

University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
HP808 Health Services and Policy
Fall 2008
Syllabus

Credits: 3 semester hours

Meeting Time: Wednesday, 5:15 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Prerequisites: None

Course Goal: To provide students with knowledge of the basic structure of the American health care system in terms of its key components and their interrelationships and to refine students' ability to identify health policy issues in terms of conflicts and underlying themes.

Course Learning Objectives:

- To understand the basic features and history of key health system components, including hospitals, physicians, allied health professionals, insurers, and government programs.
- To analyze the interests and perspectives of each component, the underlying conflicts between them, and the way each affects the health of the population.
- To understand the drivers of policy conflicts, including historical factors that have shaped major system components, and interrelationships between health care and other public policy concerns.
- To develop a framework for understanding and analyzing current issues, to apply the framework, and to articulate it verbally and in writing.

Course Format: Combination of lectures, discussions and student presentations.

Instructor: Robert I. Field, J.D., M.P.H., Ph.D.
Professor of Health Policy
215-596-7618
r.field@usip.edu

Course Requirements and Grading:

Attend class regularly and participate in discussion	10%
Paper (topic to be assigned) (due Nov. 12)	25%
Class presentation (article critique)	20%
Mid-term quiz	20%
Take-home final exam (handed out Dec. 3, due Dec. 10)	25%

Assignments:

Paper: Students must prepare an essay of 5 - 10 double-spaced pages in length that presents a proposition and supports it with analysis and research. Topic will be assigned. Papers that do receive a satisfactory grade must be revised and submitted as second and, if necessary, third drafts.

Take-home exam: The exam will cover material from class discussions and readings and will focus on analysis of material.

Class presentation: Students must select an article, other than one assigned for class reading, that is related to the week's topic, and present a description and critique of it. The presentation should last 20-30 minutes and include the use of slides or other visual aids. Examples of presentations will be given in the classes of Sept. 5 and Sept. 12. The article must be distributed to the class one week before the presentation. It must come from one of the following journals, unless prior approval is given. The journals are available through the USP library's electronic resources in the Ovid database. Many are also available in hard copy at the library. They are:

Health Affairs

Inquiry

Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)

Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law

Milbank Quarterly

New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)

Required Readings:

Starr, Paul, *The Social Transformation of American Medicine*. Basic Books, 1982.

Field, Robert, *Health Care Regulation in America: Complexity, Confrontation and Compromise*. Oxford University Press, 2007.

Kissick, William, *Medicine's Dilemmas: Infinite Needs Versus Finite Resources*. Yale University Press, 1994.

Articles and other materials as assigned. Most will be posted at angel.usp.edu.

Additional Resources:

AcademyHealth, *Glossary of Terms Commonly Used in Health Care*. Available online at

<http://www.academyhealth.org/publications/glossary.htm>

www.Kaiseredu.org.

www.healthpolicy.usp.edu.

Course Website: angel.usp.edu. Readings, syllabus, assignments, and announcements will be posted.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is at the center of the educational experience at USP. Students are, therefore, expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and not engage in nor tolerate academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, fabrication, cheating or plagiarism. Any violation of academic integrity will be investigated, and, where warranted, the student will receive appropriate sanctions through the University's Student Conduct Process. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the current USP Student Handbook. In particular, adherence to the Student Conduct Policy and Academic Integrity Policy will help to ensure that the learning experience is founded on integrity.

Students with Disabilities:

USP supports the educational endeavors of all students, including students with disabilities. The American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a disability as a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. If you believe you have a disability that may impact your ability to fulfill your course or degree requirements, and you would like more information on applying for an accommodation, please contact the Assistant Dean of Students who serves as the Student Disability Support Services (SDSS) Coordinator at 215-596-8950.

Writing Style Guide:

Papers should follow the citation format used by the journal *Health Affairs*. Examples are available at www.healthaffairs.org, and include the articles from *Health Affairs* assigned for the course.

Class Topics and Readings:

August 27

Topic: **Overview of the course and introduction to health policy**

Readings: Kissick, Chapter 1, pp. 1 – 10.
Starr, Book 1, Chapters 1, 2 (skim)

September 3

Topic: **Professionals – physicians, nurses, others**

Readings: Starr, Book 1, Chapters 3, pp.116-134, and Chapter 6, pp.198 - 232.
Field, Chapter 2, pp.19 – 36.

Lewenson, S. (1998) “Historical Overview: Policy, Politics, and Nursing,” in Diana Mason and Judith Leavitt, *Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care*. Philadelphia, PA: W.B. Saunders.

Salsberg, E.S. and Forte, G.J. (2002) “Trends in the Physician Workforce, 1980-2000.” *Health Affairs*, 21(5), pp.165-173.

September 10

Topic: **Institutional providers – hospitals and health systems**

Speaker: **Guy David, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Health Care Systems, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania**

Readings: Starr, Book 1, Chapter 4, pp.145 – 179.
Field, Chapter 3, pp .41 – 70.

Iglehart, J.K. (1993), “The American Health Care System – Community Hospitals.” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 329(5), pp.372-376.

Iglehart, J.K. (1993), “The American Health Care System – Teaching Hospitals.” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 329(14), pp.1052-1056.

September 17

Topic: **Private Payers**

Paper topic handed out

Readings: Starr, Book 2, Chapter 2, pp. 290 - 334.
Field, Chapter 4, pp. 74 – 80.

EBRI, “History of Health Insurance Benefits.” *Facts from EBRI*, available online at www.ebri.org

Blumenthal, D. (2006), "Employer-Sponsored Insurance –Riding the Health Care Tiger," *New England Journal of Medicine*, 355(2):195-202.

Enthoven, A.C. and Fuchs, V.R. (2006) "Employment-Based Health Insurance: Past, Present, and Future," *Health Affairs*, 25(6):1538-1555.

Shells, J. and Haught, R. (2004), "The Cost of Tax-Exempt Health Benefits in 2004," *Health Affairs - Web Exclusive*, 24 February 2004, WA - 106-112.

September 24

Topic: **Managed Care**

Readings: Starr, Book 2, Chapter 4, pp. 393 - 419.

Field, Chapter 4, pp.80 – 84.

Mays, G., et al (2004), "Managed Care Rebound? Recent Changes in Health Plans' Cost Containment Strategies," *Health Affairs – Web Exclusive*, Aug 11, 2004, W4 – 427-36.

Robinson, J.C. and Yeglan, J.M. (2004), "Medical Management after Managed Care," *Health Affairs - Web Exclusive*, May 19, 2004, WA - 269-280.

October 1

Topic: **Pharmaceuticals**

Speaker: **Harold Glass, Ph.D., Research Professor of Health Policy, USP**

Readings: Field, Chapter 5, pp. 114 – 136.

Carpenter, D.P. (2004) "The Political Economy of FDA Drug Review: Processing, Politics, and Lessons for Policy." *Health Affairs*, 23(1), pp.52-63.

Field, R.I. (2005). "Political Realities", chapter 9 in Smith, M.I., Wertheimer, A.I. and Fincham, J.E. (eds.) *Pharmacy and the U.S. Health Care System*. New York: Haworth Press, Inc.

Mathieu, M. (1994). *New Drug Development: A Regulatory Overview*, 3rd Rd. Waltham, MA: Parexel International Grp., Chapter 1.

Reinhardt, U.E. (2002). "Perspectives on the Pharmaceutical Industry." *Health Affairs*, 20(5), pp. 136-149.

October 8

Topic: Public Programs - Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP
Speaker: Richard Stefanacci, D.O., M.B.A., Associate Professor of Health Policy, USP

Readings: Starr, Book 2, Chapter 3, p.367 – 378.
Field, Chapter 4, pp. 89 – 109.

Rosenbaum, S. (2002), “Medicaid.” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 346(8), pp. 635-640.

Moon, M. (2001) “Health Policy 2001: Medicare,” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 344(12), pp.928-931, March 22, 2001.

Anderson, G.F. (2005) “Medicare and Chronic Conditions,” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 353(3), pp.305-309, July 21, 2005.

October 15

Topic: Public health infrastructure
Speaker: Stephen Metraux, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Health Policy, USP

Readings: Starr, Book 1, Chapter 5, pp. 180 – 197.
Field, Chapter 6, pp. 141 – 152.

CDC (1999). “Achievements in Public Health, 1900-1999: Changes in the Public Health System,” *MMWR*, 48(50), pp. 1141-7, Dec 24, 1999.

Gostin, L.O., et al (2004), “The Future of the Public’s Health: Vision, Values, and Strategies,” *Health Affairs*, 23(4), 96-107.

CDC and HRSA, Healthy People 2010, ch. 23, "Public Health Infrastructure."

Tilson, H. and Berkowitz, B. (2006), “The Public Health Enterprise: Examining Our Twenty-First Century Policy Challenges.” *Health Affairs*, 25(4), 900-910.

October 22

Topic: Policy tools – health economics, ethics and law
Mid-Term Quiz

Readings: Kass, N.E. (2004) “Public Health Ethics: From Foundations and Frameworks to Justice and Global Public Health.” *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*, 32(2), pp.232-242.

Rosenbaum, S. (2003) “The Impact of United States Law on Medicine as Profession.” *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 289(12), pp.1546-1555.

Gladwell, M. (2005) “The Moral Hazard Myth,” *The New Yorker*, Aug. 29, 2005.

Oberlander, J. (2008) “The Partisan Divide – The McCain and Obama Plans for U.S. Health Care Reform.” *The New England Journal of Medicine*, August 21, 2008, pp.781-784.

October 29

Topic: International perspective
Speaker: Harold Glass, Ph.D., Research Professor of Health Policy, USP
Readings: Kissick, Chapter 4, pp.33 – 47.

“The NHS Explained”,
<http://www.nhs.uk/england/aboutTheNHS/default.cmsx>.

Anderson, G. & Hussey, P. (2001), “Comparing Health System Performance in OECD Countries,” *Health Affairs*, 20(3), pp. 219-232.

Schoen, C., et al. (2006), “U.S. Health System Performance: A National Scorecard,” *Health Affairs*, Web Exclusive, pp. w457 – w475.

Igelhart, J.K. (2000) “Revisiting the Canadian Health Care System.” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 342(26), pp.2007-2012.

Stevens, S. (2004) “Reform Strategies for the English NHS.” *Health Affairs*, 23(3), pp.37-44.

White, C. (2007) “Health Care Spending Growth: How Different is the United States From the Rest of the OECD?” *Health Affairs*, 26(1), pp.154-161.

November 5

Topic: Politics
Speaker: Donald Zimmerman, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Business, USP
Readings: Kissick, Chapter 9, pp.101 – 117, and Chapter 12, pp.149 – 160.

Wissert, C.S. and Weissert, W.G. (2002), *Governing Health: The Politics of Health Policy*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, chapter 6, “The Policy Process”, pp.245–280.

Hacker, J.S. (2008). “Putting Politics First.” *Health Affairs*, 27(1):718-723.

Lake, C.C., Crittenden, R.A., and Mermin, D (2008). “Health Care in the 2008 Election: Engaging the Voters.” *Health Affairs*, 27(1):693-698.

Shapiro, R. (2003). “Premium Blend: Why is it so Difficult to Provide Universal Health Care?”, *Slate*, 15 May 2003, http://slate.msn.com/toolbar.aspx?action_print&id+2082988.

November 12

Topic:

Policy issues – access

Papers Due

Readings:

Davis, K. (2001), “Universal Coverage in the U.S.: Lessons from Experience of the 20th Century.” The Commonwealth Fund, Issue Brief #478. Available online at www.cmwf.org.

Lantz, P.M., Lichtenstein, R.L., and Pollack, H.A. (2007). “Health Policy Approaches to Population Health: The Limits of Medicalization.” *Health Affairs*, 26(5):1253-1257.

Miller, W., et al., "Covering the Uninsured: What is it Worth?" *Health Affairs - Web Exclusive*, March 31, 2004, W4 - 157-167.

November 19

Topic:

Policy issues – quality

Speaker:

Josh Goldstein, Staff Writer, The Philadelphia Inquirer

Readings:

Institute of Medicine (2000) “Executive Summary” in *To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System*, Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, pp.1-16.

Hebert, P.L., Sisk, J.E., and Howell, E.A. (2008). “When Does a Difference Become a Disparity? Conceptualizing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health.” *Health Affairs*, 27(2):374-382.

Newhouse, J. (2002) “Why Is There a Quality Chasm?” *Health Affairs*, 21(4), pp. 13-25.

Newbergh, C. (2006), "The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care" in Isaacs, S.L. and Knickman, J.R. (eds.) *To Improve Health and Health Care*, Volume X, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., pp.27 – 47.

November 26

No Class

December 3

Topic: Policy issues – cost

Take-home exam handed out

Readings: Starr, Book 2, Chapter 5, pp.420 – 449.

Woolhandler, S. and Himmelstein, D. (2002), "Paying for National Health Insurance--And Not Getting It," *Health Affairs*, 21(4), pp. 88-98.

Thorpe, K., et al (2004), "Which Medical Conditions Account for the Rise in Health Care Spending?" *Health Affairs – Web Exclusive*, Aug 25, 2004, W4 – 437-45.

Chernew, M.E., et al. (2003) "Increased Spending on Health Care: How Much Can the United States Afford?" *Health Affairs*, 22(4), pp.15-22.

Take-home exam due Dec. 10 by 5:00 p.m.