HSPM 7135-A: Public Health Policy Development & Evaluation

Ho-Jui Tung
Georgia Southern University  
Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health  

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Fall 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor:</th>
<th>Ho-Jui Tung, PhD.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office:</td>
<td>Hendricks Hall, Room 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>(912) 478-1342</td>
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<td>E-mail Address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:htung@georgiasouthern.edu">htung@georgiasouthern.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30AM-12:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Meets:</td>
<td>Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30pm – 4:45pm, August 19, 2019 – December 6, 2019, in Hendricks Building Room 3001 and Room 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course Catalog available at:  
http://em.georgiasouthern.edu/registrar/resources/catalogs  
under Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Programs

Prerequisites: N/A

FOLIO address: http://my.georgiasouthern.edu

Course Description: This course introduces students to health policy development, analysis and management by examining issues in the health sector. It fosters an appreciation of the complexity of policy problems and provides the basic tools used in public health policy design, implementation and evaluation.

Textbooks:  


MPH Core Student Learning Outcomes (CORE)

Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health  
1. Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice  
2. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
3. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
4. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice

Public Health & Health Care Systems
5. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
6. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels

Planning & Management to Promote Health
7. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities’ health
8. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs
9. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention
10. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
11. Select methods to evaluate public health programs

Policy in Public Health
12. Demonstrate proficiency and effectiveness in the communication of core public health principles and practices, both oral and written.
13. Demonstrate proficiency in the integration of the core public health disciplines (Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health, Health Policy/Management, and Social/Behavioral Science) in practice and research.
14. Demonstrate proficiency in problem solving, critical thinking, and public health leadership.
15. Evaluate policies for their impacts on public health and health equity

Leadership
16. Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making
17. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges

Communication
18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
19. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
20. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content

Inter-professional Practice
21. Perform effectively on inter-professional teams

Systems Thinking
22. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue

Performance-Based Objectives Linked to Course Activities (Note: Assessment Activities
Course Objectives. Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Exploring controversies in public health and health care policy
2. Explain US health policy systems and policymaking process.
3. Explain the development of public health policy.
4. Understand how health care is organized, delivered, and financed in the US.
5. Apply skills for the development and evaluation of public health policy.
6. Demonstrate a policy development process, including problem definition, identification and analysis of alternatives, selection of policy alternative, and effective communication of results.
7. Explain basic program evaluation designs.
8. Apply theories mostly from microeconomics to evaluate health policies and programs.
9. Apply various statistical (quantitative) tools to evaluate health policies and programs.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Instructional Methods: This course focuses on providing practical skills and knowledge to understand public health policies through health issues and the organization, financing, and delivery of health care in the United States. Instructional methods include lectures, readings, and assignments aimed at developing policy evaluation skills and experience.

Homework Assignments: This course includes 3 homework assignments involving different aspects. All homework assignments are to be submitted via Folio and must include the student’s name and proper citations. Assignments are graded on how well the student meets the requirements of the assignment, creativity, and quality of writing.

Exams: The course includes 2 exams, which will use a mixed format of questions (multiple choice, short answer, short essay, etc.)

Class Attendance and Participation Policy

Federal regulations require attendance be verified prior to distribution of financial aid allotments. Regular attendance is expected. However, attendance will not officially be recorded after the first class period. Grades correlate highly with attendance.

Make-Up Policy: Late assignments will not be accepted. If you are aware ahead of time that you will be missing a class when an assignment is due, it is your responsibility to notify the professor and turn in the assignment on time. Electronic submission is acceptable or required in some cases. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
**Student Assessment:** Assessments are linked to the learning objectives for this class. Each assessment below is linked to the learning objectives on pages 1 and 2 of this syllabus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (3, each worth 15%)</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>1 - 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2, each worth 25%)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1 - 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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The following point scale will be utilized in grading:

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

**Readings:** All readings will be provided via Folio or in class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 1: Public Health Policy and controversies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug. 20 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>The role and scope of Health Policy and why it is controversial</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug. 27 &amp; 29</td>
<td>Health and Health Care</td>
<td>The Determinants of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sep. 3 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Basics of Health Policy making</td>
<td>Policymaking process and US health care system</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sep. 10 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Immunization and infectious diseases</td>
<td>The externalities of Public health policies</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sep. 17 &amp; 19</td>
<td>Public Health policy from the governments</td>
<td>The Achievement of Public Health</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sep. 24 &amp; 26</td>
<td>Individual rights and health care</td>
<td>Is Access to health care a right?</td>
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<td><strong>Assignment 1 due on Sep. 26</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section 2: Health policy and Health Care</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 1 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Financing Health care</td>
<td>The Basics of health insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 8 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Health economics in Health policy</td>
<td>Some of the basics in health economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct. 15 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Health Care Reform</td>
<td>The Affordable Care Act and history of US health care reform</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oct. 22 &amp; 24</td>
<td>Health care Reform</td>
<td>The Affordable Care Act and history of US health care reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oct. 29 &amp; 31</td>
<td>Delivery of Health Care</td>
<td>Medical profession and Organization of health care</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 5 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Medicare and long-term care</td>
<td>Public insurance program for the old</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Oct. 29 &amp; 31</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical policy</td>
<td>Marketing and rising cost of prescription drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section 3: Evaluation Study Design and Statistics</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov. 19 &amp; 21</td>
<td>Evaluation study designs and type of variables</td>
<td>Experimental and quasi-experimental design and level of measurement</td>
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### 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.

**Plagiarism:**

"According to the Academic Dishonesty Policy of GSU, Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to):

A. Directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them.

B. Using published or unpublished sources of information without identifying them.

C. Paraphrasing material or ideas without identifying the source.

D. Unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic material.

If you are accused of plagiarism by a JPHCOPH member, the following policy, as per the Judicial Affairs website ([http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/judicial/faculty.htm](http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/judicial/faculty.htm)) will be enforced:

**PROCEDURES FOR ADJUDICATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY CASES**

**First Offense - In Violation Plea**
1. If the professor and the Dean of Students agree that the evidence is sufficient to warrant a charge of academic dishonesty, the professor should contact the Office of Judicial Affairs to determine if this is a first violation of academic dishonesty. The incident will be reported via the following website: http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/judicial/faculty.htm

2. If it is a first violation, the professor should talk with the student about the violation. **If the student accepts responsibility in writing and the professor decides to adjudicate the case, the following procedures will be followed:**

   a. The student will be placed on disciplinary probation for a minimum of one semester by the Office of Judicial Affairs.

   b. The student will be subject to any academic sanctions imposed by the professor *(from receiving a 0 on the assignment to receiving a failing grade in the class).*

   c. A copy of all the material involved in the case (Academic Dishonesty Report Form and the Request for Instructor to Adjudicate Form) and a brief statement from the professor concerning the facts of the case and the course syllabus should be mailed to the Office of Judicial Affairs for inclusion in the student’s discipline record.

**First Offense - Not In Violation Plea (student does not admit the violation)**

If the professor and the Dean of Students agree that the evidence is sufficient to warrant a charge of academic dishonesty, the professor should contact the Office of Judicial Affairs to determine if this is the first or second violation of academic dishonesty. The student will be charged with academic dishonesty and the University Judicial Board or a University Hearing Officer would hear the case. If the student is found responsible, the following penalty will normally be imposed:

   a. The student will be placed on Disciplinary Probation for a minimum of one semester by the Office of Judicial Affairs.

   b. The student will be subject to any academic sanctions imposed by the professor.

**Second Violation of Academic Dishonesty**

If the professor and the Dean of Students agree that the evidence is sufficient to warrant a charge of academic dishonesty, and if it is determined this is the second violation, the student will be charged with academic dishonesty and the University Judicial Board or a University Hearing Officer would hear the case.

**If the student is found responsible, the following penalty will normally be imposed:**

   a. Suspension for a minimum of one semester or expulsion.
b. The student will be subject to any academic sanctions imposed by the professor.

**NOT RESPONSIBLE FINDING**

When a student is found not responsible of academic dishonesty, the work in question (assignment, paper, test, etc.) would be forwarded to the Discipline Coordinator. It is the responsibility of the Discipline Coordinator to ensure that the work is evaluated by a faculty member other than the individual who brought the charge and, if necessary, submit a final grade to the Registrar. For the protection of the faculty member and the student, the work in question should not be referred back to the faculty member who charged the student with academic dishonesty.

In the case of a Discipline Coordinator bringing charges against a student, an administrator at the Dean’s level will ensure that the student’s work is evaluated in an appropriate manner.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

In accordance with provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and the Georgia Open Records Act, any information related to a violation of academic dishonesty or the outcome of a judicial hearing regarding academic dishonesty, is prohibited and must be treated as confidential by members of the faculty.”

**Academic Handbook**

Students are expected to abide by the Academic Handbook, located at [http://admissions.georgiasouthern.edu/pdf/orientation/documents/Eagle%20Eye/EagleEye.pdf](http://admissions.georgiasouthern.edu/pdf/orientation/documents/Eagle%20Eye/EagleEye.pdf) 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://students.georgiasouthern.edu/registrar/resources/calendars](http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/registrar/resources/calendars)

**Class Etiquette**: Please silence all cell phones during any class meetings since ring tones are disruptive to others.

**Portfolio Inclusion**

Samples of your work may be reproduced for search purposes and/or inclusion in the professor’s teaching portfolio. You have the right to review anything selected for use, and subsequently ask for its removal.

**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 announce any such changes in class. It is the responsibility of the student to know what changes have been made in order to successfully complete the requirements of the course.