

University of Florida
Department of Health Services Research, Management and Policy
College of Public Health and Health Professions

HSA 6152: Health Policy
COURSE SYLLABUS, Spring 2009
Tuesdays 1:55 – 2:45 & Thursdays 12:50 – 2:45, HPNP G-201

Course website: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

INSTRUCTOR: Paul Duncan, PhD
Room: HPNP 4155
Email: pduncan@phhp.ufl.edu

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Eric Jamoom, MS
Email: jamoom@phhp.ufl.edu

CLASS MEETINGS: Tuesdays Period 7 (1:55 – 2:45)
Thursdays Period 6 & 7 (12:50-2:45)
Room **G201**

OFFICE HOURS: **Dr. Duncan:** by appointment only
Eric Jamoom: Tuesdays 11:00-12:00, HPNP 4148

Course Overview:

This course will engage students in thinking critically about health policy, including health policy development, implementation and analysis, with an emphasis on the United States. Lectures, readings, and assignments in this course will define health policy, provide an overview of the United States health policymaking process, apply key approaches and methods in the analysis of health policy, and discuss strategies for influencing policy.

It is assumed that students have in-depth knowledge of the US health care and public health systems and be able to apply this knowledge to the lectures and class assignments. **Students must have completed HSA 6114 (Introduction to the US Health Care System) or an equivalent class in order to be admitted to the course.**

Course Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

1. Define health policy and discuss the rationale for government intervention in health and health care;
2. Describe the health policy making process in the United States;

3. Describe how to influence health policy at the local, state, and national levels;
4. Apply the key features of formal policy analysis to health and health care issues;
5. Analyze key issues by collecting and disseminating relevant information from numerous sources; specifying appropriate criteria for decisions; and developing logical alternative solutions, recommendations, and justifications;
6. Incorporate quantitative and qualitative evidence in policy analysis including the ability to compile and present relevant data in readily understood formats;
7. Prepare and present written and oral health policy analysis in a clear and concise manner as evidence of strong communication skills.

Targeted Competencies:

- Identify, retrieve, summarize, manage and communicate public health information
- Apply principles and methods of health policy development and analysis to key public health issues

Required Materials:

- Morone JA, Litman TJ, Robins LS. *Health Politics and Policy*. 4th edition, Delmar Cengage Learning: Clifton Park, NY, 2008.
- Bardach E. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis. The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving*. 2nd edition, CQ Press: Washington, DC, 2005.
- Other selected readings posted on the course e-learning website and in this syllabus.

Course Requirements

Each class meeting will consist of discussion of one or more topics, assigned readings, and student presentations and discussion. The policy memo, issue brief/policy paper, and oral presentation assignments will be distributed in class.

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|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Midterm Exam | 25 points (Feb 19) |
| • Final Exam | 25 points (Apr 23) |
| • Policy Memo – defining the problem | 15 points (Mar 5) |
| • Issue Brief/Policy Paper | 10 points (Mar 24) |
| • Group Oral Presentation | 20 points |
| | ○ 15 points for group presentation |
| | ○ 5 points variable assessment |
| • Class participation and attendance | 5 points |

Grade Ranges

A: 92-100 A -: 90-91.9 B+: 88-89.9 B: 82-87.9 B -: 80-81.9 C+: 78-79.9
 C: 72-77.9 C -: 70-71.9 D: 60-69.9

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Attend all class sessions, be on time and stay until class is dismissed.
- Complete all required readings prior to class and be prepared to participate in class discussion and exercises.
- Submit all assignments on the due dates.
- Take the exams on the scheduled dates.
- Turn off cell phones, pagers, computers and all other electronic devices during class

Laptops are not permitted in class unless associated with a specified assignment

**** Assignments will not be accepted via e-mail****

Statement of University's Honesty Policy:

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity (see Graduate Student Handbook for details). Cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity

Make Up Work:

Personal issues with respect to class attendance or fulfillment of course requirements will be handled on an individual basis.

Students with Disabilities:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://oss.ufl.edu>), which will provide documentation to the student. The student should then provide this documentation to the professor. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health:

Students may occasionally have personal issues that arise in the course of pursuing higher education or that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing problems affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and seek confidential assistance at the University of Florida Counseling Center, 352-392-1575, or Student Mental Health Services, 352-392-1171. Visit their websites for more information: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu> or <http://www.health.ufl.edu/shcc/smhs/index.htm#urgent>.

Outline of Course Topics

DATE	TOPIC	READING
SECTION 1: OVERVIEW OF US HEALTH CARE POLICY		
Jan 6	Course Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus review • Group and topic assignments • Defining health policy Morality in Health Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Fairness and efficiency • American Values in health care 	Morone Textbook: Introduction – Health Politics and Policy Chapter 1 – Values in Health Policy Chapter 3 – Morals in Health Policy Consider This: 20 Classic Observations about Health Politics and Policy (pages 412-413)
Jan 8	No Class	BCS National Championship Game – Go Gators!!!
Jan 13	Rationale for health policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market failure • Public interest theory of legislation • Economic theory of legislation • Interest groups and health policy 	Morone Textbook: Chapter 2 - Markets and Politics Chapter 9 – Privatizing Health Politics
Jan 15	The political culture and language of health policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The political parties and power • The iron triangle • Precedents for current US health policy • Understanding the language of the US political system 	Chapter 10 – American Health Care: Inefficient, Inequitable, and Costly Kingdon JW <u>Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policy</u> 2nd edition. Chapter 2: Participants on the inside of the Government pp 21-44. Addison-Wesley Publishers: 2003. Peterson MA. From Trust to Political Power: Interest Groups, Public Choice and Health Care. In: Lee PR and Estes CL <u>The Nation’s Health</u> (pages 183-198) Jones and Bartlett Publishers: Sudbury, MA, 2003. Defining the language of health policy: www.thecapital.net/glossary Navarro V (1989) Why some countries have national health insurance while others have national health services and the US has neither <i>Social</i>

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		<p><i>Science and Medicine</i> 28(9):887-898</p> <p>Rothman J A Century of Failure: Health Care Reform in America in Conrad P <u>The Sociology of Health and Illness. Critical Perspectives (7th edition)</u> (pages 292-300) Worth Publishers: NY, NY: 2005.</p> <p>Barr DA, Lee PR and Benjamin AE. Health Care and Health Policy in a Changing World. In: Lee PR and Estes CL <u>The Nation's Health</u>. (pages 199-212). Jones and Bartlett Publishers: Sudbury, MA, 2003</p>
Jan 20	<p>The Impact of Health Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health policy and health determinants • Health policy and health • Health policy and individuals, organizations, and interest groups 	Longest, Chapter 2
Jan 22	<p>The Policy Process (part 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview • Agenda setting • Window of opportunity 	<p>Morone – Introduction</p> <p>Longest, Chapter 3 page 107-end; Chapter 5</p> <p>Duncan RP et al Summary Report of the Medicaid Reform Section 1115 Waiver Process. July 2006</p> <p>Example: Medicare Part D</p>
Jan 27	<p>The Policy Process (part 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of Congress • Development of Legislation 	<p>Morone: Chapter 4 – Congress</p> <p>Supplemental - Longest, Chapter 6</p> <p>Google online sunshine (Official Internet Site of the Florida legislature) Click on information center. Look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How an idea becomes law ▪ The committee process ▪ Glossary of legislative terms ▪ Frequently asked questions

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		Evans CH, Degutis LC What it takes for Congress to Act American Journal of Health Promotion November/December 2003 18(2): 177-181.
Jan 29	The Policy Process (part 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation: rulemaking and operation 	Morone: Chapter 5 – Presidents Supplemental Longest, Chapters 7 and 8
Feb 3	The Policy Process (part 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Modification • Policy Evaluation and introduction to policy analysis 	Longest, Chapter 9
Feb 5	State Governments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State approaches to health care system • Similarities and differences in how Americans experience care 	Morone Text Chapter 8 – State Governments
Feb 10	Judicial Health Policy <i>Guest lecturer – Randy Jenkins</i> <i>Randall C. Jenkins, Esq.</i> <i>Coordinator of Insurance and Risk, Claims and Litigation</i> <i>University of Florida Health Science Center Self-Insurance Program</i>	Morone Text Chapter 6 – The Courts Morone Text pg 306 (Adventures w/ Informed Consent)
Feb 12	Federalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the balance between the federal and state government • Resource Allocation 	Morone: Chapter 7 – Federalism
Feb 17	Midterm Review Discussion of Policy Analysis Project	

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Feb 19	*MIDTERM ON SECTION 1*	
SECTION 2: DOING POLICY ANALYSIS		
Feb 24	Overview of Policy Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining Policy Analysis • Defining the problem (STEP 1) • Semantics 	Bradach pages 1-10
Feb 26	Introduction to Policy Analysis Assembling the Evidence (STEP 2) <i>Guest Nancy Schaefer</i> <i>Instructor, University Librarian</i> <i>Health Science Center Libraries</i>	Bradach pages 61-89 Weimer DL and Vining AR <i>Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice</i> Chapter 13: Gathering Information for Policy Analysis <u>*NOTE: BRING YOUR LAPTOPS TO CLASS*</u>
Mar 3	Policy Competency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreting Policy • And understanding the implications • Semantics 	Longest, Chapter 4
Mar 5	Program Evaluation – Brief Introduction to Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link between policy analysis and program evaluation • Who can do program evaluation: hiring an evaluator • Tools of program evaluation • Cost-benefit analysis • Using data and findings from evaluation research *Assignment Due: Strategic Memo – Defining a Problem*	Babbie E. <i>The Practice of Social Research</i> Chapter 12: Evaluation Research 9 th edition

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Mar 10	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
Mar 12	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
Mar 17	<p>Making conclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructing alternatives (STEP 3) • Selecting criteria (STEP 4) • Projecting outcomes (STEP 5) • Confront trade-offs (STEP 6) • Decide (STEP 7) 	<p>Bardach pages 1-52</p> <p>Bradach page 53-59 Georgetown University Health Policy Briefs</p> <p>Urban Institute/Kaiser Family Foundation <i>Florida Medicaid Reform: Informed Consumer Choice</i></p>
Mar 19	<p>Tell your story</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content of a policy paper • Presentation skills – graphs and tables • Know your audience <p>Ethical Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using language Using data <p>Reading and analyzing a legislative bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Bills and the purpose behind legislation • Class Exercise <p>Discussion on major health policy topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group selection of final presentation policy topics 	In class exercise
SECTION 3: INFLUENCING POLICY		
Mar 24	<p>Background to Lobbying, Advocacy, and Public Opinion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship between public opinion & health outcomes • Defining health lobbying and advocacy 	<p>Morone Text: Chapter 11 – Public Opinion; Chapter 12 – Lobbyists</p> <p>Website reading: Go through the Community Toolbox: http://ctb.ku.edu/en/ then:</p>

DATE	TOPIC	READING
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rules of lobbying and advocacy • Skills of lobbying and advocacy <p>Assignment Due: Issue/Brief Policy Paper</p>	1) Under table of contents: Part I: Organizing for Effective Advocacy (Chapters 30-35) 2) enter key word lobbying – go Section 7: Decision makers
Mar 26	Lobbying and Advocacy: Influencing policy at the local level <i>Commissioner Cynthia Moore Chestnut, (D) Vice Chair – Alachua County Commissioner- District 4</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHOICES Program 	Familiarize yourself with the Alachua County Choices program at: http://www.alachuacounty.us/government/depts/css/choices/
Mar 31	Campaigns, Elections, and Health Policy Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Policy during the past 3 election campaigns (2000;2004;2008) • Overview of the 2008 Election Health Reform • Health Reform Strategies 	Blendon RJ et al Voters and Health Care in the 2004 Election Health Affairs Web Exclusive Mar 2005
Apr 2	<i>Guest Lecturer: Nancy Hardt, M.D.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influencing the Legislative Process • Health Professionals in the Policy Process 	
SECTION 4: HEALTH POLICY SPECIAL TOPICS		
Apr 7	International perspective of the American Health Care System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of competition (US vs. Britain) • Economic differences based on international health care experiences 	Morone: Chapter 19 – American Health Care in International Perspective Morone: Chapter 20 – Competition in Britain and the US Morone: Chapter 21 – Private insurance and the Rising Costs of American Exceptionalism
Apr 9	Student Presentations	TBD
Apr 14	Student Presentations	TBD

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Apr 16 [*]	<p>Environmental Health Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Policy and the environment <p>Medicare and Medicaid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the two largest governmental payers of health care • The problems they face and the future of reform <p>The Elderly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common issues affecting health policy of aging Long-term Care 	<p>Morone: Chapter 17 – Environmental Policy and Health</p> <p>Morone: Chapter 14 – Medicare Morone: Chapter 15 – Medicaid</p> <p>Morone: Chapter 18 – The Elderly</p>
Apr 21 [*]	<p>Health Policy Challenges of the 21st Century</p> <p>Organizational Power and Politics: Role of Power and politics in Health Services Organizations and performance</p> <p>Employers and Health Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paradox of employer sponsored health care and social welfare benefits • Business politics of health care 	<p>Morone: Epilogue</p> <p>Alexander JA, Morlock LL “Power and Politics in Health Services Organizations,” in Shortell, SM Kaluzny, AD. <u>Essentials of Health Care Management</u>, 1996</p> <p>Morone: Chapter 13 – Employers and Health Care: A sick business</p>
Apr 23	Final Exam	

* Apr 16 and 21st course content depends on Student Presentations