

MSc in Health Economics, NUI Galway



Why study this course?

Learn about the methods used by economists for the analysis of *health, health behaviours, health care systems, health care interventions* and *health technologies*

Undertake a *work placement* in a health economics research agency in industry or the public sector.

Who is this course for?

Individuals with an academic qualification (*Hons 2.1*) in *Economics, Social Sciences, Mathematics, Statistics, Engineering, Medicine, Pharmacy* or the *Health Sciences*.

Individuals working in the *Pharmaceutical* or *Medical Device* sectors or in the *Health Policy* or *Health Care* sectors.

(*Note: A bridging course for non-economics graduates is available*)

How to study this course?

Full Time for 12 Months (*IMHE1*)
Part Time for 24 Months (*IMHE2*)

How to find out more?

Professor Paddy Gillespie
Economics, NUI Galway

Email: paddy.gillespie@nuigalway.ie

Web: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/>

Course Overview:

Health Economics is the branch of Economics that is dedicated to the analysis of health, health care systems, health care interventions and health technologies.

The MSc in Health Economics is a taught Masters programme, which introduces the student to the theoretical principles and practical techniques of economic analysis, that are applied to inform health policy and health care decision-making within the evolving global context of technological development, population ageing, rising healthcare costs and changing patient preferences and expectations.

In particular, the programme seeks to equip students with the tools to examine individual behaviours with respect to health and health care, to explore alternative systems of health care finance and delivery, and to apply economic evaluation, preference elicitation and econometric techniques to inform health care resource allocation.

The programme consists of a mix of modules, which are delivered through a series of lectures, practical workshops, tutorials, and seminars from academic and industry experts, in addition to a supervised minor dissertation, which is generally completed over the course of a summer placement at an appropriate research agency.

The programme is designed for people interested in pursuing a career in the public sector, working in the government, the health service or public health agencies, in the private sector, working in the pharmaceutical, medical device or private care industries, or in the research sector, working with public, academic, or private consultancy agencies.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

- Understand and appraise the fundamental theoretical and practical concepts and tools of health economics
- Analyse and inform global health policy and/or healthcare industry questions using the applied practical techniques of health economic evaluation, health preference elicitation and health econometrics
- Critically engage with the key global health policy questions of care system finance and delivery, and access to interventions and/or technologies.



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



What people say about this course?

“Currently, 50% of our team of health economists studied in NUI Galway as part of their MSc or PhD. Health economics and outcomes research is a growing field for Novartis globally that provides important information for making healthcare coverage and access decisions.

Gilles Ducorroy
Patient Access Services Head
Novartis Global Service Centre

“I was impressed by NUI Galway’s students, faculty, and facilities. The program size was small, allowing me to learn from and become friends with my fellow students in a collegial atmosphere. The faculty were fully dedicated to students, easy to talk to, and well-versed in their fields. Lastly, I enjoyed living in Galway, with its historic city centre and scenic seaside promenade; Galway was a perfect launching pad for trips across Ireland and Europe.

Mohit Agrawal
Ph.D. Candidate
Yale University

“On completing my MSc, I began working in the pharmaceutical industry. I currently work in the area of public health as a global health economics manager and am based in Switzerland. In this role, I get to work on a range of interesting evidence generation and synthesis activities. The MSc in Health Economics has prepared me well for the real world. My current role requires me to regularly apply what I learnt during my health economics course at NUIG, particularly in area of health technology assessment, technical report writing and in the area of critical appraisal.”

Elaine Gallagher
Global Health Economics
Manager, Takeda Vaccines

How to find out more?

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/health-economics>

Course Outline:

The MSc in Health Economics consists of 90 ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System). Students complete a combination of modules (worth 5 or 10 ECTS) and a dissertation (10 ECTS) to fulfil the 90 ECTS requirement.

Semester 1

- Economics of Health and Health Care
- Health Economic Evaluation
- Econometrics
- Data Management and Survey Techniques

Semester 2

Core

- Health Systems and Policy Analysis
- Applied Health Technology Assessment and Decision Modelling

Optional

- Public Sector Economics
- Cost Benefit Analysis and Evaluation
- Applied Econometrics
- Non-Market Valuation for Health Economists
- Dynamics of Ageing and Public Policy
- Economics of Medical Devices
- Observational & Analytical Research Methods
- Introduction to Systematic Reviews
- Current Topics in Health Economics

Dissertation

- Students spend up to 8-12 weeks on placement with an appropriate health economics research organisation to complete a dissertation of 8000-10000 words under the direction of an academic supervisor. This internship allows the student to apply the theories and techniques learned in the taught modules in a real world setting.

Why Study This Programme?

Career Opportunities

Graduates with a MSc in Health Economics qualification are in high demand nationally and internationally. Recent graduates from NUI Galway have embarked on careers in areas such as the pharmaceutical and medical device industry sectors, research consultancy, and in the voluntary and public sectors. Other graduates have pursued further education at PhD level in Ireland and elsewhere.

Work Placement

Each student completes a 8-12-week placement with a company, a government agency or a health research agency. Placements have previously been organized in major pharmaceutical and medical device companies, in agencies such as the Health Service Executive, the Health Information and Quality Authority, and the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics and with leading research centres at NUI Galway and beyond.

Who is Suited to this course?

The course is suited to individuals from multiple backgrounds who are interested in pursuing a new career in Health Economics or in incorporating the tools of Health Economics into their current career pathway. The course will suit recent graduates in Economics, Business, and the Social Sciences who have studied Economics. The course is also open to recent graduates in Mathematics, Statistics, Engineering, Medicine, Pharmacy and the Health Sciences who have completed a bridging course in Economics. The course will also suit individuals working in the Pharmaceutical or Medical Device industry sectors