

PADM 5344.040 and 041 Health Policy and Politics

Fall 2009

Tues 6-8:40 pm

Tyler and Longview

Instructor: Prof. Larry Carter

Office hours MWF 10-11 am Tuesday 8-10 am and 5-6 pm. Also by appointment

Office location: BUS 267

Office phone: 903 565-5758

E-mail: larrycarter@uttyler.edu

Course Objectives

This course offers an overview of how the government makes health policy and delivers health services. Big (one seventh of the economy) and complex, health care policy is currently the center of the argument in Congress over what the role of the government should be in this area that concerns every citizen. All sides agree that increasing costs of health care must be controlled and that the current system lacks coverage for those who are unemployed or unable to afford health care insurance. Students will look at the role of political institutions in the policy process and gain a historical perspective of how we arrived where we are today and possible health care policy in the future. The current efforts by the Obama administration to reform health care will play an integral part of these studies.

Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate:

- familiarity with terminology used to study health policy and institutions
- basic knowledge of the historical evolution of American health policy
- an understanding of the role of Congress, the presidency, interest groups and bureaucrats in health policy
- comprehension of states and health care reform
- basic recognition of the health policy process and major actors involved
- awareness of problems faced by the current health system.

Blackboard

All students are required to sign up on the Blackboard site for this course. All class announcements, assignments and grades will be posted here. If you have any problems signing on to BlackBoard please go to the Computer Lab on the first floor of the Business Building.

Course Grading

There will be two exams given over the course of the semester each worth 100 points. These exams will be composed of essay questions related to readings and discussions. An 8-10 page research paper will also be required. It will be worth 100 points. On-line quizzes and in-class writing assignments will constitute participation. Weekly quizzes will be posted online.

Two exams 100 pts each	200 points
Research Paper	100 points
Quizzes/Participation	<u>200 points</u>
Total points	500 points

Scale	A	450-500 points
	B	400-459 points
	C	350-399 points
	D	300-349 points
	F	299 and below

Research Paper

An 8-10 page research paper over some part of health policy will be required from each student. The style in which the paper is written will be up to the student, but must be a formal research format. This includes footnotes or endnotes and at least five sources. It should be double spaced in 12 pt font. On-line research should be carefully screened for accuracy. Citations are a must! A formal bibliography will be at the end of the paper. Begin choosing your topics asap. Paper proposals are due on September 22. The paper itself will be due on November 24th. Papers should be emailed to me as a Word attachment to larrycarter@uttyler.edu

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected and roll will be taken daily. It is the responsibility of an absent student to get notes from fellow students. Students who miss more than 3 classes (unexcused) will have 50 points deducted from their total points. Make-up exams are subject to the approval of the instructor.

Grade Replacement

if you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to file an intent to use grade forgiveness will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. A student will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three (undergraduate student) or two (graduate student) course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler. (2006-08 Catalog, p. 35)

Disability Statement

If you have a disability, including learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support services office so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, students requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. For more information, call or visit the Student Services Center located in the University Center Room 282. Phone number 903 566-7079.

Social Security Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer program so that all students have an identification number.

Student Absence Due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of such absences.

Required Text

Governing Health. The Politics of Health Policy. Third Edition. Carol Weissert and William G Weissert. Johns Hopkins Press.

Always check BlackBoard for chapter quizzes and class updates.

Course Outline

Week 1

Tuesday September 1. Introduction. Discussion of current health policy.

Week 2

September 8 Chapter 1 Congress

Week 3

September 15 Chapter 2 The Presidency

Week 4

September 22 Chapter 3 Interest Groups
Paper proposals due

Week 5

September 29 Chapter 4 Bureaucracy

Week 6

October 6 Chapter 5 States and Health Care Reform

Week 7

October 13 Current health care legislation.

Week 8

October 20 Midterm exam. Essay. Bluebooks supplied by instructor.

Week 9

October 27 Chapter 6 The Policy Process

Week 10

November 3 Chapter 6 The Policy Process

Week 11

November 10 Chapter 7 Problems to Policy

Week 12

November 17 Chapter 7 Problems to Policy

Week 13

November 24 Class does not meet. Research Papers due via email. Must be received by midnight.

Week 14

December 1 Conclusions and final discussions

Week 15

December 7 Final Exam. Essay format.