the assignment and may be reported to the administration to face disciplinary action. Cheating includes plagiarism.

To get started, watch the following videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9zRiKqv9Qo> up to time marker 4:59 or more.

Listen the following Podcast: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=114045132> .

You need to cite at least four (4) sources *besides these and the textbook*.

For more current articles and discussion, many of the major print publications, like the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, The Economist, Time, etc., have devoted topics with links to other source. Governmental agencies, like www.hhs.gov (Health and Human Services), CBO.gov (Congressional Budget Office), CEA.gov (Council of Economic Advisors), etc., for statistics, projections and analysis could also be very useful. If you use Wikipedia, you **MUST** go to the primary sources.

This assignment must be typed. Use MLA format and you need to submit a citation page. I am hoping to pique some interest in you and these issues that will stay in the headlines for years to come. It's wide-open. Have fun with it.

Final paper due the last day of our class