HA 3900, Fall Semester 2017

**Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30am – 10:45am

Langdale Hall, Room 315

**Instructor:** Daniel Montanera, Ph.D.

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Office:** 35 Broad St. NW (RCB), Rm. 813, Institute of Health Administration (Suite 805)

**Telephone:** (404) 413-7640

**Email:** dmontanera1@gsu.edu

**Prerequisites:** None

**Catalogue Description:**

This course will introduce and describe the complex health care services system in the US. Students will understand how the system developed, how health services in the US are organized, managed, and financed, as well as the key issues facing the health care sector.

**Detailed Course Description:**

This course is intended to provide students with an overview of health services systems in the United States. This will be accomplished through an in-depth review and readings of:

- The historical development of the US health care system;
- How the health care system is organized, managed, and financed;
- Resource production and the health care workforce;
- The delivery system (all levels/types), and access to care;
- Measuring the outcomes of the health care system;
- Future directions of the delivery system.

Students will be exposed to the ways in which the US health care system works as well as the manner in which services are deployed. Course content will assist students who are planning a clinical career, considering employment in the health care sector, considering a graduate degree in health care management, or seeking a broader understanding of how the system works.

**Textbook and Readings:**

2. Assigned readings (see lecture breakdown).
Lecture Breakdown:

Week 1 (August 22 and 24): Introduction

AM (pg. xvii – xxi)


Week 2 (August 29 and 31): Organization

AM Chapter 5 (pg. 139 – 141)

Week 3 (September 5 and 7): Management

Week 4 (September 12 and 14): Access


Week 5 (September 19 and 21): Quality of Care

AM Chapter 2 (pg. 64 – 68)
AM Chapter 3 (pg. 77 – 87, 94 – 101)


Week 6 (September 26 and 28): Workforce and Review

AM Chapter 1 (pg. 12 – 16, 19 - 22),
AM Chapter 6 (pg. 190 – 196, 207 – 210, 214 – 216)

Week 7.5 (October 3): Midterm Examination
Week 7.5 and 8 (October 5, 10, and 12): Hospitals

AM Chapter 1 (pg. 2 – 7, 22 – 26),

Week 9 (October 17 and 19): Continuum of Care

AM Chapter 1 (pg. 7 – 11)


Week 10 (October 24 and 26): Health Insurance

AM Chapter 2 (pg. 31 – 34, 37 – 47, 69, 70)
AM Chapter 5 (pg. 153 – 162)

Week 11 (October 31 and November 2): Financing

AM Chapter 2 (pg. 47 – 64, 68 - 71)
AM Chapter 4 (pg. 110 – 112, 130 - 133)
AM Chapter 5 (pg. 163 – 167, 171 – 173)

Week 12 (November 7 and 9): Managed Care

AM Chapter 1 (pg. 16 – 18)
AM Chapter 2 (pg. 34 – 37)
AM Chapter 5 (pg. 162, 163)

Week 13 (November 14 and 16): Technology

AM Chapter 3 (pg. 87 – 93)
AM Chapter 4 (pg. 107 – 110, 112 – 129)


Week 14 (November 28 and 30): Future of the US Health Care System and Review

AM Chapter 5 (pg. 141 – 152, 168 – 171, 174 – 183)

Grading Components:

1. Classroom participation ........................................... 10%
2. Case write-ups .............................................................. 25%
3. Midterm examination (October 3)................................. 25%
4. Final examination (December 7)................................. 40%
5. “Need”........................................................................ 0%

Grading Scale:

The GSU (+),(-) grade scale is in effect as follows: A+ = 100 – 97; A = 96 – 94; A- = 93 – 90; B+ = 89-87; B = 86 – 84; B- = 83 – 80; C+ = 79 – 77; C = 76 – 74; C- = 73 – 70; D = 69 – 60; F = 59 or lower.

General Information:

1. Students are expected to attend all lectures and are thus responsible for all materials presented in the classroom.
2. Since students are expected to attend all lectures, and the midterm examination will be scheduled within class time, there will be no make-up midterm. If the midterm is missed for acceptable reasons, its weight on the final grade will be redistributed across the other grading components at the discretion of the instructor.
3. Late assignments will be subject to a 10-point penalty. There will be additional 10-point penalties per day between the assigned submission deadline and the time of actual submission, up to a maximum of 50% of possible points.
4. Any cheating, plagiarism, or other violations of academic integrity will be dealt with according to university policies available here: http://codeofconduct.gsu.edu/files/2013/03/2014-2015-Section-II-Academic-Conduct-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf
5. This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; however deviations may be necessary.