

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH**  
**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM**  
**Course Syllabus: HCA 502 - The Health Care System – Spring, 2008**

Instructor: James Lott, MBA

Telephone: 323.445.3799

Fax: 213.947.1602

E-Mail: Lott@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2:00-4:00p (by appointment)

Office: E-TEC 101

Course Number: 8582

Tuesdays, 4:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Location: HSD-111

CSULB Office Phone: None<sup>1</sup>

HCA Program: 562.985.5694; fax: 562.985.5886

**Course 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.

**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.

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<sup>1</sup> It's generally best to contact me outside of office hours by phone (323.445.3799) from 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. 7 days a week, by fax or e-mail any time; I will respond to these communications within 24 hours.

## 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 the class session**, and 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 Issue Literature Review and Debate: Students will be assigned health policy topics to research and debate in class. This is a 3-person team assignment.
  - b. Literature review – due Week 10.** (Team Assignment.) Summarize the literature you have reviewed for your assigned health policy. **Please follow APA guidelines for text citations of printed and electronic references as well as for your literature review reference list.** You should have at least 30 different sources for a passing (42/60 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 Debates – beginning in Week 11.** Your team will debate another team on your policy topic. Though you will research all the perspectives of your assigned topic, you will be asked to adopt either the pro or con position when debating the other team.
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. Disabled students who qualify for alternative testing arrangements, please advise the instructor and make arrangements well in advance of the exams.
4. Chapter Summary and Presentation. Each student will be assigned one chapter to of our assigned readings to provide a mini-lecture (oral presentation) on a specific topic from that chapter along with a written summary of his or her focus for his/her classmates.
5. 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.

### Course Assignments, Due Dates and Grade Weights

Item	Due Date	Points	% of Grade
Health Policy Literature Review	Week 10	60	15
Health Policy Debate	Weeks 11-14	40	10
Midterm Exam: Material assigned Weeks 1-6	Week 7	100	25
Final Exam: Cumulative, with greater emphasis on material assigned Weeks 7-14	Week 15	100	25
Chapter Topic Focus and Presentation	Assigned	40	10
Class participation	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

6. 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	Topic	Assignments	Deliverable(s)
1 - JAN 29	Introduction, course overview; introduction to health policy; current key health policy issues		
2 - FEB 5	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>Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
3 - FEB 12	Policy formulation, agenda setting Medicine & technology; Disease patterns & access to care	B Chapter 10 L Chapters 3, 4	<b>Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
4 - FEB 19	HCA bibliographic research resources & methods; APA review		<b>Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
5 - FEB 26	Policy implementation & modification	L Chapters 6, 7	<b>Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
6 - MAR 4	Financing health services Midterm review	B Chapter 7	<b>Chapter Summaries &amp; Presentations</b>
7 - MAR 11	<b>Midterm (material from weeks 1-6)</b>		
8 - MAR 18	Managed care, insurance & benefits	B Chapters 5, 6, 19	<b>Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
9 – MAR 25	Primary Health Care Services	B Chapter 13	<b>Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
10 - APR 1	<b>Spring Break</b>		
11 - APR 8	Hospitals and Health Systems Health Interest Groups	B Chapters 9, 14, 16	<b>Team Literature Review, Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
12 - APR 15	Long Term Care; Politics of Aging and Disability	B Chapters 11, 15, 17	<b>Debates, Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
13 - APR 22	Mental Health Services, Pharmaceuticals	B Chapter 18	<b>Debates, Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
14 - APR 29	Public Health	B Chapter 8 (& 4 , p 77	<b>Debates, Chapter Topic</b>

	Health Care Professionals	revisited)	<b>Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
15 - MAY 6	Quality of Care, ethical issues; final exam review	B Chapters 20, 21	<b>Debates, Chapter Topic Focus &amp; Presentations</b>
16 - MAY 13	<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/electref.html">www.apastyle.org/electref.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>2</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>

<sup>2</sup> An extensive aging web site bibliography is available from the Center; registration is free.

Topic	Web Sites
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

- Abramson, J. (2004). *Overdosed America: The broken promise of American medicine*. New York: HarperCollins.
- Boychuck, T. (1999). *The making and meaning of hospital policy in the United States and Canada*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. **Most recent on the topic.**
- Crawford, C., Harrington, C. & Estes, C.L. (2004). *Health policy: Crisis and reform in the U.S. health care delivery system*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Donabedian, A. (2003). *An introduction to quality assurance in healthcare*. Cary, NC: Oxford University Press.
- Goldfield, N. & Kelly, W.P. (Eds.) (1999). *Ambulatory care services and the prospective payment system*. Gaithersburg, MD: Aspen Publishing, 1999. **Most recent on the topic.**
- Evashwick, C.J. (2004). *The continuum of long-term care: An integrated systems approach* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Albany, NY: Delmar Press.
- Etheredge, L. (2004). *Critical condition: How health care in America became big business—and bad medicine*. New York: Doubleday.
- Grob, G.R. (2002). *Dangerous illusions: Cautionary tales in the history of medicine*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Illich, I. (1975). *Medical Nemesis: The expropriation of health*. New York: Pantheon. **Classic.**
- Kleinke, J.D. (1998). *Bleeding Edge: The Business of Health Care in the New Century*. Maryland: Aspen Publishers, Inc. **Classic.**
- Kleinke, J.D. (2001). *Oxymorons: The Myth of a U.S. Health Care System*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. **Classic.**
- Kongstvedt, P. (2004). *Managed care: What It is and how it works* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett.
- Neumann, P.J. (2005). *Using cost-effectiveness analysis to improve health care: Opportunities and barriers*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Rovner, J. (2000). *Health care policy and politics from A to Z*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. **Most recent on the topic.**

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

**Selected Health Administration & Policy Journals:**

American Journal of Managed Care	American Journal of Medical Quality
American Journal of Public Health	Business and Health
Harvard Business Review	Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics
Health Affairs	Health Care Financing Review
Health Policy	Health Services Research
Health Technology Trends	Inquiry
Journal of the American Medical Association	J of Health Services Research & Policy
Journal of Health, Politics, Policy and Law	Medical Care
Medicine and Health	Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly
New England Journal of Medicine	J of Health Care for the Poor & Underserved
Public Health Reports	Journal of Public Health Policy
Journal of Ambulatory Care Management	Social Science and Medicine
Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics	Medical Care Research and Review