

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**California State University, Long Beach**  
**Health Care Administration Program**

**HCA 502 - The Health Care System**  
**Fall, 2009**

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**Instructor:** Jim Lott  
**E-mail:** Lott@sbcglobal.net

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 3-4 pm  
(by appointment only)

**Phone:** 323.445.3799  
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**Class Number:** 2727  
**Class Meets:** Aug 31<sup>st</sup> to Dec 19<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday  
4pm – 6:45, Room: ET-105

**Additional Contact Information:**  
**HCA Program Administrative Coordinator:**  
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**Catalog Description:** Overview, developmental summary of the American health care system and its driving forces. Major elements of the healthcare system; today's major health policy issues in a historical, economic and political context. (Lecture.) Letter grade only (A-F).

**Expected Outcomes:** Students who have completed this course should be able to:

- describe the organization, administration and financing of the U.S. health care delivery system and the principal California health care programs and administering agencies;
- name the major historical events that shaped the U.S. health care system;
- articulate the key elements of health policy formation and the policy making process; and
- identify, analyze and discuss major contemporary U.S. health care policy issues.

**Required texts (available for purchase and on reserve in Library)**

- (“B”) 1. Barton, Phoebe L., **Understanding the U.S. Health Services System, 3rd Edition**, Chicago: Health Administration Press, 2007.
- (“L”) 2. Longest, Beaufort B., Jr., **Health Policymaking in the United States, 4th Edition**, Chicago: Health Administration Press, 2005.
3. American Psychological Association., **Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition**, Washington, D.C: American Psychological Association, 2001.

**Attendance:** Refer to the University's policy. Your absence will negatively impact your participation grade. Students absent for midterm or final exams must provide a physician's written certification of illness, a letter (on company letterhead) from an employer, or other verifiable, written third-party documentation of unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances in order to be eligible to take a make-up exam. (See last page for "Class Participation" grade policy.)

**Withdrawal:** Refer to the University's policy. Withdrawal after the second week and before the final three weeks is "permissible for serious and compelling reasons" only. Otherwise, your final course grade will be calculated with zero credit factored in for the assignments you did not complete.

**Disabled Students:** Please advise the instructor regarding any special needs you may have, including, if applicable, the need for alternative test-taking arrangements.

**Other Requirements:** You must have an E-Mail address to participate in this course and access materials through the BeachBoard online courseware system. You may obtain a free CSULB account from any on-campus computer, at: [www.csulb.edu/namemaster](http://www.csulb.edu/namemaster). The CSULB Technology Help Desk is available to help students with a wide range of computer issues including: Operating Systems; CSULB Email Accounts; Remote Connection to CSULB; Microsoft Desktop Applications, Anti-Virus, Internet and Web-related topics; and BeachBoard. Contact the Help Desk by phone at 562-985-4959, Email to [helpdesk@csulb.edu](mailto:helpdesk@csulb.edu) or visit the web site at [www.helpdesk.csulb.edu](http://www.helpdesk.csulb.edu). You may seek in-person help at the Horne (North Campus) Center.

## Student Assignments and Grading

1. Class Preparation and Participation, Discussion Leadership: The class format will be a limited lecture and **interactive** discussion of the assigned readings and web sites. **I expect you to have read the assigned readings and to have visited the web sites before our class meeting;** and I encourage you to contribute new information. A principal focus of class discussion will be on current health policy information on the topic for that week, from the web sites and other sources.
2. Health Policy Paper: Each student will be assigned a health policy issue/topic to research. Two or more students may be assigned the same topic. However, this is an individual assignment, so each student is expected to do his or her own work. If two or more assignment submissions are judged to be substantially similar in content, the highest score earned will be divided among the participants. For example, if two students submit substantially similar papers, and the top score earned is 40/40 (100%), then each student will earn 20/40 (50%) for the assignment
  - b. Literature Review – due Week 9.** Summarize the literature you have reviewed for your health policy paper. Please follow APA guidelines for text citations of printed and electronic references as well as for your literature review reference list. **Please submit your paper to the Turnitin Assignment folder on our course web site by the start of class in Week 9.** You should have at least 18 different (unduplicated) sources, excluding our text and lecture/discussion materials, for a passing (28/40 points or “C”) grade. Most research methods texts include a chapter on how to do a literature review. It’s a standard section, though not always labeled as such, in an academic journal article. For further information, here are some specific resources:
    - Lawrence F. Locke, Warren Wyrick Spirduso and Stephen J. Silverman. **Proposals that Work: A Guide for Planning Dissertations or Grant Proposals, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed.** Beverly Hills, CA: Sage Publications, 1999.
    - Arlene Fink. **Conducting Research Literature Reviews: From Paper to the Internet.** Beverly Hills, CA: Sage Publications, 1998.
    - Chris Hart. **Doing a Literature Review: Releasing the Social Science Research Imagination.** Beverly Hills, CA: Corwin Press, 1999.
  - c. Health Policy Paper – due Week 14.** Please submit your paper to the Turnitin Assignment folder on our course web site by the start of class in Week 14.
3. Exams: There will be a mid-term and a final exam. Most of the exam questions will be based on the textbooks and lectures, but there will also be questions from guest speaker presentations and class discussions. The mid-term will cover the first six weeks of instruction, while the final will be cumulative, with emphasis on subsequent sessions. Again, students absent for either the midterm or final exam must provide written third party documentation of unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances in order to be eligible to take a make-up exam. Students with a disability who qualify for alternative testing arrangements must advise me well in advance of the exams so that arrangements can be made.

4. Grade Weights and Policies. **Late assignments will be downgraded 20% for each week of delay, except that no assignment will be accepted after the scheduled end of the course.** You may fax or e-mail your assignments if you are unable to come to class. In such cases, please call me to confirm my receipt of your assignment. (See last page for “Class Participation” grade policy.)

**Course Assignments, Due Dates and Grade Weights**

Item	Due Date	Points	% of Grade
Health Policy Literature Review	Week 9	60	15
Health Policy Paper	Week 14	80	20
Midterm Exam: Material assigned Weeks 1-7	Week 8	100	25
Final Exam: Cumulative, with greater emphasis on material assigned Weeks 7-14	Week 16	100	25
Class Participation (see note at the end of syllabus)	Ongoing	60	15
<b>Total</b>		<b>400</b>	<b>100</b>

Final course grade weights are: 360+ = A; 320-359 = B; 280-319 = C; 240-279 = D; <240 = F

5. Cheating And Plagiarism. Please be aware of and ensure that your behavior conforms to University Policy, as contained in the California State University, Long Beach Policy Statement 85-19, dated December 13, 1985. See: <http://www.csulb.edu/~janicej/catalog-02-03/regs.pdf>. **Your final health policy issue reports will be screened for plagiarism using the “Essay Verification Engine” software (EVE 2.5), “Turnitin” and other plagiarism detection tools.** Confirmed acts of cheating or plagiarism will result in the student receiving zero credit for the assignment in question; no make-up assignment will be given.

7. Class Topic And Assignment Schedule—“B” = Barton; “L” = Longest

Week # - Date	Discussion (Chapter) Topics	Assignments	Lecture Topics
1 - SEP 1	Introduction, course overview; introduction to health policy; current key health policy issues		<i>Health Reform</i>
2 - SEP 8	The health policy environment; health policy process; US hc system history, organization; health policy & politics	B Chapters 2, 4, 11 L Chapters 1, 2 <a href="http://www.healthpolicycoach.org">www.healthpolicycoach.org</a>	<b>No Class Meeting; Budget Closure Day; Campus Closed</b>
3 - SEP 15	Policy formulation, agenda setting Medicine & technology; Disease patterns & access to care	B Chapter 10 L Chapters 3, 4	<i>The Congressional Budget Process</i>
4 - SEP 22	HCA bibliographic research resources & methods; APA review		<i>Employer-Sponsored Coverage, Individual Coverage</i>
5 - SEP 29	Work on Literature Review and Policy Paper; Schedule visit with our librarian.	<b>Library Day</b>	<b>No Class Meeting</b>
6 - OCT 6	Financing health services Midterm review	B Chapter 7	<i>Cost of Health Care, Medicaid, Medicare</i>
7 - OCT 13	Managed care, insurance & benefits	B Chapters 5, 6, 19	<i>Children’s Health Coverage</i>
8 - OCT 20	<b>Midterm (material from weeks 1-7)</b>		
9 - OCT 27	Primary Health Care Services	B Chapter 13	<i>Disparities</i>

10 - NOV 3	Policy implementation & modification	L Chapters 6, 7	<i>Film: "Sick Around the World"</i>
11 - NOV 10	Hospitals and Health Systems Health Interest Groups	B Chapters 9, 14, 16	
12 - NOV 17	Long Term Care; Politics of Aging and Disability	B Chapters 15, 17	<i>Long Term Care</i>
13 - NOV 24	Mental Health Services, Pharmaceuticals	B Chapter 18	<i>Mental Health and Substance Abuse</i>
14 - DEC 1	Public Health Health Care Professionals	B Chapter 8	<i>Public Health</i>
15 - DEC 8	Quality of Care, ethical issues; final exam review	B Chapters 20, 21	<i>Quality of Care</i>
16 - DEC 15	<b>Final Exam</b>		

8. Pertinent Web Sites. Just a few of many web sites with information pertinent to this course, by topic:

Topic	Web Sites
Health policy	CA Center for Health Improvement: <a href="http://chci.org">chci.org</a> , <a href="http://www.healthpolicycoach.org">www.healthpolicycoach.org</a> Academy for Health Services Research & Health Policy: <a href="http://www.ahsrhp.org">www.ahsrhp.org</a> Health Hippo: <a href="http://hippo.findlaw.com/hippohome.html">http://hippo.findlaw.com/hippohome.html</a>
Information resources	National Library of Medicine: <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov">www.nlm.nih.gov</a> Virtual reference style manuals: <a href="http://www.csulb.edu/library/efer/vref/style.html">www.csulb.edu/library/efer/vref/style.html</a> APA electronic citations: <a href="http://www.apastyle.org/eleceref.html">www.apastyle.org/eleceref.html</a> .
Health policy formation, agenda setting	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: <a href="http://www.rwjf.org">www.rwjf.org</a> The Urban Institute: <a href="http://www.urban.org">www.urban.org</a> ; Families USA: <a href="http://www.familiesusa.org">www.familiesusa.org</a> Center for Health Care Strategies: <a href="http://www.chcs.org">www.chcs.org</a> Center for Studying Health System Change: <a href="http://www.hschange.com">www.hschange.com</a>
Policy implementation & modification	National Academy for State Health Policy: <a href="http://www.nashp.org">www.nashp.org</a> UCLA Center for Health Policy Research: <a href="http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu">www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu</a> California HealthCare Foundation: <a href="http://www.chcf.org">www.chcf.org</a> Kaiser Family Foundation: <a href="http://www.kff.org">www.kff.org</a> ; Rand Corporation: <a href="http://www.rand.org">www.rand.org</a> Mathematica Policy Research: <a href="http://www.mathematica-mpr.com">www.mathematica-mpr.com</a>
Financing health services	Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services: <a href="http://www.cms.gov">www.cms.gov</a> Center on Budget & Policy Priorities: <a href="http://www.cbpp.org">www.cbpp.org</a> Kaiser Family Foundation: <a href="http://www.kff.org">www.kff.org</a> CA Legislative Analyst's Office: <a href="http://www.lao.ca.gov">www.lao.ca.gov</a> Healthcare Financial Management Assn: <a href="http://www.hfma.org">www.hfma.org</a>
Managed care, insurance & benefits	Employee Benefits Research Institute: <a href="http://www.ebri.org">www.ebri.org</a> Health Insurance Assn. of America: <a href="http://www.hiaa.org">www.hiaa.org</a> National Assn. of Insurance Commissioners: <a href="http://www.naic.org">www.naic.org</a> American Assn. of Health Plans: <a href="http://www.aahp.org">www.aahp.org</a> CA Assn. Of Health Plans: <a href="http://www.calhealthplans.com">www.calhealthplans.com</a> CA Dept. of Managed Health Care: <a href="http://www.dmhc.ca.gov">www.dmhc.ca.gov</a>

Ambulatory health services	American Academy of Ambulatory Care: <a href="http://www.ambulatorymedicine.com">www.ambulatorymedicine.com</a> Medical Group Management Association: <a href="http://www.mgma.com">www.mgma.com</a>
Hospitals & health systems	American Hospital Association: <a href="http://www.aha.org">www.aha.org</a> Blue Cross/Blue Shield Assn.: <a href="http://www.bluecares.com">www.bluecares.com</a>
Long Term Care; Politics of Aging & Disability	CSULB Center for Health Care Innovation: <a href="http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/chci">www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/chci</a> <sup>1</sup> American Assn. Of Retired Persons: <a href="http://www.aarp.org">www.aarp.org</a> Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund: <a href="http://www.dredf.org">www.dredf.org</a>
Mental health	National Institute of Mental Health: <a href="http://www.nimh.nih.gov">www.nimh.nih.gov</a> Bazelon Center for MH Law: <a href="http://www.bazelon.org">www.bazelon.org</a>
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America: <a href="http://www.phrma.org">www.phrma.org</a> "No Free Lunch" <a href="http://www.nofreelunch.org">www.nofreelunch.org</a>
Public health	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov">http://www.cdc.gov</a> American Public Health Assn.: <a href="http://www.apha.org">www.apha.org</a>
Health professionals	Am. Medical Assn.: <a href="http://www.ama-assn.org">www.ama-assn.org</a> ; Am. Nurses Assn. <a href="http://www.ana.org">www.ana.org</a> American Academy of Physician Assistants: <a href="http://www.aapa.org">www.aapa.org</a> Am. Pharmaceutical Association: <a href="http://www.aphanet.org">www.aphanet.org</a>
Quality of care	Institute of Medicine: <a href="http://www.iom.edu">www.iom.edu</a> National Committee for Quality Assurance: <a href="http://www.ncqa.org">www.ncqa.org</a> Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Orgs: <a href="http://www.jcaho.org">www.jcaho.org</a> California Healthcare Foundation Quality Initiative: <a href="http://www.chcf.org">www.chcf.org</a>
Ethical issues	Alliance for Health Reform: <a href="http://www.allhealth.org">www.allhealth.org</a> Hastings Center: <a href="http://www.thehastingscenter.org">www.thehastingscenter.org</a>

## 9. Bibliography

- Cohn, J. (2007). *Sick: The Untold Story of America's Health Care Crisis-And The People Who Pay the Price*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers.
- Daschle, T. (2008). *Critical: What We Can Do About The Health-Care Crisis*. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- Dranove, D. (2008). *Code Red: An Economist Explains How to Revive the Healthcare System Without Destroying It*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Halverson, G. (2008). *Health Care Reform Now: A prescription for Change*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Herzlinger, R. E. (2007). *Who Killed Health Care: America's \$2 Trillion Medical Problem-and the Consumer Driven Cure*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Illich, I. (1975). *Medical Nemesis: The expropriation of health*. New York: Pantheon. **Classic**.
- Kessler, A. (2006). *The End of Medicine*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers.
- Kleinke, J.D. (1998). *Bleeding Edge: The Business of Health Care in the New Century*. Maryland: Aspen Publishers, Inc. **Classic**.

<sup>1</sup> An extensive aging web site bibliography is available from the Center; registration is free.

Kleinke, J.D. (2001). *Oxymorons: The Myth of a U.S. Health Care System*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. **Classic.**

Runy, L. A. (2008). *The Aging Workforce*. Chicago: Hospitals & Health Networks.

Starr, P (1982). *The social transformation of American medicine*. New York: Basic Books. **Classic.**

Wilson, K. (2008). *Snapshot: Health Care Costs 101, 2008 Edition*. Oakland: California Healthcare Foundation.

Wilson, K. (2009). *Health Care Almanac: California Health Plans and Insurers*. Oakland: California Healthcare Foundation.

Wing, K. R., & Gilbert, B. (2006). *The Law and the Public's Health* (7th Edition ed.). Chicago: Health Administration Press.

**Selected Health Administration & Policy Journals:**

American Journal of Managed Care  
American Journal of Public Health  
Harvard Business Review  
Health Affairs  
Health Policy  
Health Technology Trends  
Journal of the American Medical Association  
Journal of Health, Politics, Policy and Law  
Medicine and Health  
New England Journal of Medicine  
Public Health Reports  
Journal of Ambulatory Care Management  
Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics

American Journal of Medical Quality  
Business and Health  
Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics  
Health Care Financing Review  
Health Services Research  
Inquiry  
J of Health Services Research & Policy  
Medical Care  
Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly  
J of Health Care for the Poor & Underserved  
Journal of Public Health Policy  
Social Science and Medicine  
Medical Care Research and Review

**IMPORTANT NOTE ON CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Fifteen percent (15%) of your course grade will be determined by my evaluation of your participation in our class meetings. This means that you must prepare for, attend and actively participate in our scheduled class meetings. Also know that excessive absenteeism and/or chronic tardiness will negatively impact your class participation score; not because you are absent or late, but because you are not participating if you are not in class. So, if you cannot make it to our class by 4:00 p.m. on a regular basis or you must leave early on a regular basis, then know that anywhere from 40 to 60 (all) participation points (i.e., 10-15% of your course grade) will be deducted. I do not grant exceptions to this policy nor do I give make-up or extra credit work for this purpose, so please do not ask.