Course Description: This course provides a survey of health policy and management, a multi-disciplinary field of inquiry and practice concerned with the delivery, quality and costs of health care for individuals and populations. The course is designed to give students a basic understanding of American health care organization, financing and policy. We will begin by considering the evolution of public and private health services, including the economic, political, social and historical underpinnings of the US health care system, and the individual and social factors that influence health care utilization, including how and why people access health care. Next, we will examine national health care expenditures and the organization and financing of private and public insurance. We will then consider the roles of different providers in the health care system, including outpatient clinical settings, hospitals, long term and palliative care facilities, nurses and physicians. Finally, we will explore the trends and forces shaping the future direction of the US health services delivery system, including the current health care reform debate at the state and national levels.

Course Competencies: Students will be expected to develop a basic familiarity with the following concepts and their use in health policy and practice discussions.

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<th>Course Learning Objectives</th>
<th>Related Core MPH Competencies</th>
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| 1. Describe the history and evolution of the US healthcare system into the fragmented delivery system that exists today. | E3. Explain methods of ensuring community health safety and preparedness.  
F12. Discuss sentinel events in the history and development of the public health profession and their relevance for practice in the field. |
<p>| 2. Define access to health care using the Andersen Model by relating contextual characteristics, individual characteristics, and health behaviors to outcomes. | F3. Apply legal and ethical principles to the use of information technology and resources in public health settings. |
| 3. Explain methods of advancing and promoting population health through health promotion and disease prevention strategies. | E5. Apply the principles of program planning, development, budgeting, management and evaluation in organizational and community initiatives. |</p>
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<tr>
<th>4. Discuss the basics of the US healthcare system’s costs and financing and compare to international experiences with healthcare cost and cost containment.</th>
<th>E4. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations. E6. Apply principles of strategic planning and marketing to public health.</th>
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<td>5. Understand the roles of public and private health insurance in the United States.</td>
<td>E2. Describe the legal and ethical basis for public health and health services. E4. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.</td>
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<td>7. Apply an understanding of disparities in health status and health care utilization in the US.</td>
<td>F7. Identify public health programs and strategies that are responsive to the diverse cultural values and traditions of communities being served. F16. Explain how the contexts of gender, race, poverty, history, migration, and culture are important in the design of interventions within public health systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Discuss the policy process at the state and federal level for establishing the laws and regulations that govern the US healthcare system.</td>
<td>E2. Describe the legal and ethical basis for public health and health services. E4. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.</td>
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<td>9. Understand how quality is perceived and measured in the US healthcare system from the perspective of the patient, provider, and payor.</td>
<td>E7. Apply quality and performance improvement concepts to address organizational performance issues. F6. Use information technology to access, evaluate, and interpret public health data.</td>
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<td>10. Define the need for and delivery of health care services to special populations, including children, the disabled, and mentally ill.</td>
<td>F16. Explain how the contexts of gender, race, poverty, history, migration, and culture are important in the design of interventions within public health systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Understand the history of health care reform in the United States, including current and future implications of the Affordable Care Act.</td>
<td>E2. Describe the legal and ethical basis for public health and health services. E4. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations. F12. Discuss sentinel events in the history and development of the public health profession and their relevance for practice in the field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Produce oral and written reports on an aspect of US health care policy or health promotion.</td>
<td>F5. Demonstrate effective written and oral skills for communicating with different audiences in the context of professional public health activities.</td>
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**Course Requirements and Grading:** Student performance in this course will be evaluated by:

1. Participation in class discussions. Students must be prepared to comment on readings as they relate to the lecture and present an informed viewpoint on issues arising in discussion. (10%)
2. Attendance in class and discussion section. (5%)
3. One-page brief on current health policy issue identified in popular media, e.g., prescription drug spending, Medicaid work requirements, association health plans. (5%)
4. Group project. Students will form groups of approximately 5 students and produce an 8-10 page report on a problem in the United States Health Care system and offers solutions to the problem. Groups will also conduct a 10-minute presentation in class with 5 minutes for Q&A on their report. One-page literature review (5%), Written report (25%), Oral report (10%), Peer evaluation (5%). See handout on CCLE for more details on the group project.
5. Midterm Examination, including multiple choice and short-essay questions (35%).
6. HCI Celebration: May 9, 4:30-7:30pm, Pauley Pavilion. Attend and earn 2 extra credit points on your midterm.

**Required Readings:**

2. Other readings, including journal articles, book chapters, newspaper articles and policy briefs, may be assigned and will be made available on the class website

   **Readings are subject to change—please check the course website at least once a week.**

3. Students are encouraged to subscribe to CaliforniaHealthline – a daily listserv that summarizes the current headlines related to local, state, and national health care news, policy, and opinion. Go to: [http://www.californiahealthline.org/](http://www.californiahealthline.org/).

**Office Hours:**

Dr. Cowgill’s office hours are by appointment and held at A2-125 CHS.

Office hours for Ari and Ivan are by appointment.
**Week 1**

Monday, April 2\textsuperscript{nd}

Topic: Course Introduction and Overview  
Speaker: Cowgill  
Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Introduction and Overview

Wednesday, April 4\textsuperscript{th}

Topic: Historical Development of the U.S. Health Care System/Access to Health Care  
Speaker: Cowgill  
Changing the US Health Care System, Chapter 2.

**Week 2**

Monday, April 9\textsuperscript{th}

Topic: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention  
Speaker: Cowgill  
Changing the U.S. Health Care System, Ch. 22 pp.685-689.
Wednesday, April 11th

Topic: US Health Care Costs and Financing
Speaker: Cowgill

Readings: Changing the U.S. Health Care System, Chapters 8 and 9


Kaplan K. With healthcare, it’s not what you spend but how you spend it. LA Times, March 13, 2018. (Article summarizing Papanicolas JAMA article).

Week 3

Monday, April 16th

Topic: Care Delivery: Hospitals, Doctors, and Nurses
Speaker: Cowgill

Reading(s): American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Nursing Shortage Fact Sheet. Updated April, 2014.


A prescription for the future: How hospitals could be rebuilt, better than before. The Economist. April 8, 2017.


Wednesday, April 18th

Topic: Health Insurance – Public and Private Perspectives
Speaker: Cowgill

Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Chapters 6 and 7

Week 4

Monday, April 23rd

Topic: Medicare – Then and Now
Speaker: Cowgill

Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Ch. 21

Wednesday, April 25th

Topic: Disparities in Health Status and Health Care in the United States
Speaker: Glenn

Reading(s):
Changing the US Health Care System, Chapters 3 and 4

Week 5

Monday, April 30th

Topic: Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy
Speaker: Cowgill

Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Chapter 10


Topic: Opioid Crisis – John Oliver Video - Discussion
Speaker: Cowgill


Wednesday, May 2nd

Topic: The Basics of Health Policy in the US and Discussion about Single Payer Approach
Speaker: Cowgill

Heymann SJ, Health and social policy, Ch 16.


**Week 6**

Monday, May 7th

Topic: Health Care Quality – Outcomes, Evaluation, and Public Information  
Speaker: Cowgill  
Reading(s): Changing the US Healthcare System, Chapters 11-13

Wednesday, May 9th

Topic: Long-term and Palliative Care  
Speaker: Cain  
Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Ch 16  

**Week 7**

Monday, May 14th  Midterm

Wednesday, May 16th

Topic: Child and Adolescent Health Care  
Speaker: Chung  
Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Chapter 18

**Week 8**

Monday, May 21st

Topic: Mental Health Services and Policy Issues
Speaker: Ettner

Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, 3rd Edition, Chapter 16 [Note that this chapter is not found in the current edition of the course textbook; however, a pdf of the assigned chapter is available on the course website.]

Wednesday, May 23rd

Topic: Health Reform and the Affordable Care Act
Speaker: Cowgill

Reading(s): Changing the US Health Care System, Chapter 1

Topic: MPH Student Career Panel
Speakers: Outgoing MPH Students from Health Policy and Management Tracks

Week 9

Monday, May 28th    No Class – Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 30th

Topic: Oral Reports

Week 10

Monday, June 4th

Topic: Oral Reports

Wednesday, June 6th    Final Written Reports Due

Topic: Oral Reports

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.cae.ucla.edu