

SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH: SPRING 2011 PHP0310: HEALTH CARE IN THE UNITED STATES

Meeting Times: 11:00-11:50 MWF, Barus and Holley 168

Sections: To be announced

Course Director: Ira Wilson, MD, MSc

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Teaching Assistants:

TA	Kade Etter	Chang Liu	Max Clermont	Fatima Dema	Sarah Nguyen	Gabrielle Mele-Algus	Alicia Pirraglia	Ruth Shefner
Role:	Graduate TA	Graduate TA	Undergrad TA	Undergrad TA	Undergrad TA	Undergrad TA	Undergrad TA	Undergrad TA
Office:	121 South Main St. Rm 231	121 South Main St. Rm	--	--	--	--	--	--
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

PHP310 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 affect 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, PHP310 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. PHP310 is intended to be complementary to, but not substantially overlap with, the content that is covered in PHP320 (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 at different hours (see MyCourses) on Wed, Thurs, and Fri, 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.

Powerpoints of lectures will be available *after* the lecture has been given.

READINGS

There is one required book for the course: Leiyu Shi & Douglas A. Singh. *Essentials of the U.S. Health Care System*, Jones and Bartlett Publishers: Sudbury, MA; 2010.

Other required readings for the course are outlined in this syllabus and may be accessed through OCRA via MyCourses. Additional readings from the news and recently published journal articles of interest may be assigned during the semester. These will be announced in class and made available on MyCourses. **Readings should be read prior to the class or section which they are listed for.**

EVALUATION

Final grades will be based on performance of:

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|---|------------|
| 1. Two in class exams | (15% each) |
| 2. Two writing assignments | (15% each) |
| 3. Final exam | (20%) |
| 4. Section, MyCourses questions, & Attendance | (20%) |

1. In class exams will be based on lectures (including guest speakers), section content, and readings.

2. Writing assignments will be short papers, 3-4 pages each. The specific assignments for each paper will be available on MyCourses.

3. The final exam is cumulative and will be held during the scheduled exam time for this course (May 11, 2011, 9am).

The participation portion of the grade will be based on attendance at all sections and completion of one page section assignments which must be handed in to your TA at each section. Section assignments will be posted on MyCourses. There are two points for each of the six section assignments and three extra points for participation in class and section.

NOTE: Attendance at all sections is mandatory as are the one page section assignments. If you absolutely can not attend the section which you are assigned to on a given week you must arrange with your TA to attend a different section that same week.

Attendance will be taken at all classes and absences will affect the final grade.

Final grades will be based on the percent of the total points earned by each student. Assignment of final grades will be as follows:

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|---------------|----|
| 90% or higher | A |
| 80% to 89% | B |
| 70 to 79% | C |
| Less than 70% | NC |

The actual final grade breakdown may be adjusted slightly at Professor Wilson's discretion based on his review of the distribution of scores and evaluation of the course overall. Therefore, the final cut-points may be slightly higher or slightly lower than shown above.

ICLICKERS

ICLICKERS will be used to take attendance and for in class evaluations of how well the material is being understood. Students will have to go to the Friedman Center in the Sciences Library (basement) to get their clickers. Instructions for registering your ICLICKER are below:

Students should log onto the iClicker website here: <http://www.iclicker.com/registration/>. They will have to enter their:

First Name

Last Name

Student ID (**Please have them enter their Brown username here, not their Banner ID!**)

Remote ID (This is on the back of the clicker, just below the barcode)

They will also have to enter a verification word or number that the site will produce for them.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS		
<u>Dates</u>	<u>Lectures</u>	<u>Readings</u>
1/26 (Wed)	Introduction to course	
1/28 (Fri)	Introduction to the Health Care System	Essentials: Chpt 1, 3
1/31 (Mon)	Beliefs, Values, and Health	Essentials: Chpt 2 Krugman, "Why markets can't cure healthcare" The New York Times, July, 25, 2009 Mackey, "The Whole Foods Alternative to Obamacare" Wall Street Journal, Aug 11, 2009
2/2 (Wed)	Introduction to Financing	Essentials: Chpt 6 "Health Care Costs: A Primer" see OCRA
2/4 (Fri)	Private Insurance	Essentials: Chpt 9 "How Private Insurance Works: A Primer" see OCRA "Trends & Indicators in the Changing Health Care Marketplace" see OCRA
Week of 2/7	Section 1: Choosing a Plan	See assignment on MyCourses
2/7 (Mon)	The Small Group and Private Market for Insurance Guest Lecturer: Christopher Koller Christopher Koller is RI's first health insurance commissioner. He is responsible for policies and regulations regarding health plan solvency, consumer protection in health insurance, fair treatment of health care providers and directing health plans towards policies that promote the public welfare. Prior to this position, Mr. Koller was CEO for eight years of Neighborhood Health Plan of RI, the largest health plan in RIte Care, the state's Medicaid Managed Care Program.	"Bare-Bones Health Plans: Are they Worth the Money? The Commonwealth Fund" see OCRA "Update on Individual Health Insurance" see OCRA
2/9 (Wed)	Private Insurance and Managed Care	"Employment-Based Health Insurance: Past, Present, and Future" (Enthoven and Fuchs 2006) see OCRA "A Device to Kill Cancer, Lift Revenue" see OCRA

2/11 (Fri)	<p>Medicare Guest Lecturer: Linda Laliberte, J.D., M.S.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>"Medicare at a Glance: Fact Sheet (2010);" see OCRA</p> <p>"Medicare: A Primer (2010);" see OCRA</p>
Week of 2/14	Section 2: Medicaid Crowd Out	See assignment on MyCourses
2/14 (Mon)	Medicare	<p>"Medicare Advantage Fact Sheet (2010);" see OCRA</p> <p>"The Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Fact Sheet 2010" see OCRA</p>
2/16 (Wed)	<p>Medicaid Sylvia Kuo</p>	<p>"The Medicaid Program at a Glance (2010)" see OCRA</p> <p>"Medicaid: a Primer (2010);" see OCRA</p>
2/18 (Fri)	<p>Medicaid Sylvia Kuo</p>	<p>"Health Coverage for Low-Income Populations: A Comparison of Medicaid and SCHIP" (KFF 2006) see OCRA</p>
2/21 (Mon)	No Classes! Happy President's Day!	
2/23 (Wed)	Uninsured	<p>"The Uninsured: A Primer (2010)" see OCRA</p> <p>"The 2007-2009 Recession and Health Insurance Coverage," (Holohan, 2011) see OCRA</p>
2/25 (Fri)	FIRST IN CLASS EXAM	Study hard, study well!
Week of 2/28	Section 3: Choosing a Medicare Part D Plan	See assignment on MyCourses
2/28 (Mon)	Introduction to the Delivery System	Essentials: Chpt 4, 7
3/2 (Wed)	<p>Primary Care Guest Lecturer: Mike Fine, M.D.</p> <p>Dr. Fine is a family practitioner who has been an active advocate for the uninsured, the disabled and injured workers here in RI for over a decade. He is currently Medical Programs Director at the RI Department of Corrections</p>	<p>"A Primary Care Home for Americans," (Grumbach and Bodenheimer 2002) see OCRA</p> <p>"The Primary Care – Specialty income Gap: Why it Matters" (Bodenheimer, 2007) see OCRA</p>

3/4 (Fri)	Primary Care	“Primary Care: Current Problems and Proposed Solutions” (Bodenheimer and Pham, 2010) see OCRA
Week of 3/7	Section 4: Certificate of Need	See assignment on MyCourses
3/7 (Mon)	Ambulatory Care FIRST WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE	“Where Americans Get Acute Care: increasingly, It’s Not at their Doctor’s Office” (Pitts et al, 2010) see OCRA “The Geographic Distribution, Ownership, Prices, and Scope of Practice at Retail Clinics” (Rudavsky et al., 2009) see OCRA
3/9 (Wed)	Hospitals	Essentials: Chpt 8 “Effect of Physician Ownership of Specialty Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgery Centers on Frequency and Use of Outpatient Orthopedic Surgery” (Mitchell, 2010) see OCRA
3/11 (Fri)	End of Life Care	
Week of 3/14	Section 5: End of Life	See assignment on MyCourses
3/14 (Mon)	Pay for Performance Guest Lecturer: Priya Hirway Priya is a graduate student in Health Policy; she was also the graduate TA for the course in 2010	To be decided
3/16 (Wed)	Long Term Care and Nursing Homes Guest Lecturer: David Gifford, M.D., M.P.H. Dr. Gifford is an internist and geriatrician who has served as a medical director to several nursing homes in Rhode Island as well as for a cooperative organization of long term care providers. He has been one of the leaders in the field of nursing home quality improvement and in the design of systems to monitor care provided to nursing homes. Since 2005 he has served as Director of the Department of Health for the state of RI, which, among other things has regulatory responsibility for nursing homes in the state.	Essentials: Chpt 10 Read “Out of the Shadows” – Executive Summary, Chpts 1, 2, 5, 6 see OCRA

3/18 (Fri)	Hospitals and Integrated Delivery Systems Guest Lecturer: Constance Howes, JD Constance Howes is the President and CEO of Women & Infants Hospital, one of the nation's leading specialty hospitals for women and newborns with the seventh-largest obstetrical service in the nation. Women & Infants is the regional treatment center for babies needing a high level of care, encompassing Rhode Island, southeastern Massachusetts and eastern Connecticut. She has overseen a new capital expansion of the hospital, including an expanded state-of-the-art neonatal intensive care unit.	"Could US Hospitals go the Way of the US Airline Industry" (Altman, 2006); see OCRA
3/21 (Mon)	Mental Health	"Achieving the Promise: Transforming Mental Health Care in America" see OCRA
3/23 (Wed)	SECOND IN CLASS EXAM	
3/25 (Fri)	Professional Authority in the US Health Care System	Essentials: Chpt 4
3/26 - 4/3	Spring Break! No Classes!	
4/4 (Mon)	Introduction to Health Care Regulation & Policy Formulation	Jonas, "Government and the Health Care System," Chapter 6 in An Introduction to the US Health Care System, see OCRA
4/6 (Wed)	The Federal Executive & Bureaucratic Agencies in Health Care Regulation	Essentials: Chpt 13 "The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services" see OCRA
4/8 (Fri)	Quality Regulation SECOND WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE	"Health Care Quality and How to Achieve It" see OCRA "Professionalism, Regulation, And The Market: Impact on Accountability For Quality of Care" see OCRA
Week of 4/11	Section 6: Quality Regulation	See assignment on MyCourses
4/11 (Mon)	Quality Regulation Continued	"Framework for a High Performance Health System for the United States" see OCRA

4/13 (Wed)	<p>The Patient Centered Medical Home Deidre Gifford, MD, MPH</p> <p>Dr. Gifford was trained in obstetrics and gynecology and is an expert in quality improvement. Since 2006 she has been the Director of the Rhode Island Chronic Care Sustainability Initiative, which is an effort to build Patient Centered Medical Homes in Rhode Island.</p>	<p>“The Patient-Centered Medical Home Movement: Why Now” (Larson and Reid, 2010) see OCRA</p> <p>“Practice Redesign and the Patient-Centered Medical Home: History, Promises, and Challenges” (Kilo and Wasson, 2010)</p>
4/15 (Fri)	The Role of the States in Health Care Policy & Regulation	“States Respond to Fiscal Pressure: A 50-State Update of State Medicaid Spending Growth and Cost Containment Actions” see OCRA
4/18 (Mon)	<p>Quality Improvement in Healthcare Laura Adams, CEO,</p>	To be decided.
4/20 (Wed)	<p>The Current State of National Health Reform Jim Morone, PhD</p>	To be decided
4/22 (Fri)	International Comparisons	<p>“Comparing Health System Performance in OECD Countries” see OCRA</p> <p>“Health Spending in the United States and the Rest of the Industrialized World” see OCRA</p>
4/25 (Mon)	International Comparisons Continued	“Taking The Pulse Of Health Care Systems: Experiences Of Patients With Health Problems In Six Countries” see OCRA
4/27 (Wed)	Last day of Class, Wrap-up and Review for Final	
5/11 (Wed)	FINAL EXAM, 9:00 am, Location TBA	