

History of Health Policy & Health Systems

Elective: MA in Bioethics, Stony Brook University Graduate School

Course # HCB 515

Time

Location

Instructor: Carla C. Keirns, MD, PhD, MSc, carla.keirns@stonybrook.edu, 631-444-2765

Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine; Assistant Professor of Medicine; Assistant Professor of History; Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care & Bioethics, Stony Brook University School of Medicine

Who gets sick? Who gets health care, what kind, and in what setting? This course covers the major health policy issues of the United States today, including the health status of the U.S. as a whole, the social and economic determinants of health, the role of personal and public health services in affecting health, the organization and financing of health services, and the multiple factors affecting health policies. We will explore the evolution of the US health care system in the past century, and debates about rights to health care or lack thereof, health disparities, conflicts of interest, and the ethics of health policy and practice.

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: What is a health care system and does the US have one?

Week 3: The Burden of Disease & Epidemiologic Transitions

Week 4: The Origins of Hospitals

Week 5: Health Crisis and Health Reform in the Progressive Era

Week 6: The Multiple Origins of Health Insurance

Week 7: Blue Cross, Blue Shield & Employment-Based Health Insurance

Week 8: The Many lives of Medicare

Week 9: From Charity Care to Medicaid

Week 10: The Changing Welfare State, 1970s-1990s

Week 11: The Rise and Fall of the Clinton Health Care Plan

Week 12: HMOs and Health Reform in the 1990s

Week 13: Continuing Crises of Cost and Coverage

Week 14: What Now?

Course Objectives:

1. At the end of this class, students will be able to explain the historical origins of many of the programs that make up the US health care system, the constraints that were important at their creation, and the possibilities for change based on changing economic, social, and legal contexts.
2. They will be able to identify and describe the principles, interests, and moral philosophies at stake in health policies, the impacts on different stakeholders, and the ways in which these values and principles are integrated into political and technical decisionmaking.

3. Students will have an appreciation for the context and history underlying modern health policy and how this may be relevant to their practice of public health, medicine, or as citizens.

Course Requirements:

This course will be run as a graduate seminar, with formal presentation of some background material by the instructors, but the core of each class will be discussion of the readings and the cases for the week, with each week designed to explore a different set of ethical, social, and regulatory issues raised by attempts to organize and improve medical and public health practice. Students are expected to read the assigned articles, chapters, and excerpts come to class prepared to discuss them.

1. Students will be asked to write a 1-2 page paper about each week's readings to focus class discussion.
2. Mini-research assignments: occasionally students may be asked to use online or library resources to answer questions that come up in discussion and report their findings to the rest of the class at the next class session.
3. Final paper: Students will be asked to research and write a 1500-2000 word paper on the historical background of an issue in US health policy. To help develop the paper, students will be asked to submit a one-paragraph paper proposal, a thesis or argument statement, and an annotated bibliography 4 weeks before the paper is due. Papers will be due on the last day of class.

Students will be expected to adhere to standard academic conventions for quotation and citation of sources. Any standard reference system, such as the University of Chicago, MLA, AMA or other system of citation is acceptable as long as it allows your readers to trace the origins of your claims to the original publication or source.

Evaluation: Students will be graded on class participation (25%); weekly papers (25%); proposal and bibliography (10%); final paper (40%)

Feedback: The standard evaluation form includes a faculty feedback section. Student papers will receive written comments, and we will assess group dynamics and participation regularly.

Course Readings:

The required books for the course which will be available for purchase at the Stony Brook University Bookstore in the basement of Melville Library and in the Stony Brook Health Sciences Center Bookstore on Level 2 of the HSC building. They are also available from online bookstores and a variety of used book resellers. Additional readings will be posted to the course Blackboard site, available from the Stony Brook Library electronic journals collection, or

otherwise distributed. Please advise me immediately if you have any difficulty accessing course readings.

Core Texts:

Riley, James C. *Rising Life Expectancy: A Global History*. Cambridge, U.K. ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 2001. ISBN: 0521802458; 0521002818 (pbk.)

Hoffman, Beatrix Rebecca. *The Wages of Sickness: The Politics of Health Insurance in Progressive America*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001. ISBN-10: 0807849022; ISBN-13: 978-0807849026

Grey, Michael R. *New Deal Medicine: The Rural Health Programs of the Farm Security Administration*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002. ISBN-10: 080186917X; ISBN-13: 978-0801869174

Cunningham, Robert, III and Robert M. Cunningham, Jr. *The Blues: a History of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield system*. DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1997. ISBN: 0875802249 (alk. paper)

Engel, Jonathan. *Poor People's Medicine: Medicaid and American Charity Care since 1965*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2006. ISBN: 0822336839 (cloth: alk. paper) ; 0822336952 (pbk. : alk. paper)

Oberlander, Jonathan. *The Political Life of Medicare*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003. ISBN: 0226615952 (cloth: alk. paper) ; 0226615960 (paper : alk. paper)

Coombs, Jan Gregoire. *The Rise and Fall of HMOs: An American Health Care Revolution*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2005. ISBN-10: 0299202402; ISBN-13: 978-0299202408

Hacker, Jacob S. *The Great Risk Shift: The Assault on American Jobs, Families, Health Care, and Retirement and how you can fight back*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2006. ISBN: 0195179501 (cloth) ISBN-10: 0195335341 (paper) ISBN-13: 978-0195335347 (paper)

Gordon, Colin, *Dead on Arrival: The Politics of Health Care in Twentieth-Century America*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2003. ISBN: 0691058067 (alk. paper)

Supplemental Texts:

History and Health Policy in the United States: Putting the Past back in, edited by Rosemary A. Stevens, Charles E. Rosenberg, and Lawton R. Burns. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2006. ISBN: 0813538378 (hardcover: alk. paper) 0813538386 (pbk. : alk. paper)

Bodenheimer, Thomas & Kevin Grumbach. *Understanding Health Policy: A Clinical Approach*, 5th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Medical, 2009. ISBN: 9780071496063 (pbk.) 0071496068 (pbk.) Previous ed.: New York: McGraw-Hil, 2005.

Skocpol, Theda. *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers: the Political Origins of Social Policy in the United States*. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1992. ISBN: 0674717651

Risse, Guenter B., *Mending Bodies, Saving Souls: A History of Hospitals*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999. ISBN-10: 0195055233; ISBN-13: 978-0195055238

Blumenthal, David and James A. Morone, *The Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010. ISBN-10: 0520268091; ISBN-13: 978-0520268098

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: What is a health care system and does the US have one?

Thomas Bodenheimer and Kevin Grumbach, *Understanding Health Policy*, New York: McGraw-Hill Medical; 5th edition, 2008, pp. 1-16, 163-180.

History and health policy in the United States: putting the past back in, edited by Rosemary A. Stevens, Charles E. Rosenberg, and Lawton R. Burns. New Brunswick, N.J. : Rutgers University Press, 2006.

Rosemary A. Stevens, Introduction (1-9)

Charles E. Rosenberg, Anticipated Consequences: Historians, History, and Health Policy (13-31)

Lawrence D. Brown, The More things Stay the Same the More they Change: The Odd Interplay between Government and Ideology in the Recent Political history of the U.S. Health-Care System (32-48)

Gillies, Alan. *What Makes a Good Healthcare System?* Oxon: Radcliffe Medical Press, 2003, pp. 17-32.

Week 3: The Burden of Disease & Epidemiologic Transitions

Riley, James C. *Rising Life Expectancy: A Global History*. Cambridge, U.K. ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Irchiro Kawachi, "Why the United States is Not Number One in Health," *Healthy, Wealthy & Fair: Health Care and the Good Society*, edited by James A. Morone and Lawrence R. Jacobs, Oxford University Press, 2005, pp. 19-35.

Further Reading:

Bourdelaix, Patrice. *Epidemics Laid Low: A History of What Happened in Rich Countries*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006.

Week 4: The Origins of Hospitals

Risse, Guenter B., *Mending Bodies, Saving Souls: A History of Hospitals*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999, pp. 463-688. ISBN-10: 0195055233 ; ISBN-13: 978-0195055238

Further Reading:

Rosenberg, Charles E. *The Care of Strangers: The Rise of America's Hospital System*. New York: Basic Books, 1987.

Stevens, Rosemary. *In Sickness and in Wealth: American Hospitals in the Twentieth Century*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999.

Week 5: Health Crisis and Health Reform in the Progressive Era

Hoffman, Beatrix Rebecca. *The Wages of Sickness: The Politics of Health Insurance in Progressive America*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001.

Further Reading:

Numbers, Ronald L. *Almost Persuaded: American Physicians and Compulsory Health Insurance, 1912-1920*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1978.

Week 6: The Multiple Origins of Health Insurance

Skocpol, Theda. *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers: the Political Origins of Social Policy in the United States*. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1992. Excerpts

Further Reading:

Grey, Michael R. *New Deal Medicine: The Rural Health Programs of the Farm Security Administration*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002.

Murray, John E., *Origins of American health insurance: a history of industrial sickness funds*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007.

Week 7: Blue Cross, Blue Shield & Employment-Based Health Insurance

Cunningham, Robert, III and Robert M. Cunningham, Jr. *The Blues: a history of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield system*. DeKalb : Northern Illinois University Press, 1997.

Week 8: The Many lives of Medicare

Oberlander, Jonathan. *The Political Life of Medicare*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Further Reading:

Marmor, Theodore. *The Politics of Medicare*. Aldine Transaction; 2nd edition, 2000.

Moon, Marilyn. *Medicare: A Policy Primer*. Urban Institute Press, 2006.

Aaron, Henry J. *Reforming Medicare: Options, Tradeoffs, and Opportunities*. Brookings Institution Press, 2008.

Week 9: From Charity Care to Medicaid

Engel, Jonathan. *Poor People's Medicine: Medicaid and American Charity Care since 1965*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2006.

Further Reading:

Olson, Laura Katz. *The Politics of Medicaid*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010.

Smith, David G. *Medicaid Politics and Policy: 1965-2007*. Transaction Publishers, 2010.

Smith, David G. *Entitlement Politics: Medicare and Medicaid, 1995-2001*. Aldine Transaction, 2002.

Thomas, Karen Kruse. *Deluxe Jim Crow: civil rights and American health policy, 1935-1954*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2011.

Week 10: Unintended Consequences: Payment Reform and the Privatization of Social Welfare

Mayes, Rick and Robert A. Berenson, *Medicare Prospective Payment and the Shaping of U.S. Health Care*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006.

Hacker, Jacob S. *The Great Risk Shift: The Assault on American Jobs, Families, Health Care, and Retirement and how you can fight back*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2006, pp. 11-34 and 137-164.

Further Reading:

Mashaw, Jerry L. *Bureaucratic justice: managing social security disability claims*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1983.

Wooten, James A., *The employee retirement income security act of 1974: a political history*. Berkeley: University of California Press; New York : Milbank Memorial Fund ; Washington, D.C. : Employee Benefit Research Institute, c2004.

The New Politics of Old Age Policy, edited by Robert B. Hudson. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press; second edition edition, 2010.

Week 11: The Clinton Health Plan

PBS Timeline of Clinton Health Care Debate

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/forum/may96/background/health_debate_page1.html

Theda Skocpol, The Rise and Resounding Demise of the Clinton Plan, *Health Affairs*, Spring 1995; 14(1): 66-85.

Gordon, Colin, *Dead on Arrival: The Politics of Health Care in Twentieth-Century America*. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 2003.

Week 12: Health Maintenance Organizations

Coombs, Jan Gregoire. *The Rise and Fall of HMOs: An American Health Care Revolution*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2005.

Week 13: Continuing Crises of Cost and Coverage

Jacobs, Lawrence R. & Theda Skocpol. *Health Care Reform and American Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford University Press, 2010.

Blumenthal, David and James A. Morone, *The Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010.

Norman Daniels and Marc Roberts, "Health Care Reform," in *From Birth to Death and Bench to Clinic: The Hastings Center Bioethics Briefing Book for Journalists, Policymakers, and Campaigns*, ed. Mary Crowley (Garrison, NY: The Hastings Center, 2008), 83-88.

Atul Gawande, Piecework: Medicine's Money Problem, *The New Yorker*, April 4, 2005.

Atul Gawande, The Cost Conundrum, *The New Yorker*, June 1, 2009

William D. McInturff & Lori Weigel, Déjà vu All Over Again: The Similarities Between Political Debates Regarding Health care in the Early 1990s and Today, *Health Affairs*, 2008; 27(3): 699-704.

Week 14: The Affordable Care Act and Beyond

Staff of the Washington Post, *Landmark: The Inside Story of America's New Health Care Law and What It Means for Us All*, Washington, DC: PublicAffairs, 2010.

Mariner, Wendy K., George J. Annas, and Leonard H. Glantz, Can Congress Make You Buy Broccoli? And Why That's a Hard Question. *New England Journal of Medicine*, January 20, 2011; 364:201-203.

Further Reading:

T.R. Reid, *The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care*, The Penguin Press; 2009.

McDonough, John E. *Inside National Health Reform*, Berkeley & Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2011.

Kirsch, Richard. *Fighting for Our Health: The Epic Battle to Make Health Care a Right in the United States*. Albany: Rockefeller Institute Press, 2012.

Additional Resources:

Altenstetter, Christa. Insights from Health Care in Germany, *American Journal of Public Health*, January 2003; 93(1): 38-44.

Altman, Stuart & David Shactman, *Power, Politics, and Universal Health Care: The Inside Story of a Century-Long Battle*. Prometheus Books, 2011.

Brett, Allan S. “American Values”—A Smoke Screen in the Debate on Health Care Reform, *New England Journal of Medicine*, July 30, 2009; 361(5): 440-441.

Brown, Lawrence D. Comparing Health Systems in Four Countries: Lessons for the United States, *American Journal of Public Health*, January 2003; 93(1): 52-56.

Deber, Raisa Berlin. Health Care Reform: Lessons from Canada, *American Journal of Public Health*, January 2003; 93(1): 20-24.

Dutton, Paul V. *Differential Diagnoses: A Comparative History of Health Care Problems and Solutions in the United States and France*, Ithaca & London: ILR Press/Cornell University Press, 2007.

Engel, Jonathan. *Doctors and Reformers: Discussion and Debate over Health Policy, 1925-1950*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2002. ISBN: 1570034117

Fisher ES, Bynum JP, Skinner JS. Slowing the growth of health care costs--lessons from regional variation. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 2009 Feb 26;360(9):849-52.

Gruber, Jonathan. *Health Care Reform: What It Is, Why It's Necessary, How It Works*. Hill and Wang, 2011.

Hacker, Jacob. *The Road to Nowhere: The Genesis of President Clinton's Plan for Health Security*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996.

Hayward RA, Kent DM. 6 EZ steps to improving your performance: (or how to make P4P pay 4U!). *JAMA*. 2008 Jul 16;300(3):255-6.

Johnson, Haynes & David Broder, *The System: The American Way of Politics at the Breaking Point*, Back Bay Books, 1997.

Light, Donald W. Universal Health Care: Lessons from the British Experience, *American Journal of Public Health*, January 2003; 93(1): 25-30.

Marmor, Theodore R., Richard Freeman, Kieke G. H. Okma. *Comparative Studies and the Politics of Modern Medical Care*. Yale University Press, 2009.

McDonough, John E. *Inside National Health Reform*. University of California Press, 2011.

Oberlander, Jonathan. Great Expectations—The Obama Administration and Health Care reform, *New England Journal of Medicine*, January 22, 2009, 360(4): 321-323.

The Politics of Health Care Reform: Lessons from the Past, Prospects for the Future, edited by James A. Morone and Gary S. Belkin. Durham: Duke University Press, 1994.

Readings in American Health Care: Current Issues in Socio-Historical Perspective, edited by William G. Rothstein, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1995.

Rodwin, Victor G. The Health Care System under French National Health Insurance: Lessons for Health Reform in the United States, *American Journal of Public Health*, January 2003; 93(1): 31-37.

Skocpol, Theda. *Boomerang : Clinton's Health Security Effort and the turn against government in U.S. politics*, New York : W.W. Norton & Co., 1996.

Social Insurance and Social Justice: Social Security, Medicare and the Campaign Against Entitlements, edited by Leah Rogne, Carroll Estes, Brian R. Grossman, Brooke Hollister, Erica Solway. Springer Publishing Company, 2009.

Starr, Paul. *Remedy and Reaction: The Peculiar American Struggle over Health Care Reform*. Yale University Press, 2011.

Sutherland JM, Fisher ES, Skinner JS. Getting past denial--the high cost of health care in the United States. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 2009 Sep 24;361(13):1227-30.

Weissert, Carol S. & William G. Weissert. *Governing Health: The Politics of Health Policy*. Johns Hopkins University Press; 3rd edition, 2006.

Online Resources:

For information on life expectancy, disease rates and health status around the world:

<http://www.who.int/whosis/en/>

European Observatory on Health System Policies

<http://www.euro.who.int/observatory/ctryinfo/ctryinfo>

The World Bank, Health Systems & Financing

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTHEALTHNUTRITIONANDPOPULATION/EXTHSD/0,,contentMDK:20184860~menuPK:376819~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:376793,00.html>

Health Systems Performance Assessment: Debates, Methods & Empiricism

WHO commissioned report edited by Murray and Evans, Harvard School of Public Health

<http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2003/9241562455.pdf>

Glossary of Key Health Reform Terms, Kaiser Family Foundation

<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/upload/7909.pdf>

Department of Health & Human Services Site on Health Care Reform

<http://www.healthreform.gov>

2009 US Federal Poverty Guidelines and History of the Measure

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/09poverty.shtml>

New York Times Interactive Timeline for Health Care Reform

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/07/19/us/politics/20090717_HEALTH_TIMELINE.html

New York Times

http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/health/diseasesconditionsandhealthtopics/health_insurance_and_managed_care/health_care_reform/

New England Journal of Medicine Timeline of Health Care Reform with NEJM PDFs

http://healthcarereform.nejm.org/?page_id=1647

New England Journal of Medicine's series of columns, commentaries, and analyses

<http://healthcarereform.nejm.org/>

Rand Health Compare, Policy Analysis Tools <http://www.randcompare.org/>

Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care

-- US expenditures by geographic region, created from Medicare data

Extensive query system available on their website to look at different maps

<http://www.dartmouthatlas.org/index.shtm>

Washington Post

<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/health-care-reform/>

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

<http://www.rwjf.org/healthreform/>

Kaiser Family Foundation

<http://healthreform.kff.org/>

Commonwealth Fund

<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/>

American Enterprise Institute (Free Market Think Tank)

<http://www.aei.org/ra/43>

Heritage Foundation (Conservative Think Tank)

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/HealthCare/>

National Association of Manufacturers

<http://www.nam.org/PolicyIssueInformation/HumanResourcesPolicy/HealthCare.aspx>

America's Health Insurance Plans <http://www.ahip.org/>

American Association of Retired Persons

http://www.aarp.org/health/articles/health_reform_get_the_facts.html

From Official Stony Brook University Policy:

Statements required to appear in all syllabi on the Stony Brook campus:

Americans with Disabilities Act:

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Academic Integrity:

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report and suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (Schools of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

Critical Incident Management:

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.