University of Florida
College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus
HSA6114: U.S. Health Care System (3 Credits)
Fall 2019
Delivery Format: On-Campus
UF e-Learning: http://elearning.ufl.edu/

Instructor Name: David Guzick, M.D., Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Tuesday 8:30am-11:00am, CTSI Room 3217 by appointment.

Teaching Assistant: Samantha Larson, MPH
Email Address: samantha.larson@ufl.edu

Class Schedule: **Monday: Communicore CG-11 1:55pm-3:50pm**
Wednesday: HPNP G301 1:55pm-2:45pm

Preferred Course Communications (e.g. email, office phone): For content related questions, please contact Dr. Guzick via Outlook email. For all administrative or technical questions, please contact Sam via Outlook email.

Email Policy: Response within 24 hours to emails received on weekdays and 48 hours to emails received on the weekend. Communicate through Outlook, not Canvas.

Prerequisites
Instructor Consent.

PURPOSE AND OUTCOME

Course Overview

This course provides a descriptive and analytic overview of the economic underpinnings, historical roots, and current operation of the US health care industry. International comparisons and analysis of alternative proposals for reform or fundamental restructuring are also considered at the end of the course. Throughout, small group, peer-to-peer learning will be emphasized alongside specific content presented at lectures and in readings.

Course Objectives and/or Goals

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to,

1. Describe the economic underpinnings of the US health care industry. Explain the assumptions underlying the theory of competitive markets, where these assumptions do and do not hold for health care, and their implications for care, cost and access.
2. Summarize the historical roots of the US health care industry, especially the role of various stakeholders (physicians, hospitals, drug companies, and insurance companies) in influencing legislation and otherwise shaping the structural elements of our current system, especially claims-based health insurance
3. Understand the impact and operation of key health care entities forged by legislation in the last half century: Medicare and Medicaid in 1965 and the Affordable Care Act in 2010.

4. Describe the current status of US health care in terms of care (safety and quality; evidence based practice), cost (price, utilization, cost-effectiveness) and equity in access (uninsured and underinsured).
5. Describe international comparisons of the U.S. and other high-income nations in terms of structure, cost and outcomes.
6. Summarize the pros and cons of various proposals for reform of specific elements of the industry, as well as the pros and cons of proposals for fundamental restructure.

Instructional Methods
Readings, lectures, and small-group learning exercises are the primary learning tools. The benefits that you receive from this course are directly related to your class preparation and participation---in other words, to the effort that you put into the course.

What is expected of you?

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. You must come to class prepared by completing all out-of-class assignments. This preparation gives you the knowledge or practice needed to engage in higher levels of learning during the live class sessions. If you are not prepared for the face-to-face sessions, you may struggle to keep pace with the activities occurring in the live sessions, and it is unlikely that you will reach the higher learning goals of the course. Similarly, you are expected to actively participate in the live classes, especially the small-group sessions. Your participation fosters a rich course experience for you and your peers that facilitates overall mastery of the course objectives.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

Course Schedule

Session	Date	Format	Topic(s)
1	8/21/19	Lecture	Introduction and Overview
2	8/26/19	Small Groups	Using Public Databases to Characterize U.S. Health Care
3	8/28/19	Lecture	Health Care Markets
4	9/02/19	No Class	Labor Day
5	9/04/19	Lecture	Imperfections in Health Care Markets and Their Implications
6	9/09/19	Small Groups	Health Care Variation: Dartmouth Atlas
7	9/11/19	Lecture	Inequality of Income, Wealth and Health
8	9/16/19	Small Groups	Social and Behavioral Determinants of Health
9	9/18/19	Lecture	Historical Roots of the U.S. Health Care Industry: 1900 – 1965
10	9/23/19	Small Groups	Theory and Practice of Health Insurance
11	9/25/19	Lecture	Medicare
12	9/30/19	Small Groups	Health Care Law: Case Studies
13	10/02/19	Lecture	Medicaid
14	10/07/19	Interactive	Question and Answer session for material to date
15	10/09/19	Lecture	Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
16	10/14/19	Small Groups	The Uninsured and Underinsured
17	10/16/19	Lecture	Medicare Advantage: Case Study
18	10/21/19	Small Groups	Levels of Evidence in the Medical Literature
19	10/23/19	Lecture	Evidence-Based Practice
20	10/28/19	Small Groups	Safety and Quality
21	10/30/19	Lecture	Cost-Benefit, Cost-Effectiveness and Cost-Utility Analysis (CUA)

22	11/04/19	Small Groups	Politics of CUA; Case Study of CUA
23	11/06/19	Lecture	Growth in Health Care Expenditures (HCE): Utilization
24	11/11/19	No Class	Veterans' Day
25	11/13/19	Lecture	Growth in HCE: Price–Pharmaceuticals
26	11/18/19	Small Groups	Growth in HCE: Price–Admin, Insurers,, Doctors, Hospitals
27	11/20/19	Lecture	Inequality of Access
28	11/25/19	Small Groups	International Comparisons
29	11/27/19	No Class	Thanksgiving
30	12/02/19	Small Groups	The Future of U.S. Health Care: Reform or Radical Restructuring
31	12/04/19	Interactive	Q &A; Concluding Thoughts
32	12/09/19	Individual	Final Exam

Course Materials and Technology
There is no required textbook for this course. Rather, numerous textbook chapters, commentaries and manuscripts will be provided for **required** review in advance of both lecture and small group sessions. These materials will be available on the course Canvas page one week ahead of the topic's discussion.

We will be using the Top Hat platform throughout the course for numerous activities and assignments, including class attendance. Students are **required** to create a profile at www.tophat.com. Once a profile has been created, student will join the course page with the code **809664**. For Top Hat technical support, please consult the help features on the website (live chat, email, etc.).

Announcements: Any class announcements will be sent via the announcements tool in eLearning. Depending on your Canvas notification settings, you may or may not be notified via email; you are responsible for all information in these announcements whether or not you see them in your email.

Technical Requirements: Browser requirements may change; please consult https://kb.helpdesk.ufl.edu/FAQs/SupportedBrowsersForUFWebsites to see a list of supported browsers and recommendations for browser configuration.

For **technical support for the course eLearning site, activities, and assessments**, please contact: Truly Hardemon, MEd
Room Number: HPNP 4173 Phone Number: 352-273-5822
Email Address: hardemont@ufl.edu
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM EST.

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:
- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Assignments and Exam

Small Group Presentations/Assignments (25% of final grade): As part of the small group sessions, groups will have a number of presentations and assignments that must be completed during the in-class session. There will be two topics per session. Each group will work on the first topic for 40 minutes, followed by presentations by two of the groups. After a short break, the process will be repeated for the second topic. For several sessions, students will be asked to submit their individual efforts in addressing a specific topic in advance of the group session (see 'Individual Assignments' below).

Individual Assignments (24% of final grade): Students will be asked to complete a number of individual assignments that will be submitted via Canvas **prior** to small group sessions.

Peer Evaluations (15%): At the conclusion of the course, students will complete a required peer evaluation for fellow small group members.

Systems Thinking Special Project (1%): Students will be required to complete causal loop analysis of the positive and negative feedback processes involved in the interface between health and the health system, focusing on an example such as health status for a type 2 diabetic, being uninsured, delaying care, use of primary care vs Emergency Department care, and behavioral and social determinants. Each student will be required to submit two pages: one including a list of bullets on the "negative" and "positive" loops and one with a causal loop diagram. Further details on this project, including its final due date, will be provided throughout the semester.

Final Exam (20%)**:** This course has one final exam. The date is given on the course schedule. The final exam will cover the course materials, lectures, assigned readings, textbooks.

Grading

Percentage of Final Grade	Requirement
15%	Attendance (Lecture and Small Group Sessions)
15%	Evaluations
24%	Small Group Presentations
24%	Individual Assignments
2%	Systems Thinking Assignment
20%	Final Exam

Point system used (i.e., how do course points translate into letter grades).

Example:

Points earned	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	Below 60
Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. The GPA for graduate students must be 3.0 based on 5000 level courses and above to graduate. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if based on credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher that have been earned with a B+ or higher.

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades

Exam Policy

Policy Related to Make up Exams or Other Work

Please note: Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the UF Computing help desk (http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/) correspondence. You MUST e-mail me within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Policy Related to Required Class Attendance

Students are **required** to attend all lecture and small group sessions unless extreme circumstances make attendance impossible. Any class absences must be approved by the instructor beforehand. Attendance will be taken via **Top Hat** at the start of each class session. If any student experiences difficulty in submitting their attendance via Top Hat, it is the student's responsibility to see Sam **in-person at the conclusion of class, that same day,** so she can mark attendance. Email or in-person notification of Top Hat technical difficulty at any other time following the class period in question will **not** be accepted. Please note, students are responsible for all course material regardless of attendance.

Please note all faculty are bound by the UF policy for excused absences.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

Students are expected to arrive for class on time, and be prepared and ready to participate in class discussions. Students are required to silence all cell phones and close all laptop computers during class unless they are to be used to support directed class activities. Use of electronics during class will **not** be tolerated. In order to accommodate, class lecture materials will be available via Canvas in advance so students can print and/or review prior to class.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

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

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

 "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/ http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

Policy Related to Guests Attending Class:

Only registered students are permitted to attend class. However, we recognize that students who are caretakers may face occasional unexpected challenges creating attendance barriers. Therefore, by exception, a department chair or his or her designee (e.g., instructors) may grant a student permission to bring a guest(s) for a total of two class sessions per semester. This is two sessions total across all courses. No further extensions will be granted. Students are responsible for course material regardless of attendance. For additional information, please review the Classroom Guests of Students policy in its entirety. Link to full policy: http://facstaff.phhp.ufl.edu/services/resourceguide/getstarted.htm

SUPPORT SERVICES

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office http://www.dso.ufl.edu within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health
Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.
- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu. On line and in person assistance is available.
- You Matter We Care website: http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The Student Health Care Center at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: https://shcc.ufl.edu/
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:
  Alachua County Crisis Center:
  (352) 264-6789
  http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Inclusive Learning Environment
Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu