Fall 2017

HSPM 7338 - Contemporary Issues in Healthcare

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**Instructor:** Dr. Linda Kimsey  
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**Phone:** 478-2008  
**E-Mail Address:** lkimsey@georgiasouthern.edu  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday 1:00 to 4:00 pm & Thursday 3:00 to 5:00 pm  
**Class Meets:** Monday & Wednesday 4:00 – 5:15 PM 14 Aug – 7 Dec 2017  
Hendricks Hall Room 3001  
*(NOV 15 - IT Bldg Room 1206)*

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the MHA Program

**Catalog Description:** Course examines multiple issues that are important for health care administrators’ understanding. Topics include insurance, professional development, healthcare reform proposals, scenario planning, environmental health, healthcare construction, physician relationships, and infection control. The goal of this course is to provide basic coverage of the numerous issues facing healthcare administrators in today’s environment and to provide guidance on professional development in preparation for entering and succeeding in the field of healthcare administration.

**Required Textbooks:**


**JPHCOPH (College Level) Student Learning Outcomes:** At the completion of the M.H.A. degree program all students will be able to understand and apply concepts concerning:

1. Demonstrate proficiency and effectiveness in the communication of core public health principles and practices, both oral and written.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in the integration of the core public health disciplines (Biostats, Epid, Env Health, Hlth Policy/Mgt, & Social/Behav Sc) in practice & research.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in problem solving, critical thinking, and public health leadership.

**Health Policy and Management (Departmental Level) Student Learning Outcomes:** At the completion of the M.H.A. degree program all students will be able to understand and apply concepts concerning:

I. Analyze and evaluate the financial management of health organizations including structuring, marketing, and governance.
II. Evaluate the management of change in health organizations.
III. Conduct and interpret relevant health administration research using appropriate research designs and analytic techniques.
IV. Communicate health services administration principles and concepts to lay and professional audiences through both oral and written communication.

**Program Competencies:** At the completion of the M.H.A. degree program all students will be able to: (Domains are listed first. Competencies under each domain follow. Established in 2015.)

I. **COMPETENCY DOMAINS**

A. **Measurement and Analysis**
   - Measurement: Identify information needs, and gather and understand relevant data information in order to define a problem, to assess a situation, or to implement a set of metrics.
   - Analysis: Organize, manipulate and use information to assess performance, to identify alternative courses of action, to investigate hypotheses, or to accomplish other strategic goals.

B. **Communication**
   - Receive and convey information in ways that encourage continued dialogue among stakeholders. Effective communication involves strong written and oral transmission skills, responsive listening, and use of creative strategies for exchanging information.

C. **Leadership**
   - Influence others to reach their highest level of effectiveness in achieving common goals, both as individuals and in teams. Establish direction and engage various constituencies to produce a shared vision of the future, motivating and committing them to action, and making them responsible for their performance.

D. **Law and Ethics**
   - Establish high ethical standards, create a culture of shared ethical values and legal understanding, and transform those ideals into visions and expected behaviors.

E. **Professional Development**
   - Required to excel professionally throughout one’s career and to make meaningful contributions to the field.
II. COMPETENCIES BY DOMAINS

Domain 1: Measurement and Analysis

Measurement:
A.1 Identify appropriate sources and gather information, effectively and efficiently.
A.2 Appraise literature and data critically.
A.3 Develop, understand and use data from performance, surveillance or monitoring systems.

Analysis:
A.4 Financial analysis: Understand and explain financial and statement; prepare and manage budgets; and make sound long-term investment decisions.
A.5 Statistical analysis: Understand and apply basic statistical methods relevant to public health practice.
A.6 Policy analysis: Understand the policy-making process and the role of politics; assess a problem and identify and compare potential policy solutions; and understand and critically assess methods to evaluate policy impact.
A.7 Economic analysis: Use basic microeconomic theory to understand how the incentives of consumers, providers, and payers affect behaviors, costs, and other outcomes; understand and apply basic econometric tools for the empirical study of issues in health economics.
A.8 Operational analysis: Analyze, design, or improve an organizational process, including the use of quality management, process improvement, marketing and information technology principles and tools.
A.9 Population health assessment: Understand and apply basic epidemiologic principles, measures, and methods to assess the health status of a population; identify risk factors in individuals and communities; evaluate the impact of population-based interventions and initiatives.
A.10 Decision Making: Implement a decision-making process that incorporates evidence from a broad analysis that includes uncertainty, risk, stakeholders, and organizational values.

Domain 2: Communication

B.1 Convey: Speak and write in a clear, logical, and grammatical manner in formal and informal situations; prepare cogent business presentations; facilitate an effective group process.
B.2 Listen: Receive, process, and respond appropriately to information conveyed by others.
B.3 Interact: Perceive and respond appropriately to the spoken, unspoken, or partly expressed thoughts, feelings, and concerns of others.
Domain 3: Leadership
C.1 Organizational Vision: Through effective governance, establish an organization’s values, vision, and mission; systematically enhance performance and human material and knowledge resources.
C.2 Strategic Orientation: Analyze the business, demographic, ethno-cultural, political, and regulatory implications of decisions and develop strategies that continually improve the long-term success and viability of the organization.
C.3 Accountability: Hold self and others accountable to standards of performance; encourage commitment to the long-term good of the organization.
C.4 Change Leadership: Energize stakeholders and sustain their commitment to the organization while adapting to changes in the environment.
C.5 Collaboration: Work collaboratively with others as part of a team or group, demonstrating commitment to the team’s goal and encouraging individuals to put forth their best effort.
C.6 Organizational awareness: Understand and learn from governance structures, formal and informal decision making structures, and power relationships in an organization, industry, or community.

Domain 4: Law and Ethics
D.1 Use legal reasoning as a tool for analysis, communication, strategy and planning.
D.2 Behave ethically and promote standards of ethical behavior throughout organizations and professional communities.
D.3 Develop an understanding of healthcare state and federal legislation as it affects healthcare organizations.

Domain 5: Professional Development
Self-Awareness:
E.1 Actively seek feedback from others, reflecting and learning from successes and failures.
E.2 Develop an accurate view of own strengths and developmental needs, including the impact one has on others.

Self-Development:
E.3 Continuously push self to raise personal standards of performance and exceed expectations.
E.4 Address knowledge, skills, and other developmental gaps through reflective, self-directed learning, and by trying new approaches.
E.5 Establish, build, and sustain a career plan for professional development.
**Learning Objectives**: At the completion of this course the student will:

1. Understand the basic concepts of health insurance and the primary avenues for attaining insurance in the U.S. (A6, D3)
2. Understand the fundamental issues that are driving current legislative proposals for healthcare reform (A6)
3. Create and present a Scenario Plan for a healthcare organization (C6, B1, B3)
4. Describe the various accreditation bodies and functions associated with healthcare organizations and understand how they affect the provision of healthcare (C3, C6)
5. Gain familiarity with numerous issues that affect healthcare organizations, including environmental health, patient safety, infection control, construction management, and physician relationships (C6)
6. Develop a professional resume and cover letter (B1, E1, E2, E5)
7. Create and present an initial personal career plan based on individual assessment of personal readiness for the job market (B1, B2, B3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5)

**Overview of the Content to be Covered During the Semester**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>14-Aug-17 16-Aug-17 Introduction &amp; Insurance Overview Ins. Demand &amp; Adverse Selection</td>
<td>Chapter 2 Chapters 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>21-Aug-17 23-Aug-17 Insurance - Medicare Insurance - Medicaid</td>
<td>Chapter 23 Chapter 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>28-Aug-17 30-Aug-17 Insurance – HSAs Insurance – ACA &amp; Exchanges</td>
<td>Chapter 17 Chapters 3 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Insurance Shopping Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4-Sep-17 6-Sep-17 Labor Day Exam &amp; Begin Perusall Book</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>11-Sep-17 13-Sep-17 Single Payer vs. Market Solutions Kotlikoff (on Perusall)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Perusall Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>18-Sep-17 20-Sep-17 Single Payer vs. Market Solutions Emotional Intelligence Kotlikoff &amp; News Pollett</td>
<td></td>
<td>Infographic due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>25-Sep-17 27-Sep-17 Workforce Development (Mase) Workforce Development (Mase)</td>
<td>Material will be distributed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7-11 Oct 17</td>
<td>Scenario Planning</td>
<td>Schwartz &amp; Articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>16-20 Oct 17</td>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>Afriyie-Gyawu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>26-30 Oct 17</td>
<td>Infection Control</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2-6 Nov 17</td>
<td>Physician Relationships</td>
<td>Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>12-16 Nov 17</td>
<td>State Representative</td>
<td>Stephens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>18-22 Nov 17</td>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>Stephens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>23-27 Nov 17</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>OFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>28-30 Nov 17</td>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>Stephens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1-4 Dec 17</td>
<td>Final Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Class in IT Building 1206

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.
**Instructional Methods:** Class meetings will be a combination of lecture, class discussion, and guest lecturers. Written homework assignments and examinations constitute the basis of student 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 chapter and other readings for the week before class and do assignments), discuss issues, and review assignments.

**Final Examination:** Final Examination/Presentation: **December 6, 2017 5:30 PM**

**Student Assessment:** Assessments are linked to learning objectives for this class. Each assessment below is linked to the learning objectives (LO1-7) listed above. Weighting of assignments of grading will be as follows:

- Exam 1 – Insurance  LO 1  15%
- Health Insurance Shopping Exercise  LO 1  10%
- Perusall Book Discussion  LO 2  10%
- Healthcare Reform Proposal Infographic  LO 2  10%
- Scenario Plan (Group Assignment)  LO 3  10%
- Exam 2 – Environmental Health  LO 4  10%
- Exam 3 – Miscellaneous Current Topics  LO 4,5  10%
- Resume & Cover Letter  LO 6.7  15%
- Final Individual Career Presentation  LO 6,7  10%

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

Your grades **will not** be posted. All exams and assignments will be graded 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, consult with the professor as soon as possible. If you need additional time to satisfactorily complete any course requirement, consult with the professor a **minimum of 48 hours** prior to due date. Extensions are **not** guaranteed and are at the discretion of the professor.
NO EXTRA CREDIT PROJECTS WILL BE ASSIGNED.

**Academic Misconduct:** As a student registered at this University, you are expected to adhere to the strictest standards of conduct. 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 professor 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/](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:** The University Calendar is located with the semester schedule, and can be found at: [http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/graduate/general-information/university-calendars/](http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/graduate/general-information/university-calendars/).

**Attendance Policy:** Federal regulations require attendance be verified prior to distribution of financial aid allotments. Attendance will be recorded for each class. Chronic attendance problems (missing two or more classes) may lead to a reduction in your grade. Students are expected to attend every class.

**One Final Note:** The contents of this syllabus are as complete and accurate as possible. The professor reserves the right to make any changes necessary to the syllabus and course material. The professor 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.