Instructor Name: Keith J. Benson, PhD, MHA, MBA  
Room Number: HPNP 3106  
Phone Number: 352-273-6069  
Email Address: keithbenson@phhp.ufl.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30-11:30am zoom/in-person or by appointment  
Preferred Course Communications: Email

Textbooks: None, however additional readings will be assigned.  
Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor

PURPOSE AND OUTCOME:

Course Overview
Analysis of cases dealing with administrative and policy issues in health services. Emphasizes problem-solving in ill-defined, multi-faceted situations. Students will be able to transition classroom learning into practice through the application of knowledge, skills, and competencies by both leading and participating on consulting projects to address a current healthcare project, process, or problem. Specifically, students will identify key issues through conducting quantitative and qualitative analyses and will work collaboratively to develop, propose, and present solutions that will improve organizational performance.

Course Objectives and/or Goals
Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Conduct analyses of cases relating to the US Healthcare System
2. Propose and present solutions to cases relating to the US Healthcare System
3. Use and apply MHA Competencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Learning Activity</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Large group presentation and discussion on project planning and formal/informal power structures and classroom exercise on identifying formal/informal power structures</td>
<td>In-class team-based project synopsis discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Large group presentation on identifying stakeholders and a case study/team-based analysis on identifying key stakeholders</td>
<td>In-class team-based project synopsis discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Team-based work and presentation of the project synopsis and impact analysis (identifying the key stakeholders)</td>
<td>Project work plan presentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1
2.0 Develop probing/powerful questions that elucidate and highlight the business opportunity and the potential pitfalls

Classroom exercises and problem and questions presentation

2.1 Class-based/interactive discussion on identifying information sources in different healthcare settings

Classroom exercises and project work plan presentation

2.2 Large group presentation and discussion on qualitative and quantitative information

Classroom exercise, problem, and questions and project work plan presentations

2.3 Class-based discussion on using data to support your assertions

Project work plan and analysis presentations

2.4 Classroom exercise on identifying the problem with changing or unclear variables

Classroom exercise and final presentation

3.0 Team meetings and facilitated classroom discussions

Course instructor evaluations

3.1 Classroom exercise and peer presentations and feedback

Final presentation to peers (peer evaluations) and final presentation to stakeholders (preceptor evaluation)

3.2 Accumulation of the classroom activities, peer presentations and working with the identified project stakeholders

Recommendations, solutions, executive summary and presentations

4.0 Leadership and followership experiences

Project updates/presentations

4.1 Classroom exercises and presentations

Peer and instructor feedback

4.2 Team-based work and presentation of consulting projects

Evaluations and final presentation

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**Instructional Methods**

**UF HyFlex**

The HyFlex learning experience may be different from what you have experienced before.

**Please be patient:** All of us (and particularly I) will have our (my) attention split between the virtual and physical learning environments, the learning experience will be different and potentially sometimes frustrating for all of us. It will be important for all of us to manage our expectations within this hybrid learning environment of virtual and physical spaces and provide caring and compassion for ourselves and our peers. Technical issues and delays in real-time response should be expected and treated with extra reserves of patience.

**Bring your own device:** Whether in-person or online / remote, have your device and a headset with microphone, so that you can log into the Zoom session and take part in breakout sessions and other learning activities (e.g., polling) in Zoom.

**Focus on learning:** When using technology during class, please be respectful and limit distracting activities. Social media, streaming entertainment, etc., as well as homework for other classes, should not be your focus during the synchronous sessions.

**Be aware - I plan to record:** Lecture from the synchronous sessions may/will be recorded. Please review the UF policies on recorded sessions at the end of the syllabus. I am asking that (unless technical issues with bandwidth or similar circumstances make it difficult) you do use your camera during class.
The course is housed in UF e-Learning in Canvas. This course uses a combination of lecture and seminar with guest lectures. Regular class attendance is absolutely critical to be successful in HSA 6385. While course readings and class presentations are posted on Canvas, understanding the material requires active participation in class and group discussions and detailed note-taking.

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT:**

**Topical Outline/Course Schedule**

All reading assignments including supplemental readings should be read prior to class to facilitate your learning and class discussions. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain notes, handouts, and summary of the lesson/class activities from the missed class. The syllabus and course schedule is subject to revision. Confirm deadlines in class and always check Canvas for updates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week and Date(s)</th>
<th>Topic(s) and Activities</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 (1/12)</td>
<td>Course Overview</td>
<td>Assignments: LinkedIn Learning Critical Thinking &amp; Questions Portfolio self-assessment Team Name and Motto Consultant self-assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Team Formation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AHA Environmental Scan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2 (1/19)</td>
<td>Overview of consultant project 1 &amp; 2 Project Management Overview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3 (1/26)</td>
<td>Team Project Meetings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 (2/2)</td>
<td>Consultant Project 1 Presentation</td>
<td>Consultant Project 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 (2/9)</td>
<td>Overview of consultant project 3, 4 &amp; 5 MHA Competency Leadership and Professionalism Review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6 (2/16)</td>
<td>UAB Case Competition Team Presentation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7 (2/23)</td>
<td>MHA Competency Healthcare Organizations and Performance Review Team Work Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8 (3/2)</td>
<td>Consultant Project 2 Presentation</td>
<td>Consultant Project 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 (3/9)</td>
<td>MHA Competency Healthcare Organizations and Performance Review Team Work Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 (3/16)</td>
<td>Consultant Project 3 Presentation</td>
<td>Consultant Project 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11 (3/23)</td>
<td>MHA Competency Business Analytics and Techniques Review Team Work Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12 (3/30)</td>
<td>Consultant Project 4 Presentation</td>
<td>Consultant Project 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Week 13 (4/6) MHA Competency Healthcare Environment Community Review Team Work Day

Week 14 (4/15) Consultant Project 5 Presentation Consultant Project 5

Week 15 (4/20) Competency Portfolio Presentation Competency Portfolio

Week 16 (4/27) Competency Portfolio Presentation Competency Portfolio

Course Materials and Technology

Technology

Required Equipment: Computer with high-speed Internet access and use of a supported browser. To access this course, you will use your Gatorlink ID and password to login to the course (via Canvas).

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
Canvas Course Site: All Assessments will be housed in Canvas. Assignments and Quizzes will be posted in Canvas to be completed prior to specified due dates.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>Points or % of final grade (% must sum to 100%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultant Projects</td>
<td>TBD and will be posted</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework/In-class Assignments</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competency Portfolio</td>
<td>Instructions will be posted on canvas</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>93-100</th>
<th>90-92</th>
<th>87-89</th>
<th>83-86</th>
<th>80-82</th>
<th>77-79</th>
<th>73-76</th>
<th>70-72</th>
<th>67-69</th>
<th>63-66</th>
<th>60-62</th>
<th>Below 60</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter Grade</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. The GPA for graduate students to graduate must be 3.0 or higher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>WF</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>NG</th>
<th>S-U</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade Points</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For greater detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar’s Grade Policy regulations at: http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Policy Related to Required Class Attendance

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.

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. Please note that guests are not permitted to attend either cadaver or wet labs. 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

Late Assignments:

Graders will not contact you about missing or incomplete assignments. It is your responsibility to check that the correct assignment has been submitted to Canvas on time. In rare cases, the instructor may accept a late assignment (e.g., bereavement, illness). If one team member is out, please ensure another team member is able to submit the assignment on time.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

The 5 P’s of Student Responsibility for HyFlex Attendance during the Pandemic:

Patience: Be patient with the faculty, TAs and peers! This is new. There will be tech challenges.

Preparation: Be prepared for class! This applies to both the content and having your computer & headset/mic set-up ready to go.

Participation: Stay focused. The more you focus and participate the more you learn. Ask questions! Whether you are in person or online / remote — ask questions. You are responsible for your own learning. Attending the synchronous sessions as scheduled and participating in the learning activities will facilitate your ability to succeed in this course.

PPE and PHA (Personal Protective Equipment and Public Health Awareness): Follow UF guidelines and wear your mask if you are on campus in the classroom and in all face-to-face interactions. Stay home if
you are ill, have any of the symptoms on the UF screening tool, or think you have been exposed to COVID.
(See official policies below.)

Attendance and Recordings

Recordings are not intended to be a replacement or substitute for attending synchronous sessions. They are intended to be a stop-gap for those who miss class due to illness or life events that are unfortunately common during the pandemic. Recordings will be made available in Canvas. As soon as links are available, I will post these. If you miss a class meeting for any reason, make sure to communicate with your professor and TAs and check with a peer who attended and watch the recordings.

Note on official policies that still apply

The COVID-19 Related Policies rolled out for fall still apply. Please be sure to include any that are applicable to your course.

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

It is important to attend all classes, take detailed notes, and actively participate in class and group discussions in order to succeed in the course. It is also critical for students to work together effectively in a team. The course will go over common behaviors that make individuals good team members. Finally, students are expected to be engaged and respectful of the instructor and guest speakers.

Communication Guidelines

Please email the instructor with any questions that you have. Please allow a 2-day business response time.

If you have an urgent concern, feel free to call my office line.

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:

“Oh 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 the Graduate Student Website for additional details:  https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/#text
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](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/](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/).

**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](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](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu). Online and in person assistance is available.
- You Matter We Care website: [http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/](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 website at: [https://shcc.ufl.edu/](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](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

On Campus Face-to-Face
If you will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of a course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.
You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings.
Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

Each course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.

Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.

Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.


Remote and Online Synchronous Sessions:
Class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.