

# EMMA TASSIE

Health Economics Research Unit, University of Aberdeen, Polwarth Building, Foresterhill, Aberdeen

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## EDUCATION

**2010–2011**     **M.Sc. Health Economics – Grade of 1H**  
University College Cork, College Road, Cork.

<b>Modules</b>	Health Care Systems and Organisation	Applied Health Survey Methods
	Health Care Economic Evaluation	Applied Health Econometrics
	Health, Economy and Society	Public Health & Health Service Research

### **Thesis:**

- ❖ Conducted a preliminary cost-effectiveness analysis on the trial *Saving and Empowering Young Lives in Europe* (SEYLE) – a school based, suicide prevention, mental health awareness, randomised controlled trial.
- ❖ SEYLE comprised four arms, three of which were preventive interventions.
- ❖ The Beck's Depression Inventory (BDI) was employed as a primary outcome measurement and STATA was utilised to group participants into BDI Health states at the baseline and three month follow-up.
- ❖ A number of marginal analysis techniques were adopted, consisting of ICERs, decision trees and Markov models.
- ❖ To test the robustness of results derived by marginal analyses, one-way, series of one-way and multi-way sensitivity analyses were implemented.
- ❖ The professional Screening arm continued to dominate and thus was deemed the cost-effective option.
- ❖ Findings were sent to the National Suicide Research Foundation.
- ❖ Thesis forms part of a larger research project with the Karolinska Institute.

### **Assignments:**

*Survey Methods: Group Project.*

- ❖ Primary research was conducted, consisting of two dimensions.
- ❖ A survey was constructed to assess the relationship of alcohol consumption and sexual risk behaviour among UCC students.
- ❖ The survey was distributed to all students using Survey Bob (an online survey tool).
- ❖ The data was collected in an Excel spreadsheet – cleaned, coded and inputted into SPSS.
- ❖ SPSS was used to conduct correlation tests, such as t-tests and Spearman Rank Order Correlation to assess the strength of the relationship.
- ❖ Participated in ongoing presentations – providing updates and presenting results.

*Econometrics:*

- ❖ Completed an assignment to examine the determinants of self-assessed health status implementing data from the Quarterly National Household Survey (2001).
- ❖ STATA was used to examine which key socio-demographic variables had a significant influence on self-assessed health status.
- ❖ Health status was assessed on a five point scale, ranging from poor to excellent.
- ❖ Explanatory variables included age, economic status, medical insurance cover, among others.
- ❖ Presented assignment results to class and MSc Health Economics lecturers.

**2007- 2010**     **B.A. Economics (Major) Sociology (Minor) - Grade of 2.1**  
University College Cork.

<b>Year 3</b> <b>Modules</b>	Health Economics	Sociology of Health and Illness
	Economic Principles of Insurance	Sociology of Death, Dying and Bereavement
	Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Growth	Current Debates in Sociology
	International Money and Banking	Sociology of the Environment

**Assignments:** *Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Growth:*

- ❖ Completed a research based assignment – analysed and explained the GDP fluctuations of Uganda over a ten year time frame.

**2001-2007 Mount Mercy College.** Model Farm Road, Cork.  
Leaving Certificate: 400/600 points

### **CURRENT EMPLOYMENT**

**January 2012 – Present**

**HERU (University of Aberdeen)  
Research Assistant**

- ❖ Currently working a project titled ‘Systematic review of the diagnostic accuracy and cost-effectiveness of magnetic resonance spectroscopy and enhanced magnetic resonance imaging techniques in aiding the localisation of prostate abnormalities for biopsy.

### **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

**July 2010 – December 2011**

**Sales/Deli Assistant. Kearney’s Centra, Kinsale Road.**

**September 2007 – July 2010**

**Sales Assistant. Pulse Accessories, Ballincollig Shopping Centre, Cork**

**Summer Work 2006**

**Sales Advisor – Riverisland, Patrick Street, Cork.**

**Summer Work 2004 & 2005**

**Catering Assistant – M&I Catering, Model Farm Road, Cork.**

### **VOLUNTARY WORK.**

**2005: Completed One Month in Cope Foundation**

- ❖ Provided an insight into a sector that delivers a comprehensive range of services for children and adults with an intellectual disability.
- ❖ Developed interpersonal skills while dealing with both clients and staff.
- ❖ Learned to be approachable and communicate effectively with people.

### **INTERESTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**SPORT** – Soccer, was a member of Lakewood Ladies Soccer from 1999-2009. Represented Cork at underage level.

**READING** – Avid interest in reading for leisure.

**TRAVELLING** – Have visited England, France, Spain, Portugal, Mexico, Bulgaria and Canada.

### **SKILLS**

**COMPUTER** - Microsoft Office (all applications), SPSS and STATA.

**COMMUNICATION** – Developed strong communication and interpersonal skills through multiple customer- orientated roles. Co-operated closely with other staff members and handled ongoing counter queries from customers.

**PRESENTATION** – Produced reports and presentations to a professional standard through college projects.

**ORGANISATIONAL** – Effective at time management and prioritising tasks to achieve deadlines. Maintained a strong academic record whilst fulfilling part-time working responsibilities.

**DRIVING:** Full license.

### **REFERENCES**

Dr. Lee-Ann Burke (Thesis Supervisor MSc Health Economics). 021-4902464  
Department of Economics, Aras na Laoi, University College Cork.

Ms. Jane Bourke (Course Co-ordinator MSc Health Economics). 021-4902930  
Department of Economics, Aras na Laoi, University College Cork.

Mr. Jim Kearney (Store Owner). 021-4323753  
Kearney’s Centra, Kinsale Road.