

PBHL 3030 - HEALTH POLICY (3 credits)
COURSE SYLLABUS
Fall 2013

Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:15 pm
North Classroom 3202

Instructors

Sharon Devine, JD PhD

Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences

University of Colorado Denver

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Office Hours:

Make an appointment by contacting me by email or catching me before or after class
I will be available after most class sessions (Mondays and Wednesdays 3:15)

Genevieve Pham-Kanter, PhD

Department of Health Systems, Management, and Policy; Colorado School of Public Health

Department of Economics; University of Colorado Denver

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Office Hours:

Mondays and Wednesdays - make appointments online:
<https://sites.google.com/site/genkanter/teaching-advising>
9:30-11 am Anschutz Campus - Building 500, Room E3310
1:00-1:45 pm Downtown Campus - Lawrence 460N

Teaching Assistant

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Office Hours:

Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00 pm
Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00 pm

Communication

This course is co-taught by Drs. Devine and Pham-Kanter. We encourage you to visit either of us during office hours. Although we will each be primarily responsible for specific lectures, we will consult with each other and make joint decisions about grades and any other aspects of the course.

Course Description

This course presents an introduction to health policy, i.e., the various ways in which the government plays a role in health and in the provision of health care. Health policies can have a profound effect on quality of life. Accessibility, cost, quality of health care; safety of food, water, and environment; the right to make decisions about our health; these issues are vitally tied to health policies. Prereq: PBHL 2000 is recommended.

1. Introduction

This course provides a framework for understanding the social, political and economic dimensions of health policy. It introduces the policy-making and legal system of the United States, offers brief comparisons to health policies in certain other countries, provides scaffolding knowledge about the organization of the health care system in the U.S., and highlights issues in health policy including environmental health policy, health care reform under the Affordable Care Act, pharmaceutical policy, injury prevention, and aging and long-term care.

2. Course Learning Objectives

This course is both knowledge- and skills-based. It is not enough to learn the material presented; we expect you also to be able to apply what you learn to the analysis of practical problems. By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Explain how federal, state, and local health policy is made
- Identify and critique the difference between population health and individual health
- Explain the policy interests between the public good (public health) and individual rights
- Explain the organization of the health care system, including principles and examples of health insurance and health care finance
- Explain and understand the principles of cost, rationing, quality of care, and comparative effectiveness research in U.S. health policy
- Explain health care reform in the Affordable Care Act
- Compare and critique health care policy of the U.S. and certain other countries
- Explain and apply health policy principles to the policy topics discussed in class
- Develop a health policy analysis

3. Evaluation

Homework assignments	24%	Due as assigned
Health policy analysis project	26%	Due November 22 by 5 pm
Midterm exam	20%	October 7 in class
Final exam	30%	Finals week in class

You should expect to spend an average of 9 hours a week outside of class time preparing for class and doing the assignments. Please use standard English for all written assignments; grammar, punctuation, and coherent organization of your written answers count as part of your grade on written work. Grades will be earned by performance as follows:

A	93-100 %
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	63-66%
D-	60-62%
F	< 60 %

4. Homework Assignments and Due Dates

All assignments must be typed and submitted through Canvas no later than 5:00pm on the date they are due. The top 10 homework grades will be counted (i.e., we will drop your lowest homework grade). Each homework assignment is worth 4% of your overall grade. All homework assignments are posted on Canvas.

Due Date	Topic
September 4	HW #1: Individual rights versus public health interests
September 16	HW #2: Health Policy Analysis – Topic and problem statement due
September 25	HW #3: Organization of health care system and principles of health insurance
September 30	HW #4: Health Policy Analysis - Background
October 2	HW #5: Comparison of U.S. and international health care policy systems
October 14	HW #6: Health Policy Analysis - Landscape
October 21	HW #7: Cost containment, rationing, quality of care
October 28	HW #8: Health Policy Analysis - Options
November 4	HW #9: Health care reform
November 11	HW #10: Health Policy Analysis - Recommendations
November 18	HW #11: Prescription drug policy

5. Health Policy Analysis Project

Your major project for the semester is to apply all that you have learned to develop a health policy analysis of a health problem that you choose. You will have a set of 5 homework assignments designed to help you create your health policy analysis. Each health policy analysis homework assignment is worth 4 points (4% of your grade). Based on our comments back to you, you will submit your revised complete health policy analysis through Canvas no later than **November 22 by 5:00 pm**. This is the **Friday before Fall Break**. Your final health policy analysis is worth 10% of your grade.

Some sources for identifying a topic for your Health Policy Analysis and for exploring aspects of the topic are:

Kaiser Family Foundation – <http://kff.org>

National Public Radio – <http://www.npr.org>

(or its member stations, e.g. Common Health Blog at WBUR <http://commonhealth.wbur.org/>)

Pew Research Center – <http://www.pewresearch.org/topics/>

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – <http://www.rwjf.org/en/topics.html>

World Bank – <http://data.worldbank.org/topic>

World Health Organization – <http://www.who.int/topics/en/>

New York Times

Washington Post

You may also be able to find topics specific to Colorado--although be aware that there will be fewer background materials for you to draw upon--at the websites of the Colorado Health Foundation, the Colorado Health Institute, and the Colorado Trust.

See Canvas for an example of a health policy analysis created by the authors of our textbook.

6. Exams

There will be two exams; a mid-term on October 7, and a final exam during finals week, at the time and place assigned by the University. Both exams will be in-class and closed book. No calculators, phones, iPads, laptops, iPods, or any other electronic equipment will be needed or permitted at your desk during the exam. You are responsible for material covered during all lectures, readings, videos, as well as material presented by all guest lecturers. Cheating on an exam will result in no points for that exam and treatment pursuant to the University's policies on Academic Honesty (see section 9.2 below).

7. Textbook

Teitelbaum, Joel B, and Sara E Wilensky. 2013. *Essentials of Health Policy and Law*, 2nd edition. Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning.

8. Additional readings

There are assigned readings that are not in the Teitelbaum and Wilensky text. These will be made available on-line through Canvas. Students are required to access the course site, available at <http://canvas.cuonline.edu>. Here is a link to the Canvas Student Guide <http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/CUOnline/FacultyResources/Upgrade/Documents/UCD%20Student%20Guide%20to%20Canvas.pdf>. All pertinent information for the class will be posted in Canvas. You are also responsible for checking your university email. We will send announcements to your "ucdenver" email addresses only and cannot send course information to other addresses. If necessary, redirect your university email to your preferred email address.

9. Class policies and expectations of student conduct

9.1. Class attendance

We will not take attendance. Nevertheless, we strongly recommend that you attend class and be well-prepared to engage in class discussions because attendance in class will be crucial in preparing you for the exams and assignments. There will also be in-class activities. If you have to miss class for any reason at all, you are responsible for reviewing the material covered and for turning assignments in *when they are due*. If what you need is not available on Canvas, please request materials and information from a fellow student.

9.2. Academic honesty

Students are expected to know, understand, and comply with the ethical standards of the University. A university's reputation is built on a standing tradition of excellence and scholastic integrity. As members of the University of Colorado Denver academic community, faculty and students accept the responsibility to maintain the highest standards of intellectual honesty and ethical conduct.

Academic dishonesty is defined as a student's use of unauthorized assistance with intent to deceive an instructor or other such person who may be assigned to evaluate the student's work in meeting course and degree requirements.

Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of another person's distinctive words or ideas without acknowledgment. Examples include:

1. Word-for-word copying of another person's ideas or words;
2. The mosaic (the interspersing of one's own words here and there while, in essence, copying another's work);
3. The paraphrase (the rewriting of another's work, yet still using their fundamental idea or theory);
4. Fabrication of references (inventing or counterfeiting sources);
5. Submission of another's work as one's own;
6. Neglecting quotation marks on material that is otherwise acknowledged.

Note that using the wording from or paraphrasing Wikipedia or any other webpage without acknowledgment of the source is considered plagiarism.

Acknowledgment is not necessary when the material used is common knowledge.

B. Cheating: Cheating involves the possession, communication, or use of information, materials, notes, study aids or other devices not authorized by the instructor in an academic exercise, including exams, or communication with another person during such an exercise. Examples include:

1. Copying from another's paper or receiving unauthorized assistance from another during an academic exercise or in the submission of academic material;
2. Using a calculator when its use has been disallowed;

3. Collaborating with another student or students during an academic exercise without the consent of the instructor.

C. Fabrication and Falsification: Fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information, i.e., creating results not obtained in a study or laboratory experiment. Falsification, on the other hand, involves the deliberate alteration of results to suit one's needs in an experiment or other academic exercise.

D. Multiple Submissions: This is the submission of academic work for which academic credit has already been earned, when such submission is made without instructor authorization.

E. Misuse of Academic Materials: The misuse of academic materials includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Stealing or destroying library or reference materials or computer programs;
2. Stealing or destroying another student's notes or materials, or having such materials in one's possession without the owner's permission;
3. Receiving assistance in locating or using sources of information in an assignment when such assistance has been forbidden by the instructor;
4. Illegitimate possession, disposition, or use of examinations or answer keys to examinations;
5. Unauthorized alteration, forgery, or falsification;
6. Unauthorized sale or purchase of examinations, papers, or assignments.

F. Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Complicity involves knowingly contributing to another's acts of academic dishonesty. Examples include:

1. Knowingly aiding another in any act of academic dishonesty;
2. Allowing another to copy from one's paper for an assignment or exam;
3. Distributing test questions or information about the materials to be tested before the scheduled exercise;
4. Taking an exam or test for someone else;
5. Signing another's name on attendance roster or on an academic exercise.

Students who fail to comply with the UC Denver CLAS Academic Ethics Policy are subject to disciplinary action as set forth by the College policy. For more information regarding the Academic Ethics Committee policies and procedures, please refer to <http://ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/faculty-staff/policies/Pages/HandlingAcademicDishonesty.aspx>.

9.3. Make-up exams

If you miss the mid-term or final exam, you must notify both of us within 24 hours and provide documentation for your absence, i.e., physician or health center notification, obituary notice, etc. If you do not have a valid reason, with documentation, you will not be allowed to make up the exam.

9.4. Late homework assignments

No late homework assignments will be accepted regardless of reason for lateness. Any late homework assignment will be assigned zero points.

9.5. Late health policy analysis project

There will be no extensions given on the health policy analysis project for any reason. Projects submitted 24 hours after the due date/time will be penalized by 25%; projects submitted 24 hours after the due date/time but before 48 hours will be penalized by 50%. Any projects submitted 48 hours after the due date will be assigned zero points.

9.6. Re-grades

Although we try to be careful in grading, mistakes in grading assignments and the mid-term exams can on rare occasions occur. If you feel an error was made in grading, please do the following:

- (1) Make a photocopy of your graded assignment, as re-grades will only be examined at the end of the semester, after the final exam, and you may need the graded assignment to study.
- (2) If you believe an error was made in grading, submit a written explanation of why you believe an error was made, i.e., why your original answer was the correct answer and incorrectly graded, and submit a hard copy of your explanation and the graded assignment. These documents should be placed in a sealed envelope and submitted in person to Dr. Pham-Kanter by Wednesday, November 20.
- (3) Bear in mind that the homework assignment, project, or exam will be re-graded in its entirety, and there is a possibility that we will find errors that we had previously overlooked. A request for a re-grade may thus result in a lower score, not just a higher score.

All appeals for re-grades must go through this formal process. No informal appeals to the TA or the faculty member grading your assignment will be accepted.

9.7. Holidays

Please inform us at the beginning of the semester of any anticipated absences because of religious holidays and we will negotiate reasonable accommodations for those absences.

9.8. Access, disability, and communication

Please contact the Office of Disability Services if you have disability-related concerns that require assistance to participate in this course and then let us know what accommodations you need.

9.9. Civility in discourse and courtesy towards fellow classmates

Please respect each person and his/her ideas. Please turn off all cell phones and do not listen to music, play games, or read outside materials. You may eat in class so long as it is not disruptive.

9.10. Military Service

If you are a student in the military with the potential of being called to military service and /or training during the course of the semester, please let us know and also contact your school/college Associate Dean or Advising Office immediately.

9.11. Academic Calendar and Deadlines

You are expected to know about and follow deadlines in the academic calendar. Please be aware that the instructors have no discretion with respect to these policies and deadlines.

Fall 2013 CLAS Academic Policies

The following policies pertain to all degree students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS).

- **Schedule verification:** It is each student's responsibility to verify online that his/her official registration is correct: verify before classes begin and prior to the drop/add deadline. Failure to verify schedule accuracy is not sufficient reason to justify a late add or drop.
- **E-mail:** Students must activate and regularly check their official student e-mail account for CU Denver business: <http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/Pages/WebMail.aspx>. Those who forward email must check CU Denver e-mail regularly for messages not automatically forwarded.
- **Waitlists:**
 - Students are not automatically notified if they are added to a class from a waitlist.
 - Students are not automatically dropped from a class if they never attended, stopped attending, or do not make tuition payments.
 - Waitlists are purged after the 1st week of classes, after which a paper Schedule Adjustment Form (SAF or drop/add form) is required. It is the student's responsibility to get the form (online or at the Advising Office, NC 4002), have it signed, deliver it to the Registrar (Annex 100) or the Student Services Center (NC 1003), and verify her/his schedule online.
- **Late adds** (after 4 September) will be approved only when circumstances surrounding the late add are beyond the student's control. This will require a written petition and verifiable documentation. Petition forms are available in NC 4002. The signature of a faculty member on a SAF does not guarantee that a late add petition will be approved.
- **Late drops** (after 28 October) will be approved only when circumstances surrounding the late drop have arisen after the published drop deadline and are beyond the student's control. This will require a written petition and verifiable documentation. The signature of a faculty member does not guarantee that a late drop petition will be approved.
- **Tuition:** Students are responsible for completing arrangements with financial aid, family, scholarships, etc. to pay their tuition prior to Census Date (4 September). Students who drop after that date are (1) financially responsible for tuition and fees, (2) academically responsible and will receive a "W" grade, and (3) are ineligible for a refund of COF hours or tuition.
- **Graduation:**
 - Undergraduate students wishing to graduate in Fall 2013 must complete the online Graduation Application form, in the UCD Access Portal, and meet with their academic advisor to obtain a graduation application. This application must be submitted by Census Date (4 September). You can obtain an application only after meeting with your advisor. There are no exceptions to this policy.
 - Graduate students wishing to graduate in Fall semester 2013 must complete the

online Graduation Application form, in the UCD Access Portal, and have a Request for Admissions to Candidacy on file with the CU Denver Graduate School (LSC 1251) no later than 5 PM, September 4, 2013.

Important Dates and Deadlines

- **August 18, 2013:** Last day to withdraw from all classes via UCDAccess and receive a refund of the \$200 advance payment and all tuition.
- **August 19, 2013:** First day of classes.
- **August 25, 2013:** Last day to add or waitlist classes using UCDAccess. After this date, a Schedule Adjustment Form (SAF) is required to change, add, or drop.
- **August 26, 2013:** Last day to drop without a \$100 drop charge. No adds permitted on this day.
- **August 27 - September 4, 2013:**
 - UCDAccess registration is closed; registration now requires a SAF with faculty signature.
 - Verify your registration via UCDAccess. You are not registered for a course unless your name appears on the official roster; conversely, your name may have been added automatically from the waitlist without notification, which means that you will be held responsible.
- **September 2, 2013:** Labor Day (no classes; campus closed).
- **September 4, 2013: Census date.**
 - **9/4/13, 5 PM:** Last day to add structured courses without a written petition for a late add. This is an absolute deadline and is treated as such. This does not apply to independent studies, internships, project hours, thesis hours, dissertation hours, and modular courses.
 - **9/4/13, 5 PM:** Last day to drop a course or completely withdraw from Fall 2013 using a SAF and still receive a tuition refund, minus the drop fee. After this date, tuition is forfeited and a "W" will appear on the transcript. This includes section changes. This is an absolute deadline.
 - **9/4/13, 5 PM:** Last day to request pass/fail or no-credit option for a course.
 - **9/4/13, 5 PM:** Last day for a graduate student to register for a Candidate for Degree.
 - **9/4/13, 5 PM:** Last day for a Ph.D. student to petition for a reduction in hours.
 - **9/4/13, 5 PM:** Last day to apply for Fall 2013 graduation. If an undergraduate, you must make an appointment and see your academic advisor to apply. If a graduate student, you must complete the Intent to Graduate and Candidate for Degree forms.
- **September 16-27, 2013:** Faculty can use the Early Alert system.
- **October 28, 2013, 5 PM:** Last day for non-CLAS students to drop or withdraw without a petition and special approval from the academic dean. After this date, a dean's signature is required.
- **November 11, 2013, 5 PM:** Last day for CLAS students to drop or withdraw with signatures from the faculty and dean but without a full petition. After this date, all

schedule changes require a full petition. Petitions are available in NC 4002 for undergraduates and in the CU Denver Graduate School offices for graduate students.

- **November 25-December 1, 2013:** Fall break (no classes; campus open).
- **November 28:** Thanksgiving Day Holiday (no classes; campus closed). Be thankful.
- **December 9-14, 2013:** Finals Week. No schedule changes will be granted once finals week has started--there are no exceptions to this policy. Commencement is December 14.
- **December 19, 2013:** Due date for faculty submission of grades (tentative).
- **December 23, 2013:** Fall final grades available on UCD Access (tentative).

COURSE CALENDAR

This is a more or less final schedule. We may decide more discussion time is necessary or need to adjust the schedule for other reasons. We will let you know in advance of any changes to the readings. **All readings and assignments are to be completed before class on the date they are listed.**

Week	Date	Topic
1	8/19	Introduction to class (syllabus, exams, assignments, rules, expectations, course objectives)
	8/21	Introduction to health policy Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapters 1, 3 <i>Homework #0 due:</i> complete background survey (on Canvas)
2	8/26	Public health law Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapter 5
	8/28	Special lecture: Individual rights vs. public interest (application: motorcycle helmet laws) GUEST LECTURER – Ira Gorman, PhD (Regis University) Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapter 6
3	9/2	Labor Day - no class
	9/4	How to do a policy analysis Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapter 13 <i>Homework #1 due:</i> individual rights vs. public interest
4	9/9	Health policymaking and the policy process Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapter 2
	9/11	Special lecture: Health impact assessments GUEST LECTURER - Greg Tung, PhD (CSPH/HSMP) Reading: Winkler, et al. "Untapped Potential of Health Impact Assessments" <i>Bulletin WHO</i>
5	9/16	Organization of health care system Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapter 4, pp. 45-60 <i>Homework #2 due:</i> health policy analysis - topic and problem statement
	9/18	Principles of health insurance I Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, pp 127-135 of Chapter 7
6	9/23	Principles of health insurance II Reading: Getzen, Chapter 4 (don't worry about the details)

	9/25	Medicaid, Medicare, managed care Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, pp. 183-197, 201-209 of Chapter 10 <i>Homework #3 due: organization of health care system/health insurance due</i>
7	9/30	International comparisons, other health care models Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, Chapter 4, pp. 64-72. View: Sick Around the World http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/sickaroundtheworld/ <i>Homework #4 due: health policy analysis - background</i>
	10/2	Midterm review <i>Homework #5 due: U.S./international health care policy systems</i>
8	10/7	Midterm exam
	10/9	Guest lecture cancelled courtesy of 112 th Congress
9	10/14	Cost of care, cost containment Reading: Bodenheimer & Grumbach, Understanding Health Policy, Chapters 8-9 <i>Homework #6 due: health policy analysis - landscape</i>
	10/16	Comparative effectiveness research, quality of care, rationing, role of government Reading: Bodenheimer & Grumbach, Understanding Health Policy, Chapters 10 & 13
10	10/21	Health care reform I Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, pp. 159-169 of Chapter 9 <i>Homework #7 due: cost containment, rationing, quality of care</i>
	10/23	Health care reform II Reading: Teitelbaum & Wilensky, pp. 169-180 of Chapter 9
11	10/28	Special lecture: Health care reform GUEST LECTURER - Adam Atherly, PhD (CSPH/HSMP) Reading: TBA - check Canvas <i>Homework #8 due: health policy analysis - policy options</i>
	10/30	Health care workforce Reading: pp. 157-162 of Getzen, Chapter 7

12	11/4	Prescription drugs and pharmaceutical policy Reading: Liang, "Drug Development Process I," <i>Hosp Physician</i> ; Liang, "Drug Development Process II," <i>Hosp Physician</i> ; Liang, "Drug Development Process III," <i>Hosp Physician</i> Reading (optional, recommended): Feldstein Chapter 26, 25
	11/6	Special lecture: Environmental health policy (Toxic Releases Inventory Program) GUEST LECTURER - Barbara Conklin (US EPA Region 8) Reading: Explore the EPA's website on Toxic Release Inventory http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/tri/index.html and http://www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/my-right-know-application (right to know). At the right to know site, enter an address and see what you learn. Be prepared to critique the EPA's RTK tool.
13	11/11	Conflicts of interest in medicine Reading: No reading assignment <i>Homework #10 due</i> : health policy analysis - recommendations
	11/13	Special lecture: Aging and long-term care GUEST LECTURER - Lucinda Bryant, PhD (CSPH/CBH & HSMP) Reading: See Canvas for pre-class assignment
14	11/18	Aging and long-term care Reading (optional, recommended): pp. 27-32; 33-37 of Reinhardt, "Does the Aging Population Really Drive the Demand for Health Care?" <i>Health Affairs</i> Reading (optional, recommended): Feldstein Chapter 35 <i>Homework #11 due</i> : prescription drug policy
	11/20	Special lecture: Injury prevention policy GUEST LECTURER - Carol Runyan, PhD (CSPH/EPI) Reading: Rauscher et al, "US Child Labor Violations in the Retail and Service Industries," <i>AJPH</i> Reading (skim carefully): Runyan, "Using the Haddon Matrix," <i>Injury Prevention</i>
***	11/22	Health Policy Analysis due By 5:00 pm through Canvas
15	11/25	Fall Break - no class
	11/27	Fall Break - no class
16	12/2	Final exam review
	12/4	No class - happy studying!
FINALS WEEK		FINAL EXAM - Monday, December 9, 2:00-4:00 pm