EPP 273: Health Services Administration

Course Syllabus

Section 1
3 credits

Meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:10-3:30 pm

Place: 2011 Valley Hall

Instructors: J. P. Leigh
Department of Public Health Sciences

Office and Hours: 12 noon to 1 pm Tuesdays and Fridays; MS1C, room 122

Email and phone: pleigh@ucdavis.edu 530-754-8605

Description:
The purpose of this class is to help future public health leaders, administrators, and researchers understand the American health care system so that they may contribute to its evolution. Broadly, this course will identify the main components and issues of the organization, financing, and delivery of health services and public health systems as well as describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services in the US. By taking this course, students will understand, and be able to define and describe the following: financing arrangements such as fee-for-service, managed care, capitation, deductibles, co-payments; economic concepts such as price controls, supply-induced demand, rationing by price; and payment mechanisms such as private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, traditional out-of-pocket payment.

Students will: gain knowledge regarding medical workforce categories and trends; examine quality of care issues such as clinical practice guidelines, measurement of quality, and report cards; consider malpractice reform and technological effectiveness; analyze access to care issues such as race, income and gender differences, the impact of lack of insurance, and under-insurance; review long-term care issues such as costs of nursing homes and alternatives to nursing homes.

To provide a broader perspective on our system we will examine international issues such as differences in medical spending per capita, differences in life expectancies, and differences in the organization and delivery of medical care, all across many countries.

In addition and equally important, students will understand and describe inner-relationships among these concepts and issues. For example, students will appreciate the complexity of relationships among cost, quality, and access and understand the contribution of technology and life expectancy to those issues. Finally, students will appreciate that our knowledge of these relationships is still developing and that they can make a contribution to the development of new ideas regarding how the American health care system is organized, financed, and delivered.

Required Readings, Audios and Videos Bodenheimer text is required. Additional articles, audios, and videos will be assigned in class.

Grades: Determined by midterm (30%), final (60%), required attendance and class participation (10%).

Make-up Exam Policy: Missing the midterm is only allowed for an emergency. Written documentation of the emergency is helpful. You must contact Prof. Leigh by phone or voice-mail to explain the emergency as soon as possible, preferably a day or two before the midterm.

Exams: Exams will be true/false and short answer.

Course Outline, Subject to Change

Week 1: Monday, Jan. 3 and 5. Preface, and Chapters 1-3

Week 2: Jan. 10 and 12. Chapters 3-6

Week 3: MLK holiday Jan 17 and Jan 19. Chapter 6-8

Week 4: Jan. 24 and 26. Chapters 8-10

Week 5: Jan 31 and Feb 2. Chapters 10-11 and review

Week 6: MIDTERM on Feb 7 and begin with 2nd half on Feb 9. Chapter 12

Week 7: Febr 14 and Febr 16. Chapters 13-14

Week 8: Presidents day Febr 21 and Febr 23. Chapters 14-15, guest lecture?

Week 9: Febr 28 and March 2. Chapter 15-16, guest?

Week 10: March 7 and March 9. Chapter 16-17, guest?

Week 11: March 14. Chapter 17-18 and review

FINAL Friday, March 18, 8-10 am, exam code P, same room. Do not schedule vacations or anything else for this time.