

- Course Title:** *Topics in Health Systems and Health Care Policy*
- Course Number:** *HSAP 0671J*
- Course Location:** *Piscataway, New Jersey*
- Course Date & Time:** *Wednesday, 3:10 to 6:00*
- Course Instructor:** *Jeannette Rogowski, PhD, University Professor in Health Economics, Rutgers School of Public Health (Jeannette_Rogowski@Rutgers.edu, 732-235-9759)*
- Office Hours:** *Wednesday 1:00-3:00 or by appointment*
- Course Assistant:** *None*
- Required Course Text:** *Paul Feldstein, Health Policy Issues: An Economic Perspective, Fourth Edition, 2007.*

Additional/Supplemental Readings/Resources: *None*

Course Description: This course will focus on selected topics related to the performance and structure of health care systems and the possible policy responses to address perceived shortcomings in health system performance.

Selected Department Competencies Addressed:

Each Department identifies competencies for each degree offered. The competencies addressed in this course for the MPH for the Department of Health Systems and Policy include:

- Use economic theories, concepts and methodologies in the analysis and evaluation of current health care issues and problems
- Assess community health needs, disparities and the health care delivery system within the context of social, cultural, political, legal and economic forces

Please visit the Department webpages on the School of Public Health's website at <http://sph.rutgers.edu/> for additional competencies addressed by this course for other degrees and departments.

Course Objectives: By the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify important contemporary areas of concern in health systems and health policy
- Critically evaluate the literature and evidence related to the performance of health care systems and health policy
- Apply analytic principles to determine the effects on the performance of health care systems of both private, market-based solutions and public, government-based solutions for improving the delivery of health care

Course Requirements and Grading:

The course will have a midterm and a final examination. Students are expected to read all assignments prior to class and to actively participate in discussions of assigned readings. Students are expected to attend class and to comply with the Rutgers School of Public Health honor code.

Final course grades will be assessed on the following basis:

Midterm Exam 40 percent of grade

Final Exam 50 percent of grade

Class Participation 10 percent of grade

Course Schedule:

*Readings will consist of book chapters, journal articles and other relevant reports. Optional readings are denoted by "***".*

I. Performance of the US Health Care System: Assessing the Evidence (Weeks 1-6)

The Commonwealth Fund Commission on a High Performance Health System, *Why Not the Best? Results from the National Scorecard on U.S. Health System Performance*, 2008.

Feldstein, Chapter 3: Do More Medical Expenditures Produce Better Health?

Background Reading: Feldstein, Chapter 8: Medicare and Feldstein, Chapter 9: Medicaid

**Institute of Medicine, *Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century*, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, 2000, Chapter 1.

**McGlynn B et al., "The Quality of Health Care Delivered to Adults in the United States," *New England Journal of Medicine*, June 26, 2003; 348, pp. 2635-2645.

Midterm Examination (Week 7)

II. Markets for Health Care and Rising Costs (Weeks 8-11)

Rising Health Care Costs

Feldstein, Chapter 1: The Rise in Medical Expenditures

Markets for Physician Services

Feldstein, Chapter 4: In Whose Interest Does the Physician Act?

Feldstein, Chapter 10: How Does Medicare Pay Physicians?

**Feldstein, Chapter 18: Can Price Controls Limit Medical Expenditure Increases?

Markets for Hospital Care

Feldstein, Chapter 15: Competition Among Hospitals, Does it Raise or Lower Costs?

Feldstein, Chapter 8: Medicare

**Robinson, J and Luft, H, "Competition and the Cost of Hospital Care, 1972-1982," *JAMA*, 1987; 257(23), pp. 3241-3245.

**Robinson, J, and Luft H, "Competition, Regulation and Hospital Costs, 1982-1986," *JAMA* 1988; 260, pp. 2676-2681.

**Melnick, G and Zwanziger J, "Hospital Behavior Under Competition and Cost-Containment Policies: The California Experience 1980-1985," *JAMA*, 1988; 260 (18), pp. 2669-2675.

III. Markets for Health Care and Access to Care (Week 12)

Feldstein, Chapter 5: Rationing Medical Services

Feldstein, Chapter 32: The Canadian Health Care System

**Cunningham P et al., "Managed Care and Physicians' Provision of Charity Care," *JAMA* 1999; 281, pp. 1087-1092.

**Gruber J, "The Effect of Competitive Pressure on Charity: Hospital Responses to Price Shopping in California," *Journal of Health Economics*, 1994; 38, pp. 183-212.

IV. Markets for Health Care and Improving Quality (Weeks 13-14)

Rosenthal, M, "What Works in Market-Oriented Health Policy?" *New England Journal of Medicine*, May 21, 2009; 360:2157-2160.

Provider Report Cards

Werner, R and Asch D, "The Unintended Consequences of Publicly Reporting Quality Information," *JAMA*, March 9, 2005; 293, pp. 1239-1244.

Pay-for-Performance

Werner, R and Dudley, RA, "Making the 'Pay' Matter in Pay-For-Performance: Implications for Payment Strategies", *Health Affairs*, September 2009, 28(5): 1498-1508.

**Rosenthal M and Dudley RA, "Pay-for-Performance: Will the Latest Payment Trend Improve Care?" *JAMA*, 2007; 297, pp. 740-744.

**Glickman, S et al., "Pay for Performance, Quality of Care and Outcomes in Acute Myocardial Infarction," *JAMA*, 2007; 297, pp. 2373-2380.

Value-Based Purchasing

Choudhry N, Rosenthal M, and Milstein A, "Assessing the Evidence for Value-Based Insurance Design," *Health Affairs*, November 2010, 29 (11), 1988-94.

**Fendrick A, Smith D, and Chernew M, "Applying Value-Based Insurance Design to Low-value Health Services," *Health Affairs*, November 2010, 29 (11), 2017-21.

**Kapowich, J, Oregon's Test of Value-Based Insurance Design in Coverage for State Workers, *Health Affairs*, November 2010, 29 (11), 2028-32.

School of Public Health Honor Code: The School of Public Health Honor Code is found in the student bulletin (sph.rutgers.edu/academics/catalog/index.html). Each student bears a fundamental responsibility for maintaining academic integrity and intellectual honesty in his or her graduate work. For example, all students are expected to observe the generally accepted principles of scholarly work, to submit their own rather than another's work, to refrain from falsifying data, and to refrain from receiving and/or giving aid on examinations or other assigned work requiring independent effort. In submitting written material, the writer takes full responsibility for the work as a whole and implies that, except as properly noted by use of quotation marks, footnotes, etc., both the ideas and the works used are his or her own. In addition to maintaining personal academic integrity, each student is expected to contribute to the academic integrity of the school community by not facilitating inappropriate use of her/his own work by others and by reporting acts of academic dishonesty by others to an appropriate school authority. It should be clearly understood that plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can lead to sanctions up to and including separation from the Rutgers School of Public Health.

Policy Concerning Use of Recording Devices and Other Electronic Communications Systems:

When personally owned communication/recording devices are used by students to record lectures and/or classroom lessons, such use must be authorized by the faculty member or instructor who must give either oral or written permission prior to the start of the semester and identify restrictions, if any, on the use of mobile communications or recording devices.