

U.S. Health Care Crisis: *The Politics of Healthcare Reform*

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Spring 2010

Course Numbers: POL / NUR / HST 536 KY

Room, Day and Time: Storer Auditorium, School of Business
Wednesdays, 5:00pm – 7:40pm

Number of Credits: 3 credits

Faculty: Professor Donna E. Shalala
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Course Description: This course will explore key health policy issues within the U.S., along with the politics of health care reform. Fundamental concerns within the health care system such as cost, quality, and access to care will be analyzed. Major topics of discussion will include Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, prescription drugs, health disparities, and health care reform.

Evaluation:

* Exam 1	30 pts
* Exam 2	30 pts
* Chat Room	10 pts
* Seminars	10 pts
* Course Attendance	10pts
* Health Insurance Assignment	5 pts
* Health Reform Subsidy Assignment	5 pts

Required Texts/Readings:

- The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care by *T. R. Reid*
ISBN-13: 9781594202346
- All other readings will be posted on Blackboard (www.courses.miami.edu). Be certain to read all of the “Required Readings” before the beginning of each class. “Supplemental Readings” are provided to give more context and detail to the topics presented in class.

Periodical Subscriptions: Students will be required to read daily the health policy related articles published in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal* so as to be amply prepared for in class discussions.

Free email subscriptions for *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* can be found on the newspapers’ homepages at nytimes.com and washingtonpost.com. *The Wall Street Journal* does not have a free subscription email service, but students can view the newspaper’s daily edition on the wsj.com website.

Direct links to *all* of these periodicals’ websites have been posted on the course Blackboard site under “Course Links.”

Attendance: Regular and punctual attendance at each class session is mandatory.

Examinations: Students are required to be present for all examinations. All exams will be held at the same time and location as the class is scheduled. If a student, for sufficient cause, is unable to attend an examination, the Teaching Assistant must be notified prior to the administration of the exam. The professor will determine the format and scheduling of all make-up exams.

Chat Room Discussions: The class will be broken up into smaller chat room discussion groups. At various times offered throughout each week the professor will host a discussion on the class lecture in the “Course Chat” Room available on the Blackboard website. A video/reading assignment will be assigned to view/read prior to participating in chat as this will be the revolving topic on the chat room. Active participation in each chat session is required as part of your grade. Dates and times will be scattered as to make sure each student has a chance to attend the discussion. Check Blackboard announcements for dates and times.

Seminars: Students will attend five health care or related events (worth two points each) over the course of the semester. After each event, download and complete the summary sheet found on Blackboard and submit it to the Teaching Assistant. Final Due Date: Wednesday, April 21st.

Seminar recommendations will be provided by the Professor on Blackboard as they arise over the course of the semester.

Honor Code: Students are expected to be familiar with and to comply with the University of Miami's Honor Code. These Codes are established for the student body to protect the academic integrity of the University of Miami, to encourage consistent ethical behavior among students, and to foster a climate of fair competition. While a student's commitment to honesty and personal integrity is assumed and expected, these Codes are intended to provide an added measure of assurance that, in fulfilling the University's requirements, the student will never engage in falsification, plagiarism, or other deception regarding the materials he/she presents. Each student is responsible for completing the academic requirements of each course in the manner indicated by the faculty.

Information for Students with Disabilities: You are advised and encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible to provide the necessary documentation in order to obtain academic accommodations. Faculty cannot provide accommodations without a letter from the Office of Disability Services. You may contact that office at:

University Center
Room N201
(305) 284-2374
TDD (305) 284-3401