

BC/0031 Spring 2003
HEALTH AND SOCIETY: HEALTH CARE IN THE UNITED STATES

Meeting Time: 11:00 - 11:50 MWF; Section Times – TBA Instructor: Vince Mor, Ph.D.
Dept. of Community Health, Arnold Lab, Room 417

My Office Hours: By appointment

Graduate TAs: Marea Tumber (Marea_Tumber@brown.edu)
Laura Burleson (Laura_Burleson@brown.edu)

Grad TA Office Hours: Wednesday 1 to 3 PM (Marea) Hemisphere 006
Monday noon to 2 PM (Laura) Hemisphere 006

Undergrad TA's:

Daniel Schneider
Kirsten Spalding
Rachel Truchil
Farshid Kazi

Course Description:

BC/0031 is an introductory-level course designed to provide an overview of the U.S. health care delivery system. The course focuses on the ways in which health care is structured and how the different components of the system interact with one another in such a way that changes in one inevitably effect the others. The major components are the financing system, the delivery system and the regulatory system. Each component has numerous elements and tools which are used to implement them. For example, financing draws upon various insurance and reimbursement approaches which influence the behavior of the insured (the patients) and of the providers (the doctors and hospitals). We will examine how efforts to reform one component of the health care system often have unintended consequences on the others. As an introductory course, BC/0031 characterizes the U.S. health care system as it currently exists and operates but occasionally draws upon the historical roots of a given aspect or practice of the health care system in order to better understand it. BC/0031 is intended to be complementary to, but not substantially overlap with, the content that is covered in BC/0032 (Introduction to Public Health).

Format:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday will be lecture sessions held with the entire class. In addition, smaller group sections will be held on 8 different Thursdays or Fridays, to allow greater opportunity for discussion. Meeting rooms for sections will be announced. Sections will have mandatory assignments which must be handed in at the start of section. **Section attendance is required.**

Text: There is 1 required book for the course:

Leiyu Shi & Douglas A. Singh, **Delivering Health Care in America: A Systems Approach**, 2nd. Edition. Aspen Publishing: Gaithersburg, MD; 2001.

In Addition: Readings will be assigned from the World Wide Web for several class sessions, as well as for background reading for some of the section meetings. Specific site information and assignments will be provided in advance of class, and students will be responsible for downloading and printing the information.

Evaluation: There will be 3 writing assignments, 2 in-class exams, as well as the final exam scheduled during the exam-group time slot reserved for our course (**May 9th; Friday, 9:00 a.m.**). Exams will be based on lecture and readings (i.e., the text and assigned WWW content).

The weighting for final grading will be: 1st and 2nd in-class exams, 15 points each; Final exam, 25 points; Writing Assignments, 30 points (10 points for each of three 3-4 page papers) and 15 points for class participation. Grades are based on a cumulative point total, with predetermined cut-points for grade levels. Attendance will be taken at all classes. [[Note: section attendance is mandatory as are the one page section assignments. Absences and missed assignments will affect the final grade, regardless of the point total from exams and the term paper.]]

OUTLINE OF TOPICS AND READINGS: (SUBJECT TO SOME CHANGES)

Dates

Topics

1/22 (Wed)

Introduction to the course

1/24 (Fri)

Introduction to the Health Care System

**Readings: Ch 1, 3-20; Ch 3 (all) ;
Ch 9, 315-337; Ch 2, 38-47 & 53-60**

Readings: Ch. 6, 210-214; Ch 11, 416-442 ; Ch 12, 474-486

WWW Site:

Pages 1 -45 of Health, United States, 1998 With Socioeconomic Status and Health Chartbook

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/releases/98news/huspr98.htm>

1/27 (Mon)

Introduction to Financing

1/29 (Wed)

Private Insurance

1/31 (Fri)

Private Insurance

Readings: Ch 6, 185-193, 203-209, 214-222; Ch 12, 486-493

Readings: Ch 9, 337-356

WWW Sites:

A Survey of Patients in Managed Care and Fee-for-Service Settings:

Three-City Survey Finds Working Americans Dissatisfied:
http://www.cmwf.org/programs/health_care/mgdcrhlt.asp

Common Wealth Fund Article: Individual Insurance: How Much Financial Protection Does it Provide?
<http://www.cmwf.org/programs/insurance/.asp>

Common Wealth Fund Article: Bare-Bones Health Plans: Are They Worth the Money?
<http://www.cmwf.org/programs/insurance/.pdf>

The Individual Health Insurance Market: Researchers, Policy Makers Seek Common Ground on Tax Credits for the Uninsured
<http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/507/>

2/3 (Mon)

The Small Group and Private Market for Insurance,
Guest Lecturer: **Michael Follick, PhD**

Dr. Follick is the Chief Executive Officer of Abacus, a health care consulting company that designs health insurance benefit packages for small employers in Rhode Island serving to organize small business health insurance purchasing cooperatives. He is an expert in the small business insurance market as well as the workers compensation insurance issues.

2/5 (Wed)

Medicare

Readings: Ch 6, 193-200

WWW sites:

Read:

Marilyn Moon, Medicare:

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/344/12/928>

Medicare+Choice:

<http://www.kff.org/content/2002/2052-04/2052-04.pdf>

Medicare at a Glance:

<http://www.kff.org/content/archive/1066/Medicare%201066.pdf>

Look Over:

Medicare 2000 Chart Book

<http://cms.hhs.gov/statistics/35chartbk.pdf>

2/7 (Fri)

Medicare, Guest Lecturer: **Linda Laliberte, J.D., M.S.**

Linda Laliberte has been conducting research on Medicare health policies affecting the elderly and disabled for over 20 years here at Brown's Center for Gerontology and Health Care Research. She has written about Medicare

policies on hospice care, home care and skilled nursing homes.

2/7 (Fri) **SECTION MEETING #1:** Choosing a Plan

2/10 (Mon) Medicaid

Readings: Ch 6, 193-200

WWW sites:

Read:

The Medicaid Program at a Glance

<http://www.kff.org/content/2001/2004b/2004b.pdf>

Medicaid: A Primer, an Introduction and Overview

<http://www.kff.org/content/2001/2248/2248.pdf>

Medicaid and Managed Care

<http://www.kff.org/content/2001/206803/>

Look Over:

Medicaid 2000 Chart Book

<http://www.hcfa.gov/stats/2Tchartbk.pdf>

2/12 (Wed) Medicaid/ Uninsured

2/14 (Fri) Uninsured

Readings: Ch. 11, 429

WWW sites:

“The US Uninsured from 1990 to 1998” ” Custer & Ketcher

http://courses.brown.edu/Vincent_Mor-BC0031_F01/cptop.html

The Uninsured: A Primer

<http://www.kff.org/content/2002/4050/4050.pdf>

2/14 (Fri) **SECTION MEETING #2:** Medicaid Crowd Out

2/17 (Mon) PRESIDENT’S DAY HOLIDAY

2/19 (Wed) Medicaid, Guest Lecturer: **Christine Ferguson**

Christine Ferguson is currently Director of the Rhode Island Department of Human Services and Co-Chair of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Health. She was the architect and chief advocate for Rhode Island's highly

successful Medicaid Managed Care program, RIticare. She has extensive experience at the federal level having been the chief of staff for the US Senate Subcommittee on Health when it was chaired by Rhode Island's Senator John Chafee.

Readings:

Health coverage for Low-Income Children
<http://www.kff.org/content/2002/214403/214403.pdf>

Rite Care report on Hospital Inpatient Services June 2002
http://www.dhs.state.ri.us/dhs/reports/ristats_vol_1_issue_5.pdf

Rite Care Member Satisfaction Survey, 2002
<http://www.dhs.state.ri.us/dhs/reports/drcsatsr02.htm>

2/21 (Fri) ****FIRST IN-CLASS EXAM****

2/24 (Mon) Introduction to the Delivery System

2/26 (Wed) Primary Care

Readings: Ch. 7, 231-240; Ch. 4, (all)
WWW Sites:

A Primary Care Home for Americans: Putting the House in order (read complete article)
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/issues/v288n7/rfull/jip21003.html>

Managed Care, Primary Care, and the Patient-practitioner Relationship (Read Complete Article)
<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/servlet/genintmed/abstract>

2/28 (Fri) Primary Care, Guest Lecturer: **Mike Fine, M.D.**

Dr. Fine is a family practitioner who has been an active advocate for the uninsured, the disabled and injured workers here in Rhode Island for over a decade. He is currently working on a community based insurance plan focusing on all members having a primary care "home".

2/28 (Fri) **SECTION MEETING #3: Right to Primary Care**

3/3 (Mon) Hospitals

Readings: Ch 8, 273-299 (about hospitals)
WWW sites:

Emergency Room Diversions:

<http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/312/312.pdf>

Increased Consolidation Raises Concerns:

<http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/286/?topic=topic07>

3/5 (Wed)

Ambulatory Care

Readings: Ch 7, 240-259 (about ambulatory care)

Network instability

<http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/325/325.pdf>

3/7 (Fri)

Hospitals and Ambulatory Care, Guest Lecturer: **Joe Amaral, M.D.**

Dr. Amaral is President of Rhode Island Hospital, the largest tertiary care hospital in the region which also serves as the only area trauma center. Dr. Amaral is a Brown Medical School graduate and an active surgeon who was acting Chair of Brown's Department of Surgery for several years. He will share his unique perspective on the role of hospitals anchoring the health care system of any community.

3/7 (Fri)

SECTION MEETING #4: Certificate of Need

3/10 (Mon)

Long Term Care and Nursing Homes

Supplemental Reading on Web Site:

Zinn J., Mor V., Gozalo P. (2000): "Market and Regulatory Forces and the Transformation of the Nursing Facility Industry." **Advances in Health Care Management.** Volume 1, 369-391.

3/12 (Wed)

Long Term Care and Nursing Homes,
Guest Lecturer: **David Gifford, M.D., MPH**

Dr. Gifford is an internist and geriatrician who serves as a medical director to several nursing homes in Rhode Island as well as a cooperative organization of long term care providers. He is active in the field of nursing home quality of care assessment and in the design of systems to monitor care provided to nursing homes.

Readings: Ch 10 (all) (about LTC)

3/14 (Fri)

Mental Health

Readings: Ch. 11, 442-447

WWW sites:

Mental health parity

<http://www.milbank.org/reports/mrparity.html>

3/14 (Fri) **SECTION MEETING #5:** End of Life Issues

3/17 (Mon) Technology and Drugs

Readings: Chap 5, 154-178

3/19 (Wed) Professional Authority in the Health Care System, Guest Lecturer:
Mark Schlesinger, Ph.D.:

Dr. Schlesinger is Associate Professor of Health Policy & Management at the Yale University Department of Epidemiology and Public Health. Professor Schlesinger's health policy research includes assessments of federal programs for children and the elderly; studies of the growth of for-profit enterprises in health and mental health care; investigations of the scope and consequences of various forms of "managed care" and utilization management, including their application to "managed competition"; and analyses of public attitudes towards health care reform. He will be discussing his recent paper on the loss of professional authority among physicians and other health care providers.

A Loss of Faith: The Sources of Reduced Political Legitimacy for the American Medical Profession

<http://www.milbank.org/quarterly/8002feat.html>

3/21 (Fri) ****SECOND IN-CLASS EXAM****

3/24 (Mon) **SPRING BREAK**

3/26 (Wed) **SPRING BREAK**

3/28 (Fri) **SPRING BREAK**

3/31 (Mon) Introduction to Health Care Regulation and Policy Formulation

Readings: Ch. 13, 520-533

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/history2.html>

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/history1.html>

4/2 (Wed) The Federal Executive and Bureaucratic Agencies in Health Care Regulation

Readings: Chap 5, 162-164; Ch 12, 486-493; Ch. 13, 529

WWW sites:

The New England Journal of Medicine: The Centers for Medicare and

Medicaid Services

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/345/26/1920>

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

<http://cms.hhs.gov/charts/default.asp>

4/4 (Fri)

Bureaucratic Agencies in Health Care Regulation (continued)

WWW sites:

Introduction to the FDA and legislative history

<http://www.eduneering.com/fda/courses/fdatour/welcome.html>

<http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/histor1a.html>

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/mileston.html>

4/7 (Mon)

Congress and Health Care Policy, Guest Lecturer: **Wendy Schiller, Ph.D.**

Professor Schiller is Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Policy who specializes in the political behavior of US Senators and how they are lobbied by diverse industry interests. She will describe the Congressional legislative process of policy formulation.

4/9 (Wed)

Quality Regulation

Readings: Ch 12, 501-511; Ch 2, 60-71; Ch 13, 520-533;

WWW sites:

Milbank Quarterly Article: Quality at a Crossroads

<http://www.milbank.org/quarterly/764featcoye.html>

4/11 (Fri)

The Role of the States in Health Care Policy and Regulation

Readings: Ch. 8, 301; Ch. 13, 527-529, 540-542

4/11 (Fri)

***SECTION MEETING #6:* Quality**

4/14 (Mon)

Rhode Island State Government and Health Care,
Guest Lecturer: **Bob Marshall, Ph.D.**

Dr. Marshall is Assistant Director of the Rhode Island State Department of Health who has been in charged of the Office of Health Communication for many years and served as the spokesperson for the Department. He has a Ph.D. in Sociology from Brown University and has specialized in “social marketing” of health behavior messages, organizing numerous health education and awareness campaigns in the state.

4/16 (Wed) Interest Groups

Readings: Ch. 13, 525-527

4/18 (Fri) International Comparisons

Readings:

Anderson, G. & Hussey, P.S. Comparing Health System Performance in OECD Countries. **Health Affairs** 20(3):220-232. 2001.

WWW Sites:

Overview and Chapters 1 and 3 of [World Health Report 2000](#)

4/21 (Mon) Interest Groups and the Policy Making Process,
Guest Lecturer: Christine Heenan

4/21 (Mon) **SECTION MEETING #7:** Interest Group Role in a Current Policy Issue

4/23 (Wed) LAST REGULAR CLASS DAY; WRAP-UP

5/9 (Friday) *FINAL EXAMINATION (9:00 a.m.)*****