SPEA H124: Overview of the US Healthcare System  
Section 6227, Spring, 2022

Instructor: Dawne DiOrio, M.P.A., CPH  
Class: T/R, 4:55 – 6:10 p.m.  
Room: Swain East 105  
Email: Please use Canvas inbox to email me  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Teaching Assistant: Hannah Urbani, hurbani@iu.edu

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This is an introductory course designed to present a broad overview of the U.S. health care delivery system. The course will examine the organization, functions and roles of the system. Current health care delivery programs are also studied and contemporary problems analyzed. This course is a requirement for the Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management and Policy degree at SPEA.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Define the components of the U.S. Health Care Delivery System (HCDS);
- Specify the roles and functions of each component;
- Analyze the performance of the HCDS and identify current problems;
- Discuss the role of government and private sector in the function of the system;
- Identify key stakeholders and their influences on the HCDS
- Identify and discuss current initiatives designed to solve HCDS challenges

REQUIRED READINGS

Textbook:  
Austin & Wetle, 2017

Available at IU Bookstore and TIS

E-book is fine. Link to buy or rent an e-text is below

Additional readings and videos are required for many chapters provided on Canvas

Recommended Reading:

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND BASIS FOR FINAL GRADE

Success in this course will require students to be organized and responsible for content inside and outside of the classroom. Some class periods will require the student to independently complete assigned content such as readings, assignments, view films, etc.

Students are expected to have read the assignments before the class and take an active role in class discussion.

- **Tests**

  Six (6) tests will be given, and will comprise 60% of the final grade. Tests are *NOT* cumulative. Content of the tests will be based on lectures, films, and reading assignments. Format of the tests will include multiple choice and true/false. Tests *MUST* be taken during the scheduled time period unless documentation of day of religious observation or IU athletics participation is provided one week in advance. Makeup tests will be granted only in the above situations if arranged in advance. Verification from a physician is required for absence during a test for medical reasons, and makeup tests will be on a case-by-case basis at instructor discretion.

- **Final exam** – a cumulative final exam will be given at the time set by the Registrar, and comprises 25% of the final grade

- **Attendance and Participation**– Class attendance, participation in oral presentations, and homework will comprise 15% of your final grade. Attendance and participation in class is essential for your understanding of the material and to perform satisfactorily on the tests. Therefore, attendance at all in-person classes is considered mandatory. Test sessions do not count toward attendance. It is your responsibility to sign the attendance roster (or electronically sign via Top Hat) each class session.

If a student needs to miss an in-person class, one absence will be granted without a points reduction. A student with two unexcused absences will have 15 points/300 possible deducted; a student with three unexcused absences will have 30 points/300 possible deducted; four unexcused absences will result in zero attendance points for the semester. These points are not able to be restored.
The Student Health Center no longer gives visit notes to excuse a class absence, unless
the student has an actual medical problem requiring a doctor visit. Students should
keep their one absence allowed without a points reduction for a time when they feel
too sick to come to class but are not so sick that they need medical attention.

Students sleeping or with heads down during class will not receive attendance points for that
class. At the instructor’s discretion students using electronics in class may not receive
attendance points for that class.

Students who are more than ten minutes late to class should discuss this with the instructor at
the end of class. Students who are more than ten minutes late to class more than once may be
subject to receiving no attendance points for that class at the instructor’s discretion.

**Conflicting classes, labs, exams, or study groups, Greek life participation, etc.**
Class absences will not be excused if a student has any conflicts with another course or
commitment during this class period such as: they are registered to do a required lab for
another course; a meeting for their fraternity; another course has scheduled an exam or
a study group. The student will need to make the decision which to attend and take the
grade reduction if the conflict falls at a time when an in-person class is scheduled.

Students are expected not to schedule work shifts during class periods.

**GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

1. Attendance and participation at class is essential. Experience shows that students
who do not attend class regularly tend to perform poorly, as test questions will
come from lectures/discussions as well as the textbook. If you have to miss a class,
you are strongly advised to copy lecture notes from other students
2. Anyone attending class is expected to conduct him or herself appropriately.
   Academic and personal misconduct by students in this class are defined and dealt
   with according to the procedures in the Code of Students Ethics. You are
   responsible for being familiar with this code and all other relevant SPEA and
   University policies.
3. In addition to attending class there is an expectation that you will spend
   approximately three to four hours a week studying course material outside of class.
4. Electronics are not allowed in class. Turn off cell phones and electronic devices,
   including laptops and tablets, while in class. Do not bring electronic devices to class
   on days a test is scheduled. Use of electronics in class will result in not receiving
   attendance credit for that class. For further explanation, please see this link:
5. If you have a disability which requires accommodation, it is your responsibility to
   inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Official supporting documents
   are required.
6. Along with information given in class, Canvas will be an important source of
   information for the course, including any class cancellation notices, test date
   changes and clarifications concerning course expectations. Students are expected to
check their IU email and our Canvas course site at least three times a week and are responsible for knowing anything communicated through these means. Technical problems with Canvas, your phone for Duo authentication, or your computer do not excuse a student from their responsibility to submit assignments, take quizzes, post in forums, etc. If you are experiencing problems with technology and wish to receive additional time for assignments, you must contact UITS (University Information Technology Services) and request assistance. They will assign a ticket number. If you provide me with the ticket number I will work with you to negotiate late submission of assignments. Link to their help page:
http://uits.iu.edu/page/abxl Alternatively, students may complete assignments on campus using one of the IU student computers. You should save all your submission notices from Canvas in case documentation is requested to give you credit for a missing assignment.

7. If you have questions about your grade, please inquire in writing no later than one week of grade posting. Grades in question will not be changed later than one week after posting by instructor.

8. Late assignments are not accepted for credit unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor following the attendance procedure above.

**Students with disabilities**

Students needing accommodations because of disability will need to register with the Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) and complete the appropriate forms issued by DSS before accommodations will be given. The DSS office may be accessed as follows:

Office of Disability Services for Students
Herman B. Wells Library, Room W302
http://studentaffairs.iub.edu/dss/
(812) 855-7578

The Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) assists students with physical, learning, and temporary disabilities achieve their academic goals. We work with students and instructors to facilitate accommodation delivery and to link our students to resources – transportation service, mentoring and internship programs, and housing – essential to success.

**Students in Health or Financial Crisis.** The Student Advocates Office can help students work through personal and academic problems including absences for physical or mental health reasons, as well as financial difficulties and concerns in order to help students progress towards earning a degree. In addition to advising student on appeal and financial issues such as financial aid or tuition, they also have emergency funds for IU students experiencing emergency financial crisis.

https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/student-advocates/

**SPEA ACADEMIC POLICIES**
**Academic Dishonesty**

SPEA faculty do not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty. If you have not done so, you should read the IUB *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, which can be accessed at [http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/index.shtml](http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/index.shtml) so you will be sure to understand what these terms mean and what penalties can be issued for academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty can result in a grade of F for the class (an F for academic dishonesty cannot be removed from the transcript). Significant violations of the Code can result in expulsion from the University.

Any incidence of academic or personal misconduct will result in the maximum sanction, including dismissal from the course with a grade of “F”. Grades of “F” due to academic misconduct may not be removed from the student’s transcript with IU’s grade replacement policy. Violation of any action included in the SPEA Honor Code or any course policy is included under this Statement. Specific examples include, but are not limited to, making unauthorized copies of any exam or quiz, signing an attendance roster for another student, and submitting false information regarding requests for excused absences.

Plagiarism is using another person’s words, ideas, artistic creations, or other intellectual property without giving proper credit. According to the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, a student must give credit to the work of another person when he/she does any of the following:

a. Quotes another person’s actual words, either oral or written;

b. Paraphrases another person’s words, either oral or written;

c. Uses another person’s idea, opinion, or theory; or

d. Borrows facts, statistics, or other illustrative material, unless the information is common knowledge.

**Civility**

Civility is important in an academic community to ensure that all parties—students, staff, and faculty—are working in an environment that fosters achievement of the individual’s and community’s goals and objectives. Civility requires all parties to demonstrate personal integrity and conduct themselves in a manner that shows respect, courtesy and tolerance to others. Examples of discourteous behaviors during class include reading the newspaper, listening to headphones, talking or laughing with others, chronically arriving late, and so forth. These behaviors are distracting to the instructor and classmates, and SPEA faculty will address these problems as they arise. Maintaining and fostering civility inside and outside the classroom is especially important to SPEA, which is a professional school.

Pursuant to the Indiana University Student Code of Conduct, disorderly conduct which interferes with teaching, research, administration, or other university or university-authorized activity will not be tolerated and will be immediately reported to the Office of The Dean of Students for appropriate disposition which may result in disciplinary action including possible suspension and/or expulsion from the university.

**Communication between Faculty and Students**
In order to verify the identity of all parties involved, effective September 1, 2004, all email communication from current SPEA students to SPEA staff must originate from an Indiana University email account. For email communication with SPEA faculty, current SPEA students should refer to course syllabi for instructors’ preferences (Oncourse, Webmail, etc.). This policy applies to current students only. Instructions for forwarding your IUB email to another account can be found at:  
http://kb.indiana.edu/data/beoj.html?cust=687481.87815.30

Course Withdrawals
Students who stop attending class without properly withdrawing from the class may receive a grade of F. It is important to withdraw from a course within specified timeframes (see chart below). Note that withdrawals after Week 12 of a regular session or Week 4 of a summer session are rarely granted. Poor performance in a course is not grounds for a late withdrawal.

No withdrawal forms will be processed in the Office of the Registrar after the last day of classes. Any requests for a late withdrawal after the last day of classes must go through the grade appeal process, but each student should remember that in accordance with campus policy, SPEA does not permit a student to withdraw from a course if he/she has completed the course requirements. Grade replacement should be used in this case. To withdraw, obtain a withdrawal slip (DROP/ADD Form) from the SPEA Student Services window. Instructions for completing it are given on the form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Withdrawal Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course deleted from record, no grade assigned, 100% refund (Advisor signature IS NOT required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal with automatic grade of W (Advisor signature IS required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal with grade of W or F (Advisor and instructor signatures ARE required)</td>
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</tbody>
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Incompletes
A grade of incomplete (I) indicates that a ‘substantial portion’ of the work in a course has been satisfactorily but not entirely completed by the student as of the end of the semester. The incomplete can be given to a student facing a hardship such that such that it would be unjust to hold the student to the established time limits for completing the work. To be eligible for the incomplete in a SPEA course, the student’s work must be of passing quality, and the student must have completed 75% of the course requirements. Poor performance in a course is not grounds for an incomplete. SPEA follows the campus guidelines in awarding incompletes which may be accessed at the Office of the Registrar’s website at:  
http://registrar.indiana.edu/stu_grades.shtml

Incompletes must be removed within a time period not to exceed one year after the semester in which the student was enrolled in the course. The incomplete will revert to an ‘F’ if the work is not completed within the allotted timeframe established by the instructor.
Students Called to Active Duty
SPEA encourages any student who is in the Indiana Military Reserves and is called to active duty to finish his/her coursework if at all possible. Students who cannot complete their courses have the option of withdrawing with 100% fee refund, but this request must be made within one week of being called to active duty. Students who are called to active duty may qualify for an incomplete (provided that all the above criteria have been met). For further information, please see the Office of the Registrar’s website at:
http://registrar.indiana.edu/stu_infopoli.shtml

Final Exam Schedule
If a final exam is given, it must be held on the day and time set in the final exam schedule. If an instructor has changed the final exam date, the student should first consult with the instructor. Students who have more than three final exams in one day or insufficient time to get from one exam to another should consult with their instructors to resolve these conflicts. Exams may not be given in the week before the final exam week. If a student is not able to resolve a final exam problem with the instructor, the student may report the problem to the Director of Undergraduate or Graduate programs. The final exam week schedule can be found at the Office of the Registrar’s website at:
http://registrar.indiana.edu/stu_calsche.shtml

Schedule of Topics (for each class by date, students are referred to the “Each Class” document in the Syllabus section of Canvas)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Introduction to course, Chapters 1 and 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Test 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>The payment process, Ch. 3; supplemental readings Health Care financing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>The payment process, Ch 4, film</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Test 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Health care providers, Ch. 5 and 6</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Offices, clinics and hospitals, Ch 7, Test 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Aging in America, Ch. 8, supplemental readings, film</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Test 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Mental Health Services, Ch. 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Mental Health – film and readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Public Health System, Ch. 10, SPEA Career Development Office</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Test 5, Medical Technology and Pharmaceuticals, Ch. 11</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Beliefs and Values that Shape Health Care Policy, supplemental readings and film</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>International Health Care, supplemental readings, Ch. 14, Test 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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The above schedule is subject to limited change in the event of extenuating circumstances.