HCM320: Introduction to Health Policy

Credit Hours: 3

Contact Hours: This is a 3-credit course, offered in accelerated format. This means that 16 weeks of material is covered in 8 weeks. The exact number of hours per week that you can expect to spend on each course will vary based upon the weekly coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend 14-20 hours per week in each course reading material, interacting on the discussion boards, writing papers, completing projects, and doing research.

Course Description and Outcomes

Course Description:
This course will focus on the historical context of health care delivery and policy-making procedures. Students will focus on the political, economic, and social aspects of health care policy impacting both providers and patients. Further discussion will provide insight into the complexity of health care policy reformation, how the policy-making process works, and how moral and ethical decision-making at the policy level influence health care providers within the institutional settings. Public health awareness and preparedness will also be discussed as related to influencing political officials to formalize policy-making efforts through legislative reform.

Course Overview:
This course provides an introduction to health policy and its influence on the U.S. healthcare system. Students explore a foundation of policymaking, historical implications of healthcare legislation on policy development, and the economic and financial impact of current reform on healthcare institutions, political stakeholders, pharmaceuticals, and marketing. The underlying influence of political, economic, and social policymaking outcomes are also examined in relation to their effect on healthcare delivery.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the impact of political, economic, and social policymaking outcomes on healthcare delivery.
2. Examine the economic impact of policy reformation on the health care industry.
3. Compare and contrast former health care policy to current policymaking standards impacting institutions.
4. Assess the moral and ethical implications of health care policy upon institutions, patients, and medical professionals.
5. Explain the policymaking process and how it impacts pharmaceuticals, political stakeholders, and health care marketing.
6. Summarize the foundation of policymaking, historical implications of health care legislation on policy development, and the financial impact of current reform on health care institutions.
Participation & Attendance

Prompt and consistent attendance in your online courses is essential for your success at CSU-Global Campus. Failure to verify your attendance within the first 7 days of this course may result in your withdrawal. If for some reason you would like to drop a course, please contact your advisor.

Online classes have deadlines, assignments, and participation requirements just like on-campus classes. Budget your time carefully and keep an open line of communication with your instructor. If you are having technical problems, problems with your assignments, or other problems that are impeding your progress, let your instructor know as soon as possible.

Course Materials

Textbook Information is located in the CSU-Global Booklist on the Student Portal.

Course Schedule

Due Dates
The Academic Week at CSU-Global begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday.

- Discussion Boards: The original post must be completed by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. MT and Peer Responses posted by Sunday 11:59 p.m. MT. Late posts may not be awarded points.
- Opening Exercises: Take the opening exercise before reading each week’s content to see which areas you will need to focus on. You may take these exercises as many times as you need. The opening exercises will not affect your final grade.
- Mastery Exercises: Students may access and retake mastery exercises through the last day of class until they achieve the scores they desire.
- Critical Thinking: Assignments are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | • Chapters 1 & 3 in Health Policymaking in the United States  
        • Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2016). Why we need a culture of health. | • Discussion (25 points)  
• Opening Exercise (0 points)  
• Mastery Exercise (10 points)  
• Portfolio Project Milestone (10 points) |
| 2      | • Chapter 6 (pp. 165-188 only) & Chapter 7 of Health Policymaking in the United States  
• Opening Exercise (0 points)  
• Mastery Exercise (10 points)  
• Critical Thinking (100 points) |


Introcaso, D. (2016, December 5). Will the Republicans repeal the Affordable Care Act and be able to replace it: A conversation with Chris Jennings [Audio podcast].


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mastery Exercise (10 points)</th>
<th>Mastery Exercise (10 points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Trust for America’s Health. (2014). FY 2015 labor HHS appropriations bill: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health promotion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discussion (25 points)</th>
<th>Discussion (25 points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


### Assignment Details

This course includes the following assignments/projects:

#### Module 1

**PORTFOLIO PROJECT MILESTONE (10 points)**

Although for the final Portfolio Project you will choose between two options, the Portfolio Project Milestones for the milestone submissions are the same. Note that this is a milestone for the Portfolio Project and will be graded.

**Options #1 and #2: Analyzing Healthcare Policy**

Review the instructions and required elements of the Portfolio Project, listed under Module 8. Be sure to review the Portfolio Project Milestone in Week 4, which requires an assignment submission.

Familiarize yourself with the Mind Map site. Note that you do not need to sign up for an individual account in order to complete the Portfolio Project. In a Word document, submit a statement, which confirms that you have reviewed the Mind Map site and understand the premise of the tool. If you have any questions regarding the Mind Map site, also include these in your document submission.

#### Module 2
CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENT (100 points)
Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your
assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Policy Scholarly Articles
Complete a search in the CSU-Global Library for three peer-reviewed/scholarly articles specifically related to the
implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act policy. Summarize what each article presents. In
addition to the summarization of each article, please provide a comparison and contrast section that highlights the
similarities and differences between what is mentioned in the articles.

Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length and conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA. Include at least three
scholarly references in addition to the course textbook.

Option #2: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Policy Electronic Resources
Conduct an online search for three reputable websites, or electronically produced journals and/or magazines that
have specifically published content related to the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care
Act policy. Summarize what each site, blog, or electronic journal presents. Additionally, please provide a
comparison and contrast section, which highlights the similarities and differences between what is mentioned
across the three selections.

Your PowerPoint presentation must include at least 6 slides (not including the title and reference slides). These
slides should be created as if they will be presented to an interest group, in which members understand the basics
of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Each content slide must contain at least one paragraph of voice-
over or written information in the Notes section.

For information regarding the creation of a PowerPoint assignment, which is in compliance with CSU-Global Guide
to Writing & APA, visit the Online Research and Writing Lab (e.g., the Visual Presentation tab). Include at least
three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook.

Module 3

CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENT (100 points)
Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your
assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Meaningful Use Policy
Review the information in the textbook for this module; additionally, review the following online article addressing
CMS - Meaningful Use. Write a paper that addresses the following questions about this recent policy modification:

- What is the overall focus of this policy?
- Who would receive the greatest benefit from this policy?
- What are possible negative aspects of this policy?
- What research, if any, has been considered in the rationale for creating this policy?

Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length and conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA. Include at least three
scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these
references.

Option #2: Medicare Access and Chip Reauthorization Act (MACRA): New Incentive-Based Physician Pay Program
Review the information in the textbook for this module; additionally, review the following online article addressing
MACRA: New incentive-based physician pay program. Create an infographic that addresses the following questions
about this recent policy modification:
• What is the focus of the overall focus of this policy?
• Who would receive the greatest benefit from this policy and why?
• What are possible negative aspects of this policy?
• What research figured into the rationale of this policy?

For this assignment, it is important to note that the infographic does not require APA in-text citations, but a reference list, including at least three scholarly references, should be included separately, which provides citation information for the information that is presented. Your reference list should conform to CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

If you are not familiar with the process of creating an infographic, there are free programs available online. Review the tutorials for these programs at Infogr.am and Piktochart.

Module 4

PORTFOLIO PROJECT MILESTONE (40 points)
Although for the Portfolio Project you will choose between two options, the Portfolio Project Milestones for each submission are the same. Note that this is a milestone for the Portfolio Project and will be graded.

Options #1 and #2: Indicate your choice for the Portfolio Project and your healthcare policy topic. Submit a list of at least three references that will be utilized for research. Format all references according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

Module 5

CAREER DEVELOPMENT ASSIGNMENT (70 points)
As you continue your academic work in healthcare management, you will certainly be thinking about your career. Whether you are new to your program, or transitioning into a new area of your program, now is the time to explore careers and get to know as much as you can about careers in healthcare management. The more you learn about your career choices, the more you will also think about how your skills and experiences align with the different choices you can make.

For this assignment, you will get to know the information and resources that are available to you at the CSU-Global Student Career Center. Using these resources, you can complete a personal and career evaluation, begin to assemble (or update) your Career Portfolio, and explore internships and volunteer opportunities. While you will not turn in your Career Portfolio, as part of this assignment, you will want to begin to build your portfolio to help you complete this and other career development assignments in future courses.

Assignment Preparation/Activities
1. Visit the CSU-Global Career Center and familiarize yourself with the website and its associated resources.
2. In the Career Center, read the Personal and Career Evaluation. Download and complete any worksheets that will help you complete your assignment.
3. In the Career Center, read Landing a Job/Internships and explore the website http://www.internships.com/.
4. Conduct an online search in two areas related to healthcare management:
   a. Volunteer opportunities in your community.
   b. Identify (and bookmark) professional societies and certifications in healthcare management that interest you.

Assignment Requirements
Develop a well-written paper, which includes the following information:

• One internship position of interest: Include a link to the internship description and provide a summary of how this position relates to your career goals.
• **One volunteer opportunity of interest:** Include a link to the description for the volunteer opportunity and provide a summary of how this opportunity relates to your career goals.

• **One professional certification of interest:** Include a link to the description of this certification and summarize the qualifications required to obtain certification, as well as the value provided by the certification.

• A summary of your **Personal and Career Evaluation.** In your summary, include a discussion about why you are interested in a specific career. Then, provide information regarding your experience of completing the evaluation. Do you feel the evaluation was accurate and/or did anything surprise you about the results? Explain your thoughts regarding this evaluation.

Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length and conform to **CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.** Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

---

**Module 6**

**CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENT (100 points)**

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

**Option #1: International/Global Healthcare Policy Paper**

Global health and healthcare policies play an important role for citizens around the world. These policies may deal with how to handle the spread of dangerous diseases, providing services for those in deeply rural areas, or any number of health concerns that impact various populations. Global organizations often combine the expertise of personnel and multiple funding options to develop policies that serve people across the globe.

Select either the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation or the Global Health Council. Review the organization’s website and any related press releases. Often, these organizations will link publications and other resources on their site, which are available for public access.

Write a summary of the organization and its activities. Answer the following components in your summary and note that you are not limited to what is listed here:

- Assess the organization’s structure.
- Evaluate the organization’s major goals and most important initiatives at this time. Explain why these are important.
- Review the leading members of the organization. Are these people based only in the United States or in other parts of the world?
- Summarize the organization’s most significant accomplishments within the global healthcare policy arena.

Your paper should be 2-3 pages in length and conform to **CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.** Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

**Option #2: International/Global Healthcare Policy Presentation**

Global health and healthcare policies play an important role for citizens around the world. These policies may deal with how to handle the spread of dangerous diseases, providing services for those in deeply rural areas, or any number of health concerns that impact various populations. Global organizations often combine the expertise of personnel and multiple funding options to develop policies that serve people across the globe.

Create a PowerPoint presentation of 8-10 slides that compares and contrasts the two healthcare organizations: The Commonwealth Fund and The Center for Global Development.

You may use the following checklist as a guide:
- Review the major activities in which these organizations participate.
- Review the leading members of and/or sponsors of these organizations.
- Assess how their geographic location(s) influence their global healthcare goals and services.
- Discuss how these organizations influence global healthcare policy initiatives.
- Investigate whether these organizations partner with any other agencies that have influence over global healthcare policy activities.

Your PowerPoint presentation should be 8 to 10 slides in length, which does not include your title or reference slides. Slide notes should be presented, in the notes section of the .PPT slides, which explain your slides. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Module 8

Portfolio Project (300 points)
Choose one of the following two Portfolio Project options to complete in Week 8. Do not complete both options. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Options #1: Analyzing Federal Healthcare Policy
For the wrap-up of this course, it is time to weave together all the knowledge that you have gained. The goal of this project is to integrate the previous Critical Thinking Assignments into an interconnected exploration of a specific healthcare policy.

For the Portfolio Project, you will complete a two-part assignment (further explained below). Pretend that you are making an appearance before a community group that is having a policy explained to them for the first time. Imagine that the group has no knowledge of what happens behind the scenes to create and implement a healthcare policy. You will not actually be required to present this to a group, but prepare the project so that it would be acceptable for an audience of that nature.

The two documents are as follows:
1. A mind map (via the Mind Map website) depicting the essential points and subpoints of your topic. Note: Think of the mind map as a visual outline of your responses to the questions listed below.
2. A narrative explanation that covers the rationale, research, and processes involved in creating this healthcare policy. The narrative essay should serve as the commentary to accompany the mind map if it were being presented to the group mentioned above. Your narrative explanation should be 4-5 pages in length (not including your cover or reference pages).

In this Portfolio Project, you will analyze a national and global healthcare policy. Select a specific federal healthcare policy (other than the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act) to review. Provide information related to the following points:
- Explain the initial introduction process of the original policy. Who developed it and/or sponsored it?
- Assess the research that was conducted and/or analyzed to determine the need for the policy.
- Discuss how the policy was promoted or lobbied against at the federal level.
- Evaluate the impact, or intended impact, of the policy. Please consider the viewpoints of multiple stakeholders, and include the financial impact.
- Explain how this policy affects other healthcare policies.
- Explain any moral or ethical implications of this policy.
- Review any other countries currently working toward a similar policy or that have successfully passed a similar policy. Is the process similar or different?

For this assignment, refer to the handout – Writing an Effective Essay. You may also want to view the sample paper, Does Your Paper Look Like This?
You can go to the CSU-Global Library's APA resources for an APA Template Paper and replace the placeholders with your own information. This template is already formatted in APA style according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

Be sure your 4 to 5 page narrative paper, which does not include your cover or reference pages, follows APA style according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

Note: When you complete the Mind Map, you will be given a web address specifically created for the map. Type this web address at the top of the first page of your narrative, and then submit this information. Note that you will be given a web address, as well as a view-only web address. The first address, which is not view-only, is the one that should be submitted.

**Option #2: Analyzing State Healthcare Policy**

For the wrap-up of this course, it is time to weave together all the knowledge that you have gained. The goal of this project is to integrate the previous Critical Thinking Assignments into an interconnected exploration of a specific healthcare policy.

For the Portfolio Project, you will complete a two-part assignment (further explained below). Pretend like you are making an appearance before a community group that is having a policy explained to them for the first time. Imagine that the group has no knowledge of what happens behind the scenes to create and implement a healthcare policy. You will not actually be required to present this to a group, but prepare the project so that it would be acceptable for an audience of that nature.

The two documents are as follows:

1. A mind map (via the Mind Map website) depicting the essential points and subpoints of your topic. Note: Think of the mind map as a visual outline of your responses to the questions listed below.
2. A narrative explanation that covers the rationale, research, and processes involved in creating this healthcare policy. The narrative essay should serve as the commentary to accompany the mind map if it were being presented to the group mentioned above. Your narrative explanation should be 4-5 pages in length (not including your cover or reference pages).

This Portfolio Project will focus on state healthcare policy. Select a specific state healthcare policy, other than the policy covered in Module 3, to review. Provide information related to the following points:

- Explain the initial introduction process of the original policy.
- Assess the research that was conducted and/or analyzed to determine the need for the policy.
- Discuss how the policy was promoted or lobbied against at the state level.
- Review any other state entities currently working toward a similar policy or that have successfully passed a similar policy. Is the process similar or different?

For this assignment, refer to the handout – *Writing an Effective Essay*. You may also want to view the sample paper, *Does Your Paper Look Like This?*

You can go to the CSU-Global Library's APA resources for an APA Template Paper and replace the placeholders with your own information. This template is already formatted in APA style according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

Be sure your 4 to 5 page narrative paper, which does not include your cover and reference pages, follows APA style according to the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA.

Note: When you complete the Mind Map, you will be given a web address specifically created for the map. Type this web address at the top of the first page of your narrative, and then submit this information. Note that you will be given a web address, as well as a view-only web address. The first address, which is not view-only, is the one that should be submitted.
Course Policies

Course Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Discussion Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Opening Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Mastery Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37%</td>
<td>Critical Thinking Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Portfolio Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale and Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95.0 – 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90.0 – 94.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86.7 – 89.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83.3 – 86.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80.0 – 83.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75.0 – 79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70.0 – 74.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60.0 – 69.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59.9 or below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In-Classroom Policies

For information on late work and incomplete grade policies, please refer to our In-Classroom Student Policies and Guidelines or the Academic Catalog for comprehensive documentation of CSU-Global institutional policies.

Academic Integrity

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /re-purposing your own work (see CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA for percentage of repurposed work that can be used in an assignment), unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration. The CSU-Global Library provides information on how students can avoid plagiarism by understanding what it is and how to use the Library and Internet resources.

Citing Sources with APA Style

All students are expected to follow the CSU-Global Guide to Writing & APA when citing in APA (based on the APA Style Manual, 6th edition) for all assignments. For details on CSU-Global APA style, please review the APA resources within the CSU-Global Library under the “APA Guide & Resources” link. A link to this document should also be provided within most assignment descriptions in your course.

Disability Services Statement

CSU–Global is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Coordinator at 720-279-0650 and/or email ada@CSUGlobal.edu for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Netiquette

Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, deeming written or oral comments of an ethnic,
religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom.

If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.