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Fall 2017

PUBH 8134 - Health Economics, Policy and the Political Process

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Recommended Citation

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Georgia Southern University
Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health
PUBH 8134 Health Economics, Policy and the Political Process
Fall 2017

<u>Instructor:</u>	Samuel Opoku
<u>Office:</u>	Hendricks Hall 2013
<u>Phone:</u>	(912) 478-6985
<u>E-Mail Address:</u>	sopoku@georgiasouthern.edu
<u>Office Hours:</u>	Tues & Thurs 8am-12pm or by appointment
<u>Class Meets:</u>	Aug 25, Sept 22, Oct 20 and Nov 17 Hendricks Hall 3001

-- Course schedules can be found at: <http://www.collegesource.org/displayinfo/catalink.asp> --

Prerequisites: None.

Catalog Description: Foundational economics and specific health economics theory, trends, market issues and applications are presented to include health insurance and payment theory, processes and applications. Evolutions of health policy, considering past current and future major legislation and executive directives, are explored within the political process.

Course Credit: This is a three-credit hour course.

Course Delivery Platform: As a Hybrid Course, we will meet weekly online (asynchronously) & in class face-to-face 4 Times during the semester from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm/noon on the following dates **Aug 25, Sept 22, Oct17 and Nov 17**

Required Textbook: Feldstein, Paul J. *Health Policy Issue: An Economic Perspective*, Sixth Edition. ISBN-13: 978-1567936964

Secondary Text: Additional reading will be available on Folio

Dr. P. H. Health Policy and Management Core Competencies: At the completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Apply how “systems thinking” can contribute to solving public health organizational problems
2. Describe the leadership skills for building partnerships in public health
3. Describe the trends in resource allocation, and financing and evaluate their effects on consumers, providers, and payers in public health
4. Define the economic, social, and legislative changes impact on public health systems in the U.S.
5. Apply population and individual ethical considerations in relation to benefit, cost and burden of public health programs
6. Describe the principles of health equity to public health leadership
7. Apply ethical decision-making and conduct in all aspects of public health practice
8. Advocate for programs and resources that advance the health of the population
9. Define the potential impacts of legal and regulatory laws and regulations on the conduct of public health research and practice.

Student Learning Objectives: At the completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain public policy in health and medical care from an economic perspective. (1 & 8)
2. Explain the basic economics model of supply and demand. (3)
3. Explain the goals of health in terms of quality access and cost. (6)
4. Describe the relevance of economics to health and to apply economic reasoning to better understand health related issues. (1&3)
5. Identify the values and assumptions underlying today’s health policy. (7 & 8)
6. Identify the consequences of the major social pathologies and their effects on health. (5 & 6)
7. Describe the development of the government’s role in medical care by improving access, quality, and cost to certain segments of the population. (8 & 9)
8. Describe the similarities and differences among health systems of other countries around the world. (1)
9. Define the process of health policy-making in the United States. (7 & 9)
10. Describe the mechanism of health in the United States within the broad social, political, and economic context. (5 & 7)
11. Describe “political competency” to analyze and influence the policy environment as a health professional. (2 & 4)

Overview of the Content to be covered During the Semester:

Week	Course Review	Readings	Assignment
14th-18th Aug	The Rise of Medical Expenditure	Chapter 1 Other readings posted in folio	Introduction
21st-25th Aug	Do More Medical Expenditures Produce Better Health In Whose Interest Does the Physician Act	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Group Work Topic Due (Discussion Board)
28th Aug- Sept 1st	Rationing Medical Services How Much Health Insurance Should Everyone Have	Chapter 5 Chapter 6	
4th - 8th Sept	Why Are Those Who Most Need Health Insurance Least Able to Buy it Medicare	Chapter 7 Chapter 8	
11th-15th Sept	Medicaid How Does Medicare Pay Physicians	Chapter 9 Chapter 10	
18th - 22nd Sept	The Impending Shortage of Physicians The Changing Practice of Medicine	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	
25th - 29th Sept	Recurrent Malpractice Crises Do Nonprofit Hospitals Behave Differently from For-Profit Hospitals	Chapter 13 Chapter 14	
2nd - 6th Oct	Competition Among Hospitals: Does It Raise or Lower Costs The Future Role of Hospitals	Chapter 15 Chapter 16	
9th - 13th Oct	MID TERM EXAM		
16th - 20th Oct	Cost Shifting	Chapter 17	Draft of Group Work

	Can Price Controls Limit Medical Expenditure Increases	Chapter 18	Paper Due
23rd - 27th Oct	Evolution of Managed Care Has Competition Been Tried to Improve the US Healthcare System	Chapter 19 Chapter 20	
30th Oct - 3rd Nov	US Competitiveness and Rising Healthcare Costs The High Price of Prescription Drugs	Chapter 22 Chapter 25	
6th - 10th Nov	Why Are Prescription Drugs Less Expensive Overseas The Pharmaceutical Industry	Chapter 27 Chapter 28	
13th - 17th Nov	The Canadian Healthcare System National Health Insurance	Chapter 32 Chapter 34	
20th - 24th Nov	THANKSGIVING BREAK		
27th Nov - 1st Dec	Financing Long-Term Care The Politics of Healthcare Reform	Chapter 35 Chapter 36	Group Work Paper Due
4th - 8th Dec	FINALS WEEK		

Instructional Methods: As a hybrid course much of the material for the course is located and will be taught and evaluated via online asynchronous methods from the web course platform. Four in class (face-to-face) meetings will be a combination of lecture, class discussion, group work and individual evaluation. Written assignments, presentation material, digital tools and aids, a mid – term exam and a group work constitute the basis of evaluation.

Class Participation: Class participation is an integral part of the learning process. Students will be expected to remain current with the readings, contribute to discussion of the week's topics, have completed the current week's assignments, ask questions, make comments, and agree/disagree with the professor. You must come to class prepared (read chapters and other readings for the week before class and do assignments), discuss issues, and review assignments.

Quizzes:

There is a quiz at the end of each module. The quiz will be from the assigned chapter (s) and other readings. The length of the quizzes vary and could include the following format: **multiple choice, true or false, matching, fill in the blank, short answer, and/or short essay**

Mid-Term Examination:

This exam is written and could include the following evaluation formats: **multiple choice, true or false, matching, fill in the blank, short answer, and/or short essay.**

Group Work:

You will be assigned to a group as part of this class. The group assignment description and expectations can be found in the Group Work document in folio

Grading Scale:

90-100%	=	A
80-89%	=	B
70-79%	=	C
60-69%	=	D
0-59%	=	F

Evaluation	Percent of Grade
Quizzes	30%
Midterm Exam	30%
Group Work	40%
Total	100%

For calculation of your final grade, all grades will be included.

All exams and assignments will be graded and posted on folio and returned promptly so that students may accurately calculate their grades at any point in time during the semester.

There are times when extraordinary circumstances occur (e.g., serious illness, death in the family, etc.). In such circumstances, and/or if you need additional time to satisfactorily complete any course requirement, please consult with the instructor within a reasonable amount of time. *Nota Bene:* Extensions are not guaranteed and will be granted solely at the discretion of the instructor.

NO EXTRA CREDIT PROJECTS WILL BE ASSIGNED!

Academic Misconduct: As a student registered at this University, it is expected that you

will adhere to only the strictest standards of conduct. It is recommended that you review the latest edition of the *Student Conduct Code* book, as well as the latest *Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog* to familiarize yourself with the University's policies in this regard. Your continued enrollment in this course is an implied contract between you and the instructor on this issue; from this point forward, it is assumed that you will conduct yourself appropriately.

Academic integrity relates to the appropriate use of intellectual property. The syllabus, lecture notes, and all materials presented and/or distributed during this course are protected by copyright law. Students are authorized to take notes in class, but that authorization extends only to making one set of notes for personal (and no other) use. As such, students are not authorized to sell, license, commercially publish, distribute, transmit, display, or record notes in or from class without the express written permission of the instructor.

Academic Handbook: Students are expected to abide by the Academic Handbook, located at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/sta/guide/>. Your failure to comply with any part of this Handbook may be a violation and thus, you may receive an F in the course and/or be referred for disciplinary action.

University Calendar for the Semester:

The University Calendar is located with the semester schedule, and can be found at: <http://www.collegesource.org/displayinfo/catalink.asp>.

Attendance Policy:

Federal regulations require attendance be verified prior to distribution of financial aid allotments. Attendance will not be recorded after this initial period.

One Final Note:

The contents of this syllabus are as complete and accurate as possible. The instructor reserves the right to make any changes necessary to the syllabus and course material. The instructor will make every effort to inform students of changes as they occur. It is the responsibility of the student to know what changes have been made in order to successfully complete the requirements of the course.

Turn it in Disclaimer

Georgia Southern University Instructors may utilize a plagiarism prevention technology in some of their course sections. Students may have the option of submitting papers online through a plagiarism prevention service or of allowing the instructor to submit hard copies of their papers.

**ALL COURSE INFORMATION AND MATERIAL REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF
THIS COURSE AND CANNOT BE UTILIZED IN ANY FORM WITHOUT THE
EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSON OF THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR.**