



## **Health Care Policy Course Syllabus**

<b>Course Specifics:</b>	HLTH 4365, Section 1, Spring 2018 College of Health Sciences, Department of Population Health
<b>Course Prerequisites:</b>	Junior Standing
<b>Credit Hours:</b>	3
<b>Time &amp; Location:</b>	ONLINE
<b>Professor Details:</b>	Christine Cardinal, MPH, JD, (936) 294-2735, cardinal@shsu.edu Office Hours: Monday: 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Office Tuesday: 9:30 am – 1:30 pm, Office Wednesday: 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Office Thursday/Friday: By appointment

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

*HLTH 4365 Health Care Policy.*

*This course prepares students in the essential health policy and law, and the policies and legal issues impacting health care and public health systems. Also included are the methods used to formulate health policies and laws. What is "population health" and why does it matter? How does the U.S health care system compare to health systems in other countries? Why are U.S. health care costs so high? How is the U.S. health system financed? What are the basic principles of health insurance? Who are the uninsured? What is the state of U.S. health care reform? It is critical that public health professionals be able to answer these questions and understand the components of the U.S. health care system. This course will answer these questions through an introduction to the delivery, quality and costs of health care for individuals and populations in the U.S. Introduction to Health Management and Policy will prepare you for future study and work in the public health field and provide foundational knowledge of the structure, processes and outcomes related to U.S. health services.*

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

*This class will explore the fundamentals of health policy and the U.S. health-care system. Health care is a complex interaction of health services, distinctive economic forces and sophisticated technology. It is subject to a high degree of government regulation, which is reflected in this course.*

*Health policy is also controversial, with few clear-cut answers. Politicians find health care lends itself to demagoguery because it is so personal to constituents' lives. The course will reflect that as well. Weekly course materials and activities include:*

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Health care in 2020: Where uncertain reform, bad habits, too few doctors, and skyrocketing costs are taking us, Steve Jacob, Dorsam Publishing, 2012, ISBN-978-0-9839950-0-5. The book is available on Amazon.com – The book is not available from the University Bookstore.

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

Palfreman, J. & Reid, T. (Writers), & Palfreman, J. (Director) (2008). [Sick Around the World](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/sickaroundtheworld/), [Season 26, Episode 8]. Palfreman, J. (Executive Producer), *Frontline*. Boston, MA: ProPublica/NPR. Stream <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/sickaroundtheworld/> OR Purchase <https://www.amazon.com/Frontline-FRONTLINE-SICK-AROUND-WORD/dp/B001A40ZDC>

Nicks, P. (2013). [The Waiting Room](#). United States: Docurama.  
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Purchase [https://www.amazon.com/Waiting-Room-DemiaBruce/dp/B00FGR5WAA/ref=tmm\\_aiv\\_title\\_1?encoding=UTF8&qid=1483986562&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.com/Waiting-Room-DemiaBruce/dp/B00FGR5WAA/ref=tmm_aiv_title_1?encoding=UTF8&qid=1483986562&sr=1-2) – Rent or Buy from Amazon *(Not available for free online, but it may be at your local library.)*

Soechtig, S. (2014). *Fed Up*. United States: Atlas Films.

Stream <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=fed+up+movie&view=detail&mid=D34434DEC1A8F182E2AFD34434DEC1A8F182E2AF&FORM=VIRE>

Purchase <https://www.amazon.com/Fed-Up-Katie-Couric/dp/B00MRHFA72>

### **BOOK CLUB POSSIBILITIES- Choose One –Listen/Read**

*The checklist manifesto: How to get things right* by Atul Gawande [https://www.amazon.com/Checklist-Manifesto-How-Things-Right/dp/0312430000/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1513103174&sr=8-1&keywords=checklist+manifesto](https://www.amazon.com/Checklist-Manifesto-How-Things-Right/dp/0312430000/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1513103174&sr=8-1&keywords=checklist+manifesto)

*Five days at Memorial: Life and death in a storm-ravaged hospital* –by Sheri Fink [https://www.amazon.com/Sheri-Fink/e/B001K8GC80/ref=dp\\_byline\\_cont\\_book\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/Sheri-Fink/e/B001K8GC80/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1)

*The Hot Zone: The Terrifying True Story of the Origins of the Ebola Virus*- Richard Preston [https://www.amazon.com/Hot-Zone-Terrifying-Story-Origins/dp/0385479565/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1502132482&sr=1-1&keywords=hot+zone](https://www.amazon.com/Hot-Zone-Terrifying-Story-Origins/dp/0385479565/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1502132482&sr=1-1&keywords=hot+zone)

*An American sickness: How healthcare became big business and how you can take it back* -by Elisabeth Rosenthal [https://www.amazon.com/American-Sickness-Healthcare-Became-Business/dp/1594206759/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1513103438&sr=1-1&keywords=american+sickness](https://www.amazon.com/American-Sickness-Healthcare-Became-Business/dp/1594206759/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1513103438&sr=1-1&keywords=american+sickness)

*Mountains Beyond Mountains* –by Tracy Kidder <https://www.amazon.com/Mountains-Beyond-Tracy-Kidder/dp/0812973011>

*Better: A Surgeon's Notes on Performance* by Atul Gawande [https://www.amazon.com/Better-Surgeons-Performance-Atul-Gawande/dp/0312427654/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1502131921&sr=1-1&keywords=gawande+better](https://www.amazon.com/Better-Surgeons-Performance-Atul-Gawande/dp/0312427654/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1502131921&sr=1-1&keywords=gawande+better)

*Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness*- by Susannah Cahalan [https://www.amazon.com/Brain-Fire-My-Month-Madness-ebook/dp/B007EDOKZW/ref=sr\\_1\\_25?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1502133052&sr=1-25&keywords=medical&refinements=p\\_72%3A1248987011](https://www.amazon.com/Brain-Fire-My-Month-Madness-ebook/dp/B007EDOKZW/ref=sr_1_25?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1502133052&sr=1-25&keywords=medical&refinements=p_72%3A1248987011)

**All of the books are available on audible.com. I do not care if you choose to listen, read, or do a little of both as long as you complete the full book.**

### **Optional Extra Credit**

Read *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalinithi.-Audible run time is five and half hours. [https://www.amazon.com/s/?ie=UTF8&keywords=when+breath+becomes+air&tag=googhydr-20&index=aps&hvadid=177134488282&hvpos=1t2&hvnetw=s&hvrnd=5154180868367152209&hvpon e=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=e&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9027721&hvtargid=kwd-131214311094&ref=pd\\_sl\\_7fpgnoo6eg\\_e](https://www.amazon.com/s/?ie=UTF8&keywords=when+breath+becomes+air&tag=googhydr-20&index=aps&hvadid=177134488282&hvpos=1t2&hvnetw=s&hvrnd=5154180868367152209&hvpon e=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=e&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9027721&hvtargid=kwd-131214311094&ref=pd_sl_7fpgnoo6eg_e)

Then, relate the book to the health policies we have reviewed in this course. Focus on patient treatment, IRB regulations, and system communication. This assignment may be completed as a short paper. It should be two to three pages, Times New Roman 12pt font. Completion of this assignment with less than 3 grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors and the inclusion of evidence that you have in fact read/listened to the book will result in the addition of ten points to

your lowest assignment grade. The ten points will be added after the grading of your last assignment. The extra credit needs to be submitted before 04/16/18. –I will add the points in the place most advantageous to your overall grade.

### **COURSE TECHNOLOGY REQUIRED AND TECHNICAL SKILLS EXPECTED**

The following technology is recommended to be successful in this course: Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up) and Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Students should be able to use the Blackboard website for the course to perform the class activities that include: taking quizzes & exam, speaking during class discussions, group work, and presentations.

### **COURSE DELIVERY, REQUIREMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS**

Each week you will be responsible for class attendance, participation, and completing the assigned readings as well as assignments.

### **BOOK CLUB PAPER 04/09 11:59pm**

This paper should be between four and six pages, double spaced, 12 pt. font, Arial or Times New Roman, 1" Margins. Your heading should be on the page before your paper begins. Please do not reiterate the book. I have read them all multiple times. The purpose of this paper is to apply health policy analysis to your book in a unique and exciting way. You may cite the slides, Jacob, and scientific journal articles. While this paper may be relatively short, considerable analysis and consideration needs to be evident in the content. Please include an APA reference list and APA styled in-text citations. In other words, you do not need an abstract page, but should follow the APA otherwise. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> Every student that downloads, saves and then uploads the Purdue owl citation guidelines to blackboard with the submission of their paper, will receive 1 extra point added to their final paper grade. For every four grammatical/punctuation/spelling errors, you will lose a letter grade. It is highly recommended that you visit the writing center!!! You will receive another extra credit point if you email me verification that you visited the writing center before submitting your paper for this class.

### **EXAMINATION 04/28/18-04/30/18**

You will have to download Respondus Lockdown Browser to take the exam. There will be prompts when you click on the exam. If you have trouble with this download, contact IT-not me! <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/it@sam/> The exam will be cumulative including 50 multiple choice ?s & 2 essays. It will be based primarily on the class slides, questions & readings. The main objective will be to ensure you can demonstrate an understanding of the major theories and concepts associated with health policy and administration. The comprehensive exam will be open book and note, but it will be timed; so relying on these items is discouraged. **The professor must be notified as soon as possible of any conflicts with the presentation or final exam dates. Exam make-ups will be scheduled in advance of the exam date, in the event of a conflict.**

### **REFLECTION PAPER 05/01/18**

*Please write 2-4 pages relating health policy to a current event [examples include but are not limited to: NIH funding, tax cuts, refugee bans, repeal and replace, the hurricanes, Medicaid funding, resurgence of Mumps etc.]. This should be delivered in a 12 point font, double spaced, 1" margined, APA format. Substantial connection between the slides and or Jacob's book should be included in your paper. You may include reference to newspapers and or scientific journal articles. While some reference to your opinions is acceptable, please primarily cite objective resources to justify your understanding and policy connections.*

### **COMMUNICATION AND FEEDBACK**

If you have questions about anything in the course that is unclear, you can email the professor [cardinal@shsu.edu](mailto:cardinal@shsu.edu)

## **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS**

- Students are required to actively participate in classroom and online discussions as well as group and other assigned activities.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments by their assigned due date. Partial or no credit will be given for work completed after the due date at the discretion of the instructor.
- Students will be held accountable for all material assigned/covered in the course in the comprehensive exam.
- Active Participation & Respectful Citizenship is expected. You will lose points for rudeness and missing assignments.

## **ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS**

You will lose participation points when you are absent unless you have a valid reason supported by documented evidence. Please notify me in advance if you will be absent. Everyone is expected to discuss and participate in class. We all have a lot to learn from one another. Only documented family emergencies, documented illnesses, religious holidays, SHSU sports, or military orders will be excused. Don't be rude, please!

## **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS – NETIQUETTE GUIDELINES<sup>1</sup>**

Certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and instructors. The following netiquette guidelines are required for this course:

- *Treat instructor & peers with **respect**, even in e-mail or in any other online communication.*
- *Always use your professors' proper title: Dr. or Prof.*
- Please **double check the syllabus before emailing!!!!**
- Blackboard sometimes has errors. **The syllabus is always right-not BB.** Please email me if you see an error or discrepancy, and please respectfully inform me of it.
- All communication should have correct spelling. Utilize spell check.
- Avoid slang terms and texting abbreviations (such as "u" instead of "you")
- Be careful with personal information
- Do not begin emails with Hey, Hiya, Wassup or any vernacular greeting.
- Please sign your message with your name and **return e-mail address** especially if sent from BB.

Please review University Policies on Academic Honesty and Plagiarism.

**\*\*\*DO NOT CHEAT or PLAGIARIZE!\*\*\***

**IF A STUDENT IS DISCOVERED TO HAVE CHEATED/PLAGIARIZED, THE STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO FOR THE ASSIGNMENT AND WILL FAIL. CHEATING/PLAGIARISM OF ANY KIND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL RESULT IN SEVERE DISCIPLINARY ACTION IN MY CLASS.**

**Talking to the online class about their tests/quizzes to gain insight is cheating!!**

**Looking at a student from a former semester's old quizzes or papers is also cheating!!**

**\*\*\*DO NOT CHEAT or PLAGIARIZE!\*\*\***

## **ATTENDANCE**

Whether in the face-to-face or online portion, all students are expected to participate in class. The professor must be notified prior to exam time if an exam must be missed (due to illness, etc.). The absence must be considered excused by the university and written documentation provided. NOTE: It is strongly suggested that you do not wait until the module deadline to attempt exams, submit assignments, etc. Illness, computer issues, etc. will not be acceptable reasons for missing or late work.

## DISABILITY/ADAAA

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic program or activity. Students seeking academic accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 should register with Sam Houston State University Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). In order for students with disabilities to be eligible for academic accommodations and adjustments, they need to provide documentation that shows evidence of a “substantially limiting” disability as defined by federal legislation noted above. Service and documentation guidelines are available in the SSD office. Students needing interpreter services should notify SSD at least two months in advance of the semester. Adaptive technology is located in the SSD, the Newton Gresham Library (NGL), and computer labs around campus. SSD and NGL have CCTVs, screen readers, and scanners. Each computer lab has a large monitor and Zoom Text – level 2. If you feel that you have been discriminated against, you may file a grievance. Prior to filing a formal grievance, students are encouraged to resolve the issue directly with the individual involved. Procedures for filing academic grievances are provided in this document. If you are not satisfied, you may appeal to the ADA Compliance and Oversight Committee. Students with disabilities may request admissions or registration assistance by calling the Undergraduate Admissions Office (936) 294-1828 or Registrar’s Office (936) 294-1040. Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Counseling Center (936) 294-1720. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING POLICY

Course grades will be based on the course director’s/instructor’s evaluation of each student’s or group’s performance on the required components of the course according to the following scale:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-79%

F = <60%

Reflection Paper	10 percent	<u>05/01/18</u>
Participation/Citizenship	10 percent	<u>Weekly</u>
Exam	20 percent	<u>04/28/18 - 04/30/18 by 11:59 pm</u>
Book Club Paper	20 percent	<u>04/09/18 by 11:59pm</u>
Quizzes/Discussion	40 percent	<u>One or the other each week</u>

***Discussion boards are due on Sunday nights while quizzes are given during a window period as indicated below. Course Schedule –If for some reason, BB glitches, you need to email me the assignment to show that it is on time. BB due times do not matter. Occasionally they will be open longer for students with excusable absences, but your assignments will still be due as indicated below. Again, your assignments are due as indicated on the syllabus! Syllabus beats BB in any contest.***

Week	Topics	Assignments
<b>Week 1</b> 01/17/18	Introduction to Classroom Policies & Health Policy Basics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gain understanding of the syllabus &amp; schedule for the upcoming semester. Decide on your book club book &amp; introduce yourself on the board. This post will be part of your participation grade not a regular discussion board grade. Please complete your intro &amp; selection asap. TAKE SYLLABUS QUIZ 1/17-1/22 The videos should be played while looking at the slides. The audio content</li></ul>



		therein is for helping you gain deeper understanding, but you still need to read the slides in detail. Thanks!
<b>Week 2</b> 1/22	Global Health Refugee Health Care Sick Around the World	<b>Article</b> Hussey, Anderson, Osborn, et al., <i>How does the quality of care compare in five countries?</i> (Available at <a href="http://www.healthaffairs.org">www.healthaffairs.org</a> & on BB) Discussion Board Due 01/28 Watch Sick Around the World
<b>Week 3</b> 01/29	Insurance Past & Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skim Jacob Chapters 15 &amp; 19</li> </ul> Discussion Board 02/04
<b>Week 4</b> 02/5	Employer sponsored insurance & Managed-care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skim Jacob Chapter 18</li> <li>• Quiz Review Weeks 1-4, Window: 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b> 02/12	Medicare & Medicaid Public health insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skim Ch 16</li> <li>• Quiz! Window: 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Week 6</b> 02/19	Special Populations Waiting Room Quiz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCB Work Day</li> <li>• Skim Chapter 23</li> <li>• Quiz Window: 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b> 02/26	Geographic Variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article Maximum Medicine, Lubbock Heart Hospital <a href="http://www.tldp.com/issue/174/In%20Lubbock%20Texas.html">http://www.tldp.com/issue/174/In%20Lubbock%20Texas.html</a></li> <li>• Article Gawande, The Cost Conundrum <a href="http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2009/06/01/the-cost-conundrum">http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2009/06/01/the-cost-conundrum</a></li> </ul> Discussion Board Due 03/04
<b>Week 8</b> 03/05	IRB & RCA Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case studies &amp; RCA &amp; Josie King <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJbYwL2vfJE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJbYwL2vfJE</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• QUIZ Window: 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Week 9 S-Break</b> <b>Week 10</b> 3/19	No Classes Week 9  Preventive Services	Discussion Board Due 03/25 Article on BB or here: <a href="https://www.healthaffairs.org/action/showDoPubSecure?doi=10.1377%2Fhpb20101228.861785&amp;format=full&amp;">https://www.healthaffairs.org/action/showDoPubSecure?doi=10.1377%2Fhpb20101228.861785&amp;format=full&amp;</a>
<b>Week 11</b> 03/26	Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article Zaleznik, "Managers and Leaders: Are They Different?" on Blackboard</li> <li>• Article Kotter</li> <li>• Discussion Board Due 04/01</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12</b> 04/02	Genetics & Bias	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take a test: <a href="https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/">https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/</a></li> <li>• Discussion Board Due 04/08</li> </ul>
<b>Week 13</b> 04/09	Book Club Paper Due	Book Club Paper Due 04/09 Discussion Board Due 04/15
<b>Week 14</b> 04/16	<i>Fed Up</i>	Watch Fed Up Discussion Board Due 04/22
<b>Week 15</b> 04/23	<b>Exam</b> <b>04/28-04/30</b>	<b>Exam on 04/28-4/30</b> <b>Your exam IS NOT during finals week!!</b> No Quiz or discussion board

<b>Week 16</b> 04/30	Turn in Reflection Paper on Blackboard	Reflection Paper Due 05/01 No Quiz or Discussion Board Happy Summer!
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*I hope the overview of health policy theories will aid you in your career, & I wish you all great success! **Mens sana in corpore sano!** [healthy mind ~ healthy body]*

## Quotes to Consider for Success in this Class

***“Kindness is in our power, even when fondness is not.” -Author Samuel Johnson***

Be nice even if you don't love what your peers are writing on the discussion board

***“You can disagree without being disagreeable.”***

**-Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

If you can't say anything nice, still speak/write; just remember to do it politely.

***"An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last."***

**-Prime Minister Winston Churchill**

Don't procrastinate.

***“If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he/she becomes your partner.”-President Nelson Mandela***

All is not lost even if you really dislike what your peers are writing.

***“Education is not just about going to school and getting a degree. It's about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life.” -Author Shakuntala Devi***

Reading your peers' posts widens your perspective on how people think/complete assignments.

***“There are two kinds of people, those who do the work and those who take the credit. Try to be in the first group; there is less competition there.”***

**-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi**

Don't cheat. Your papers go through SafeAssign and or TurnItIn which will show me if you use one of your friends' papers or cut and paste from a blog post etc.

***“You cannot find peace by avoiding life.” –Author Virginia Woolf***

Participate! You will be happier for it or at least less anxious about your participation grade.

***“Negativity is the enemy of creativity.” –Artist David Lynch***

Review quotes one and two; follow them and your work will be more successful and creative.

***“Creativity takes courage.” –Artist Henri Matisse***

Be brave!!

***“Creativity is the power to connect the seemingly unconnected.” –Author William Plomer***

Policy Lectures + Book Club Book = Success