

<b>Course</b>	HLTH 5120/58 Health Policy Issues
<b>Instructor</b>	Name: Kim Tharp-Barrie, MSN, RN, BA Phone: 502-262-4067 Email: <a href="mailto:Kim.tharp-barrie@nortonhealthcare.org">Kim.tharp-barrie@nortonhealthcare.org</a>
<b>Term &amp; Dates</b>	August 11- October 10, 2008
<b>Location</b>	Louisville Metropolitan Campus
<b>Course Description</b>	The student examines significant health care policy issues. Special emphasis is given to public policies with broad implications, such as Medicare, Medicaid, health insurance reform, and health system costs. The process of policy decision making is explored, and methods and approaches for the study issues are considered. American health policy issues are placed in the international context by comparison with selected other health care systems.
<b>Prerequisites &amp; Incoming Student Competencies</b>	Possesses oral and written communication skills appropriate for graduate level study. Formal presentation skills and comfort with small group and team assignments helpful. Completion of prerequisite courses for the degree program in which enrolled, or permission of the instructor.
<b>Course Objectives</b>	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Summarize the range of authoritative decisions made within government that pertain to health and to the pursuit of health.</li> <li>➤ Identify the locations and processes within the three branches of government involved with making those decisions.</li> <li>➤ Describe the impact of health policy</li> <li>➤ Communicate the knowledge required to analyze, influence, and evaluate policy competency.</li> <li>➤ Describe the Policy Formulation Process, including agenda setting, development of legislation, rulemaking, and operation.</li> <li>➤ Discuss Policy Modification as a cyclical process to include the notion of incrementalism and the mechanics of modification.</li> <li>➤ Discuss selected major health policy including: How much should we spend on medical care? Discuss the design and operation of health insurance to include the competing ideas of universal insurance coverage and Health Savings Accounts. Distinguish between the competing incentives and disincentives of these ideas regarding health insurance at the individual and societal level.</li> <li>➤ Describe contemporary pressures and policy issues in the Federal Medicare and Medicaid programs.</li> <li>➤ Compare US and International Health Care Expenditures and the associated measures of Health Status and discuss the impact of these comparisons on Health Policy activity.</li> <li>➤ Explore the implications of societal health care cost trends on the policy formulation process.</li> </ul>

<b>Course Level Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Select a personal philosophy regarding the involvement of individuals and groups in Health Policy Formulation.</li> <li>➤ Understand effective ways to apply personal energy into the Health Policy Formulation process.</li> <li>➤ Analyze Health Policy Issues in a manner that is consistent with data and rational behavior.</li> <li>➤ Discuss contemporary Health Policy Issues with intellectual honesty and intelligence</li> </ul>
<b>Materials</b>	<p>Beaufort B. Longest, Jr., 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Health Policymaking in the United States  <b>Texts can be obtained by calling MBS Direct at 1-800-325-3252, or at Virtual Bookstore at <a href="http://www.mbsdirect.net">www.mbsdirect.net</a>. Credit cards and checks are accepted. Make sure you purchase the correct edition.</b></p>
<b>Supplemental Resources</b>	<p>As assigned. Current events will be due weekly for roundtable discussion to supplement the text.</p>
<b>Grading</b>	<p>Assignments:  Examinations (Mid Term and Final) Practical Exams with group participation 60 points  Class Participation &amp; Attendance 25 points  Oral Chapter Topics &amp; Current Events Reviews 15 points  Community site visits and volunteerism available for 100 points  Extra credit.  Term Paper on mutually agreed upon topic will be assigned for missed classes</p> <p><b>Scoring Criteria: Term Paper:</b>  8-10 pages typewritten, doubled spaced; 1/3 of paper labeled “present”, 1/3 labeled “future per literature”, 1/3 labeled “opinion” on mutually agreed upon topic. The term paper will be graded according to: following directions given in class, having a topic which is adequately focused, writing with minimal grammatical errors, demonstrating critical thinking skills, and showing practical application.</p> <p><b>Scoring Criteria: Oral Chapter Topics &amp; current Event Reviews.</b> Oral chapter topics will be graded according to: following directions given in class, presenting with minimal grammatical errors, demonstrating critical thinking skills and showing practical application. (10-15 minutes in length).</p> <p><b>Scoring Criteria: Exams:</b>  Exams will utilize textbook, current events, site visits, class lectures and personal experience, which will draw from the student’s ability to demonstrate familiarity with textbook concepts, illustrate critical thinking skills and apply theory as appropriate.</p> <p><b>Scoring Criteria: Class Attendance/Participation:</b>  Student should make every effort to attend each class meeting and be on time at 6 PM. Points will be taken off for each absence in which the assigned makeup</p>

	<p>work has not been completed. Participation in class discussions is expected and will be factored into the total 25% for overall attendance/participation.</p> <p><b><u>Grades:</u></b>  A 95-100  A- 90-94  B+ 88-89  B 84-87  B- 80-83  C 70-79  F Less Than 70  I Incomplete Work</p>
<p><b>Activities</b></p>	<p>Weekly literature and media review will add to student’s ability to participate effectively in class. Timely reading of assigned textbook chapters is necessary to optimally participate in open class discussion.</p>
<p><b>Policy Statements: University Policies</b></p>	<p><b><u>CONDUCT</u></b></p> <p>Students enrolling in a graduate program at Webster University assume the obligation of conducting themselves in a manner compatible with the University’s function as an educational institution. Misconduct for which students are subject to discipline include the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All forms of dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University.</li> <li>2. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other University authorized activities.</li> <li>3. Theft or damage to property at the University.</li> </ol> <p>Students who cheat or plagiarize may receive a failing grade for the course in which the cheating or plagiarism took place. Students who engage in any of the above misconducts may be subject to dismissal from the University. To the extent that penalties for misconduct (e.g. theft or destruction of property) are prescribed by law, the University will consider appropriate actions under such laws.</p> <p><b><u>ATTENDANCE POLICY</u></b></p> <p>Students are expected to attend all class sessions of every course. In the case of unavoidable absence, the student must contact the instructor. The student is subject to appropriate academic penalty for incomplete or unacceptable makeup work or for excessive or unexcused absences. Generally, a student who misses more than one four-hour course period (per course) without a documented military or medical excuse and advance permission of the instructor should withdraw from the class. The University reserves the right to involuntarily drop enrolled students from classes, which they do not attend. Students who do not attend the first</p>

	<p>class session, who have not made prior arrangement with the instructor for being absent, will be dropped from the course.</p> <p><b><u>MAKE-UP WORK REQUIREMENTS</u></b></p> <p>For each class missed, makeup work will be assigned and must be submitted at the next class. The instructor will assign the topic and amount of work. This makeup work will be incorporated into the class participation grade. If make-up work is not submitted on time, the student's final grade will be subject to a reduction of one (1) letter grade.</p> <p>Students are responsible for any class material presented during their absence and any assignments due should be submitted prior to the absence, if possible.</p> <p><b>Drops and Withdrawals</b></p> <p>Should you choose to drop or withdraw from this course, the date on which you notify the university of your decision will determine the amount of tuition refund you receive. Refer to the university policies on drops and withdrawals (published elsewhere) to find out what the deadlines are for dropping a course with a full refund and for withdrawing from a course with a partial refund.</p> <p><b>Special Services</b></p> <p>If you need accommodations for a disability, please let the instructor know at the beginning of the course so that assistance can be provided.</p> <p><b><u>DISCLAIMER</u></b></p> <p>This syllabus is intended to provide a basic structure to this course. It MAY be modified for class size, student competencies, etc. This syllabus is subject to change at the sole discretion of the instructor.</p>
<b>Course Policies</b>	Will be covered first class. August 13
<b>Weekly Schedule</b>	<p>WEEK 1 August 13, 2008 Introduction: Course Orientation and discussion of syllabus, course structure, requirements, and student instructor expectations. Introduction to Health Policymaking in the US. Emphasize the way that policy affects health determinants. Readings: Longest, Chapters 1 and 2.</p> <p>WEEK II August 20, 2008 Readings: Longest, Chapters 3 and 4 and Current Events Roundtable</p> <p>WEEK III August 27, 2008 Readings: Longest Chapters 5 and 6</p>

	<p>WEEK IV September 3, 2008 Readings: Longest, Chapter 7</p> <p>WEEK V September 10, 2008 Readings: Longest, Chapter 8</p> <p>WEEK VI September 17, 2008 MID TERM EXAM</p> <p>Week VII September 24, 2008 Readings: Longest, Chapter 9</p> <p>WEEK VIII October 1, 2008 Supplemental Readings as assigned.</p> <p>WEEK IX October 8, 2008 FINAL EXAM</p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	As needed