

PGS 381N HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

Unique Number 58971

Spring 2017

TTh 9:30A – 10:45A

PHR 5.214

SYLLABUS

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:00P—2:00P and Thursdays 1:30P—2:30P
or by appointment

Course Description

The U.S. health care system is complex and multi-faceted. Entities that provide or influence the provision of health care services include:

- health care providers;
- health care facilities;
- manufacturers of pharmaceuticals and medical diagnostics and devices;
- payers;
- regulatory agencies;
- legislative entities;
- legal entities;
- professional associations;
- and (very important) patients, family members of patients, other caregivers.

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of:

- the structure of the U.S. health care system;
- how health care system entities function and relate to each other;
- the effects of various aspects of the system on patients, providers, health plans, and others; and
- relevant issues pertaining to the system.

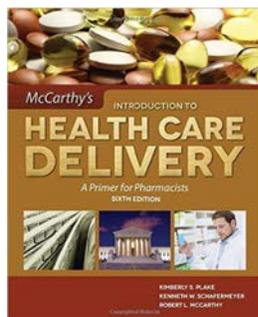
We will review some of the classic and contemporary literature regarding the health care system, third party payment systems, and managed health care systems, and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of these systems. Also, we will explore the effects these systems have had and will have on health care and patient outcomes in the U.S. We will examine how revision or repeal/replacement of the Affordable Care Act may affect the delivery of health care services in the future.

Resources

Required Text:

Introduction to Health Care Delivery, [Sixth Edition](#), Kimberly S. Plake, Kenneth W. Schafermeyer, and Robert L. McCarthy, editors (Boston: Jones and Bartlett Learning), 2017.

[Amazon: \$35 to rent; \$87 to buy]



Selected journal articles

Current articles (from various sources identified by students)

Evaluation

Assignment

Points

Short Written Assignments (2 planned; 10 pts each)	20
Current Article Summary Presentations (3 planned; 8, 8, 9 pts)	25
Term paper	25
Presentation of term paper	10
Class preparation and participation	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	100

Course Grades

Letter Grade	Course Average (Percent)	Grade Points	Letter Grade	Course Average (Percent)	Grade Points
A	93% – 100%	4.0	C+	77% – 79%	2.33
A-	90% – 92%	3.67	C	73% – 76%	2.0
B+	87% – 89%	3.33	C-	70% – 72%	1.67
B	83% – 86%	3.0	D+	68% – 69%	1.33
B-	80% – 82%	2.67	D	66% – 67%	1.0
			D-	65%	0.67
			F	< 65%	0.0

(Note for letter grade reporting: x.45% to x.99% will be rounded to the higher whole number. x.01% to x.44% will be rounded to the lower whole number.)

Short Written Assignments (SWA)

Two short written assignments are planned for the course. These may take the form of questions over readings, summaries of readings, questions over other course material, or other types of assignments. In general, the purpose of these assignments is to encourage you to think about the materials you are reading and to prepare yourself for class discussions. I will evaluate these assignments based primarily on content; however, please pay attention to form and writing style.

Current Articles (CA)

For most class meetings, a student will be given the assignment of finding a recent article (**no more than 6 months old**) about a current health care system-related issue and presenting a **brief** oral summary (**5 minutes**) of the article then leading a limited discussion (**5 minutes**). Articles may be taken from research literature (e.g., *American Journal of Managed Care*, *Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy*, *Health Affairs*, etc.), or lay literature (e.g., websites, newspapers, popular magazines, etc.). The purposes of this activity are to encourage you to read about health care system-related issues in a variety of sources and to stimulate class discussion of contemporary issues.

Term Paper

As you think about the readings, lectures, and class discussions, certain topics may attract your attention. Alternatively, some related topics of interest to you may not be covered in the readings or lectures and discussions. The term paper allows you to investigate these topics in greater depth through more detailed reading from journals and books. You may choose topics related to health care systems which are not covered in this class, or you may choose to expand on topics which are covered in the class. A list of potential topics will be provided, but you are not limited to selecting from these topics.

You must submit your term paper topic to me for approval by March 21, 2017 (but earlier is ok). Duplicate topics will not be approved (“first come—first served”). The term paper is due at the beginning of class on April 18, 2017.

Criteria for the paper:

- 10 to 15 double-spaced, typed pages in length (12 pt Calibri font, 1-inch margins);
- includes a statement of purpose;
- use section headings where appropriate;
- use transition statements to link sections together to improve flow;
- contains appropriate references
 - You may use a referencing style of your choice, but it should be used consistently throughout the paper;
 - Reference appropriately—**avoid plagiarism!**
- will be graded for form (format, organization and flow, grammar, spelling, and punctuation) and content (quality and clarity of ideas expressed, logic, relevance, and support of arguments and opinions).

Point Allocation for the Term Paper

Content	50%
Organization and Flow (including transitions)	20%
Writing style (sentence structure, punctuation, spelling)	20%
Referencing (format, punctuation, consistency)	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	100%

Presentation of Term Paper

During designated class meetings near the end of the semester, each student will make a presentation of the contents of his or her term paper (20-25 minutes for the presentation and 10-15 minutes for questions and discussion). Plan to use visual aids (PowerPoint slides, etc.). The presentation will be graded on content and delivery style. (See point allocation below as a preparation guide.) **Each student will have 35 minutes total** for the presentation and questions/discussion. I will strictly adhere to the time limit so that all students have equal time. You may switch presentation days with another student if he or she agrees to the switch. Please notify me of any switches before your presentations.

Point Allocation for the Presentation of the Term Paper

Content	40%
Organization and Flow	10%
Delivery	20%
AV Support (slides)	15%
Responses to Questions	<u>15%</u>
TOTAL	100%

Class Preparation and Participation

Attendance is expected--it will be considered as a part of the class participation evaluation. If possible, please notify me before class if you will be unable to attend.

The class will be conducted in a lecture/discussion format. As with many graduate-level courses, classroom discussions are an important component of the learning process. Readings will be assigned for class meetings. These readings provide background information and form the basis for classroom discussion; therefore, you should complete the reading assignments before class.

Academic Integrity

The “Statement of Scholastic Integrity of the College of Pharmacy” reads as follows:
“Pharmacy practitioners enjoy a special trust and authority based upon the profession's commitment to a code of ethical behavior in its management of client affairs. The inculcation of a sense of responsible professional behavior is a critical component of professional education, and high standards of ethical conduct are expected of pharmacy students. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties including failure of the course involved and dismissal from the college and/or the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, fellow students, and the integrity of the University and the College of Pharmacy, policies on scholastic dishonesty are strictly enforced.”

Each student in the course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code:
“As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.”

Students are expected to work independently on all examinations and written assignments unless otherwise specified by the instructors. Any student caught cheating will be given a zero on the exam/assignment and other penalties may be assessed. Any student suspected of dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of the College of Pharmacy and to the UT Dean of Students, as per University regulations. Students are expected to have read and to understand what constitutes scholastic dishonesty and the relevant procedures as published in the current issue of the General Information Catalog. Please refer to the Student Conduct and Academic Integrity website (<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct/>) for the official University policies and procedures on academic integrity.

Academic Accommodations

“The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.” All University rules concerning accommodations must be followed, including the student arranging for special accommodations **prior to each examination**. In the absence of such prearrangement, the instructors will assume that the student is not requesting special accommodations for that exam, and the student will be expected to take the exam with the rest of the class at the regularly schedule time and location.” For more information, contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone) (<http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>).

Canvas and E-Mail:

The official Canvas web site for this course can be accessed through UTDirect or via <http://courses.utexas.edu>. On this site, you can access the course syllabus, selected readings, grades, and other course resources. E-mail is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, you are responsible for reading your e-mail for university and course-related information and announcements.

Emergency Procedures

Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated or an official announcement is given.

- Evacuation procedures require orderly exiting and assembly outside.
- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.
- During an evacuation — follow the instructions of faculty or class instructors.
- Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services.
- **CAMPUS CARRY**
Students should familiarize themselves with the information provided by the University regarding the implementation of “Campus Carry” legislation. You will find an information sheet specifically for students (as well as sheets for parents, visitors, faculty, and staff) at <http://campuscarry.utexas.edu/info-sheets>."
- **LOCKDOWN**
The directive “Lockdown” is used to protect occupants in proximity of an immediate threat by limiting access to buildings and rooms. If no specific locations are given, all buildings should initiate lockdown procedures. Should you discover that there is a violent or potentially violent person in your building or area, **DO NOT CONFRONT THE PERSON UNLESS THERE IS NO OTHER OPTION TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.**
- **SHELTER-IN-PLACE**
For weather:
 1. Go to the lowest level of the building if possible.
 2. Stay away from the windows.
 3. Go to interior hallways and rooms.
 4. Use arms to protect head and neck in a “drop and tuck” position.
 5. Monitor emergency communications for specific instructions (www.utexas.edu/emergency).
For environmental incidents (chemical, biological, or radiological releases):
 1. Go inside the nearest building.
 2. Close all doors, windows, and other inlets from the outside.
 3. Shut down the fresh air intake or HVAC system if possible.
 4. Monitor emergency communications for specific instructions (www.utexas.edu/emergency).

ITS

Need help with technology? <http://www.utexas.edu/its/>
Canvas help 24/7 at <https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/633028/pages/student-tutorials>

Religious Holy Days

According to UT Austin policy, you must notify the course coordinator of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal>.

PGS 381N Schedule and Reading List—Spring 2017 (as of January 13, 2017—schedule subject to change)

#	DATE	TOPIC	READINGS*	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
1	1/17 T	Course Introduction		
2	1/19 Th	Historical Perspective/ Current Trends	Ch 1*: Healthcare Delivery in America: Historical and Policy Perspectives Ch 2: Healthcare Professionals and Interdisciplinary Care	
3	1/24 T	Basic Concepts in Health Economics, Risk, and Insurance	Ch 14: Basic Economic Principles Affecting Health Care Ch 15: Unique Aspects of Health Economics	CA1—
4	1/26 Th	Basic Concepts in Health Economics, Risk, and Insurance (cont)	Arrow K, "Insurance, Risk and Resource Allocation," in <i>Essays in the Theory of Risk Bearing</i> , (Chicago: Markham Publishing), 1971: 10 pages. Kongstvedt P, "Preface—Is Health Insurance?" <i>Essentials of Managed Health Care</i> , 6 th edition, (Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning), 2013: 8 pages	CA1—
5	1/31 T	Overview of the U.S. Healthcare System/ Healthcare Expenditures	The Kaiser Family Foundation, "Health Care Costs: A Primer," Report (44 pages), May 2012. http://kff.org/health-costs/issue-brief/health-care-costs-a-primer/	CA1—
6	2/2 Th	Overview/Healthcare Expenditures (cont)	Martin et al., "National Health Spending: Faster Growth in 2015 as Coverage Expands and Utilization Increases," <i>Health Affairs</i> , January 2017; 36(1): 166-176.	CA1—
7	2/7 T	Overview/Healthcare Expenditures (cont)	Aaron and Ginsburg, "Is Health Spending Excessive? If So, What Can We Do about It?" <i>Health Affairs</i> , Sep/Oct 2009; 28(5): 1260-1275.	CA1— CA1—
8	2/9 Th	Invited Guest Speaker Pending		
9	2/14 T	The Patient/Hospitals	Ch 4: The Patient Ch 8: Hospitals	CA1—

10	2/16	Th	Ambulatory Care and Home Care	Ch 9: Ambulatory Care Ch 12: Home Care	CA1—
11	2/21	T	Long-Term Care and Behavioral Health Services	Ch 10: Long-Term Care Ch 11: Behavioral Health Services	CA2—
12	2/23	Th	Pharmacy	Ch 3: The Pharmacist and the Pharmacy Profession	CA2—
13	2/28	T	PBMs and Rx Pricing	Congressional Budget Office, "Prescription Drug Pricing in the Private Sector," January 2007, 34 pages. Prescription Drug Benefit Cost and Plan Design Report, 2015-2016	CA2—
14	3/2	Th	PBMs and Rx Pricing (cont)		CA2—
15	3/7	T	Private Health Insurance	Ch 16: Private Health Insurance Ch 17: Managed Health Care	CA2—
16	3/9	Th	Private Health Insurance (cont)	The Kaiser Family Foundation, "How Private Insurance Works: A Primer" Report (28 pages), April 2008. http://kff.org/health-costs/issue-brief/how-private-health-coverage-works-a-primer/	CA2—
	3/13-3/17		Spring Break (No Class)		
17	3/21	T	Pharmaceutical Industry	Dr. Marv Shepherd invited Ch 5: Drug Use, Access, the Supply Chain, and the Role of the Pharmaceutical Industry Barlett and Steele, "Why Your Drugs Cost So Much," <i>Time</i> , February 2, 2004: 44-52.	Term Paper Topic Approval Deadline
18	3/23	Th	Public Health Insurance -- Medicaid	Ch 13: Government Involvement in Health Care Ch 18: Medicare and Medicaid (427-437) The Kaiser Family Foundation, "Medicaid at a Glance," Jan 6, 2015. http://kff.org/medicaid/fact-sheet/the-medicaid-program-at-a-glance-update/	CA2— CA2—

19	3/28	T	Public Health Insurance -- Medicaid	<p>Potential Reading-Kaiser Family Foundation, “Modern Era Medicaid— Findings from a 50 State Survey,” January 2015.</p> <p>http://kff.org/medicaid/report/modern-era-medicaid-findings-from-a-50-state-survey-of-eligibility-enrollment-renewal-and-cost-sharing-policies-in-medicaid-and-chip-as-of-january-2015/?utm_campaign=KFF%3A+General&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=15657680&hsenc=p2ANqtz--AKXaV93ISxsWtbG3YsGTvLLoAB39fyJg0AZ3Yo-fpZjijR_vaAvnsk2_C1dZicSTNylyo11eCCH46wn6I3L4XANBanspoiWD1iRe5uKdBr5pg&hsmi=15657680</p>	CA3—
20	3/30	Th	Public Health Insurance (cont) -- Medicare	<p>Ch 18: Medicare and Medicaid (438-447)</p> <p>The Kaiser Family Foundation, “An Overview of Medicare,” April 1, 2016.</p> <p>http://kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/an-overview-of-medicare/</p>	CA3—
21	4/4	T	Public Health Insurance (cont) -- Medicare	<p>The Kaiser Family Foundation, “The Facts on Medicare Spending and Financing,” Jul 10, 2016.</p> <p>http://kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/the-facts-on-medicare-spending-and-financing/</p>	CA3—
22	4/6	Th	Public Health Insurance (cont) – Medicare Part D	<p>The Kaiser Family Foundation, “The Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefit,” Sep 26, 2016. http://kff.org/medicare/fact-sheet/the-medicare-prescription-drug-benefit-fact-sheet/</p>	CA3—
23	4/11	T			CA3— CA3—
			Research Day No Class		
24	4/13	Th	Invited Guest Speaker Pending		

25	4/18	T	Health Care Reform ACA Changes	Ch 21: Healthcare Reform Sanger-Katz M, "Obamacare Repeal Is Moving Forward, When Will Changes Affect Consumers?" New York Times, Jan 13, 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/13/upshot/obamacare-repeal-is-moving-forward-when-will-changes-affect-consumers.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FHealth%20Insurance%20and%20Managed%20Care&action=click&contentCollection=health&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=4&pgtype=collection&r=0	CA3— CA3—
26	4/20	Th	Term Paper Presentations		Term Papers Due
27	4/25	T	Term Paper Presentations		
28	4/27	Th	Term Paper Presentations		
29	5/2	T	Term Paper Presentations		
30	5/4	Th	Course Wrap-up / Course Evaluation		

* Chapter assignments are in *Introduction to Health Care Delivery*, Sixth Edition, Kimberly S. Plake, Kenneth W. Schafermeyer, and Robert L. McCarthy, editors (Boston: Jones and Bartlett Learning), 2017.