

U.S. Health Care Crisis: Politics and Policies

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Spring, 2006

Course Numbers:	HST 536, NUR 536, POL 536
Room, Day and Time:	Whitten Learning Center Rm 170 Wednesdays, 6:25 pm -9:15 pm
Number of Credits:	3 credits
Faculty:	Professor Donna Shalala University of Miami 230 Ashe Building Coral Gables, FL 33124-4600 Office Telephone: 305-284-5155 Email: prez@miami.edu Teaching Assistant: Anne O'Brien Email: aobrien@miami.edu
Course Description:	This course will explore key health policy issues within the U.S., along with the politics and interest groups that shape them. Fundamental concerns within the health care system such as: cost, quality, and access to care will be analyzed. Major topics of discussion will include: Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, the nursing shortage, and prescription drugs. The politics and policies surrounding issues such as: bioethics, globalization, and infectious disease will also be considered.
Teaching Methods:	Lecture, films, and class discussions.
Evaluation:	Exam 1 30% Exam 2 30% Exam 3 30% Attendance 10%

Required Texts:

Shi, L., Singh, D., *Essentials of the U.S. Health Care System*

Required readings will also be posted on Blackboard

Attendance:

Regular and punctual attendance at each class session is mandatory.

Examinations:

Students are required to be present for all examinations. If a student, for sufficient cause, is unable to attend an examination, the teaching assistant must be notified prior to the administration of the exam. The professor will determine the format and scheduling of all make-up exams.

Honor Code:

Students are expected to be familiar with and to comply with the University of Miami's Honor Code. These Codes are established for the student body to protect the academic integrity of the University of Miami, to encourage consistent ethical behavior among students, and to foster a climate of fair competition. While a student's commitment to honesty and personal integrity is assumed and expected, these Codes are intended to provide an added measure of assurance that, in fulfilling the University's requirements, the student will never engage in falsification, plagiarism, or other deception regarding the materials he/she presents. Each student is responsible for completing the academic requirements of each course in the manner indicated by the faculty.

Information for Students with Disabilities:

You are advised and encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible to provide the necessary documentation in order to obtain academic accommodations. Faculty cannot provide accommodations without a letter from the Office of Disability Services. You may contact that office at:

University Center
Room N201
(305)- 284-2374
TDD (305)-284-340

Films

Silverman, F. (Producer & Director). (2000). *Healthcare crisis: Who's at Risk?* [Television broadcast]. New York and Washington, DC: Public Broadcasting Service.

Bull, P., Wong, T. (Producers). (2001). *Hopkins 24/7* [Television series]. Michigan: ABC.

Frontline. (2004). *The other drug war* [Television broadcast]. New York and Washington, DC: Public Broadcasting Service.

Frontline. (2004). *Dangerous prescription* [Television broadcast]. New York and Washington, DC: Public Broadcasting Service.

Bull, P., Wong, T. (Producers). (2001). *Hopkins 24/7* [Television series]. Michigan: ABC.

Hutton, R. (Executive Producer). (2005). *Rx for survival: A global health challenge* [Television series]. New York and Washington, DC: Public Broadcasting Service.

Course Readings

1. System in Crisis

Anderson, G., Hussey, P., Frogner, B., Waters, H., (2005). Health spending in the United States and the rest of the industrialized world. *Health Affairs*, 24(4), 903-914.

Heffler, S., Smith, S., Keehan, S., Borger, C., Clemens, M.K., Truffer, C. (2005). Health spending projections for 2004-2014. *Health Affairs*, web exclusive, W5-74.

Shalala, D.E., Reinhardt, U.E. (1999). Viewing the U.S. health care system from within: Candid talk from HHS. *Health Affairs*, 18(3), 47-55.

2. Framework for Health Care Delivery

Shi, L., Singh, D.:

- Ch. 1: Major Characteristics of U.S. Health Care Delivery System
- Ch. 2: Foundations of U.S. Health Care Delivery

Morone, J.A.. (2005). Morality, politics, and health policy. In Mechanic, D., Rogut, L., Colby, D.C., Knickman, J.R. (Eds.), *Policy challenges in modern health* (pp. 13-25). New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

Pauly, M. (2003). Should we be worried about high real medical spending growth in the United States? *Health Affairs*, W3-21.

Skocpol, T., Keenan, P.S. (2005). Cross pressures: The contemporary politics of health reform. In Mechanic, D., Rogut, L., Colby, D.C., Knickman, J.R. (Eds.), *Policy challenges in modern health* (pp. 26-36). New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

3. Private Insurance

Shi, L., Singh, D.:

- Ch. 3: Historical Overview of U.S. Health Care Delivery
- Ch. 9: Managed Care and Integrated Organizations

KFF (2004). How private insurance works: A primer.

Melloan, G. (2006). The health of the union. *The Wall Street Journal*, January 31, 2006. p. A.15.

4. Medicaid

Shi, L., Singh, D.:

- Ch. 6: Financing and Reimbursement Methods

KFF (2005). The Medicaid program at a glance.

KFF (2005). Medicaid: A primer.

KFF (2005). Enrolling uninsured and low-income children in Medicaid and SCHIP.

Long, S., Graves, J. (2006). What happens when public coverage is no longer available?

5. Medicare and Dual Eligibility

KFF (2005). Medicare at a glance.

KFF (2005). The Medicare prescription drug benefit.

KFF (2005). Dual eligibles: Medicaid's role for low-income Medicare beneficiaries.

KFF (2005). Medicare spending and financing.

KFF (2005). Cutting through the confusion in Part D.

6. The Clinton Health Plan

Skocpol, T. (1995) The rise and resounding demise of the Clinton health plan. *Health Affairs*, Spring, pp.66-80.

Blendon, R., Brodie, M., Benson, J. (1995). What happened to America's support for the Clinton health plan? *Health Affairs*, Summer, pp.7-19.

7. Quality of Care – Guest Speaker, Dr. Jack Lord

Eye on patients. A report by the Picker Institute for the American Hospital Association.

Promoting disease management in Medicare. Hearing Before the Subcommittee on the Health of The Committee on Ways and Means. House of Representatives, One Hundred Seventh Congress. Second Session. April 16, 2002. Serial 107-80.

8. The Politics of Health Care – Guest Speaker, Dr. Bruce Vladeck

Vladeck, B. (1999). The political economy of Medicare. *Health Affairs*, 18(1), pp. 22-37.

Vladeck, B. (2004). The struggle for the soul of Medicare. *The Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics*. 32(3), pp. 410-416.

9. Infectious Disease – Guest Speaker, Dr. Joseph DeSantis

Leguen, F. (2006). *Pandemic influenza: MDCHD response plan overview*. Office of Epidemiology & Disease Control. Miami-Dade County Health Department.

Garrett, L. (1996). The return of infectious disease. *Foreign Affairs*, 75(1), pp. 66-79.

Garrett, L. (2005). The next pandemic? *Foreign Affairs*, 84(4), pp. 3-77.

10. Health Care in the 21st Century – Guest Speaker, Dr. Nilda Peragallo

Chaguturu, S., Vallabhaneni, S., (2005). Nursing crisis at home and abroad. *The England Journal of Medicine*, 353(17).

Aiken, L. (2002). Improving quality through nursing. In Mechanic, D., Rogut, L., Colby, D.C., Knickman, J.R. (Eds.), *Policy challenges in modern health* (pp. 13-25). New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

KFF (2005). Policy challenges and disparities in care.

Davis, K. (2004). Transformational change: A ten-point strategy to achieve better health care for all. *The Commonwealth Fund*.