Special Topics in Health Policy and Management: Current Research Issues  
HPM 227B  
Spring 2020 Syllabus

Professor: Tom Rice  
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310-206-1824  
Class: Thursday, 12:00 1:30 PM  
Office Hours: By appointment

Description

This is a 2-credit course aimed at Ph.D. students, although Masters students may be admitted with permission of the instructor. It is a journal club in which faculty, doctoral students, and postdoctoral trainees meet to discuss and critique articles that have been nominated as the Article of the Year for AcademyHealth, the nation’s leading association in the field of health services research. Each week two articles are evaluated, with one member of the group presenting each article.

Method of Evaluation

There is a final paper required. The paper evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of each of the article presented, based on quantitative criterial developed by the student. The paper should end with the student’s choice of the best article.

Grading

➢ Assigned paper (90%)  
➢ Classroom participation (10%)

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITY

Students needing academic accommodations based on a disability should contact the Center for Accessible Education (CAE) at (310) 825-1501 or in person at Murphy Hall A255. When possible, students should contact the CAE within the first two weeks of the term as reasonable notice is needed to coordinate accommodations. For more information visit www.caee.ucla.edu. The ADA contact person is: Nickey Woods; Center for Accessible Education; A255 Murphy Hall; Phone: (310) 825-1501.
INCLUSIVITY

UCLA’s Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion provides resources, events, and information about current initiatives at UCLA to support equality for all members of the UCLA community. I hope that you will communicate with me if you experience anything in this course that does not support an inclusive environment, and you can also report any incidents you may witness or experience on campus to the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion on their website (https://equity.ucla.edu/).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Message about Academic Integrity to all UCLA Students from UCLA Dean of Students:
UCLA is a community of scholars. In this community, all members including faculty, staff and students alike are responsible for maintaining standards of academic honesty. As a student and member of the University community, you are here to get an education and are, therefore, expected to demonstrate integrity in your academic endeavors. You are evaluated on your own merits. Cheating, plagiarism, collaborative work, multiple submissions without the permission of the professor, or other kinds of academic dishonesty are considered unacceptable behavior and will result in formal disciplinary proceedings usually resulting in suspension or dismissal.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty: As specified in the UCLA Student Conduct Code, violations or attempted violations of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, multiple submissions or facilitating academic dishonesty:

Cheating: Unauthorized acquiring of knowledge of an examination or part of an examination
- Allowing another person to take a quiz, exam, or similar evaluation for you
- Using unauthorized material, information, or study aids in any academic exercise or examination – textbook, notes, formula list, calculator, etc.
- Unauthorized collaboration in providing or requesting assistance, such as sharing information
- Unauthorized use of someone else’s data in completing a computer exercise
- Altering a graded exam or assignment and requesting that it be regraded

Plagiarism: Presenting another’s words or ideas as if they were one’s own
- Submitting as your own through purchase or otherwise, part of or an entire work produced verbatim by someone else
- Paraphrasing ideas, data or writing without properly acknowledging the source
- Unauthorized transfer and use of someone else’s computer file as your own
- Unauthorized use of someone else’s data in completing a computer exercise

Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same work (with exact or similar content) in more than one class without permission from the instructor to do so. This includes courses you are currently taking, as well as courses you might take in another quarter

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: Participating in any action that compromises the integrity if
the academic standards of the University; assisting another to commit an act of academic dishonesty:

- Taking a quiz, exam, or similar evaluation in place of another person
- Allowing another student to copy from you
- Providing material or other information to another student with knowledge that such assistance could be used in any of the violations stated above (e.g., giving test information to students in other discussion sections of the same course)

**Fabrication:** Falsification or invention of any information in an academic exercise

- Altering data to support research
- Presenting results from research that was not performed
- Crediting source material that was not used for research

While you are here at UCLA, if you are unsure whether what you are considering doing is cheating, **don’t take chances,** ask your professor. In addition, avoid placing yourself in situations which might lead your professor to **suspect you of cheating.**

**Alternatives to Academic Dishonesty**

- Seek out help – Meet with your professor, ask for assistance as needed.
- Ask for an extension – if you explain your situation to your professor, she/he might be able to grant you an extended deadline for an upcoming assignment.
- See a counselor at Student Psychological Services, and/or your school, college or department – UCLA has many resources for students who are feeling the stresses of academic and personal pressures.

If you would like more information, please come see us at the Dean of Students’ Office in 1206 Murphy Hall, call us at (310) 825-3871 or visit their website at www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu.

**Learning Objectives/Competencies**

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

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<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>H.S. Doctoral Competency</th>
<th>Evaluation Method</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understand the application of Ph.D. level research methods</td>
<td>2. Apply or develop theoretical and conceptual models relevant to health services research.</td>
<td>Participation in class discussion and completion of written assignment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Use or develop a conceptual model to specify study constructs for a health services research question and develop variables that reliably and validly measure these constructs.</td>
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<td>8. Demonstrate proficiency in</td>
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<td>Be able to effectively critique published research</td>
<td>5. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of study designs to appropriately address specific health services research questions.</td>
<td>Completion of written assignment</td>
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<td>Understand how to present research in a form acceptable by top peer-reviewed journals.</td>
<td>5. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of study designs to appropriately address specific health services research questions.</td>
<td>Participation in class discussion and completion of written assignment</td>
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SCHEDULE

April 9: International Comparisons


April 16: Behavioral Economics


April 23: Impact of Medical Care Investments


April 30: Non-Medical Interventions


May 7: Medicaid Expansion


May 14: Provider Payment


May 21: Workforce Issues


May 28: Miscellaneous

