Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
School of Public Affairs and Administration

Health Care Finance 20:834:584  
Spring 2015  
(as of December 1, 2014, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Class Location: Room TBA, Center for Urban and Public Service,  
111 Washington Avenue, Newark, NJ 07102

Class Dates: Tuesdays, January 20 to May 5  
Class Times: 5:30 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.

Instructor: Mark E. Hopkins  
E-mail: mark.hopkins@rutgers.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: A thorough overview of financial management principals of one of the most complex and evolving industries: health care. Not an accounting course but rather intended to give students the building blocks for understanding the multiple sources of revenues and varied expenses of health care organizations. The class will be focused largely on hospitals but will also include skilled nursing facilities, physician practices, federally qualified health centers and home health agencies. Students will come away with an understanding of healthcare organization cost centers, governmental and third-party reimbursement mechanisms, financial planning, capital financing and understanding financial statements and key financial indicators. There are no formal pre-requisites for this course but previous courses in accounting, budgeting or finance would be beneficial.

Suitable for: Individuals working for or seeking to work in management of health care organizations such as hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, physician practice groups, federally qualified health centers as well as health insurance companies, accountable care organizations and health care policy and decision-makers in government at the local, state or federal level.


Additional Required Reading: Chapter 6 – Hospital Economics 101, New Jersey Commission on Rationalizing Health Care Resources (2008).


Others articles might be added.

Grading Criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance, including preparedness and undivided attention</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Students are expected to attend every class. Attendance includes being on-time, staying for the entire class, being prepared by doing the assigned reading sufficient to respond credibly when called upon. Undivided attention means listening to the lecture and discussion, in other words no texting, e-mailing, social networking, phoning, web surfing, or talking, reading or writing on any other subject during class. Participation means demonstrated critical thinking by actively participating in class discussions and asking questions.

Grades are assigned based on the total points from Class Attendance, Class Preparation and Mid-Term Exam and Final Exam (exams will be curved based on the highest grade). The totals in each category will be multiplied by the percentage noted above in “Grading Criteria.” The final letter grade assigned will be based on the total points, as follows:

- **A** for scores of 90 to 100 points
- **B+** for scores of 85 to 89 points
- **B** for scores of 80 to 84 points
- **C+** for scores 75 to 79 points
- **C** for scores of 70 to 74 points
- **F** for scores less than 70 points

**Academic Integrity**

Class Topics and Readings (Subject to Change)
(as of December 1, 2014, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Session 1: Introduction and Overview of Course
Tuesday Essentials of Health Care Finance – Chapter 8 “General Principals of Accounting,” January 20 and familiarize yourself with the terms in the Glossary.


Session 3: Essentials of Health Care Finance - Chapter 9 “Financial Statements.” Tuesday February 3

Session 4: Essentials of Health Care Finance – Chapter 2 “Billing and Coding for Health Tuesday Services.” February 10


Session 6: Essentials of Health Care Finance – Chapter 4 “Legal and Regulatory Environment.” Tuesday February 24

Session 7: Essentials of Health Care Finance - Chapter 5 “Measuring Community Benefit.” Tuesday March 3

Session 8: MID-TERM EXAM Tuesday March 10

SPRING BREAK – MARCH 14 TO 22

Session 9: Essentials of Health Care Finance - Chapter 6 “Revenue Determination.” Tuesday March 24

Session 10: Essentials of Health Care Finance - Chapter 7 - “Health Insurance and Managed Care.” Tuesday March 31

Tuesday April 14

Tuesday April 21

Session 14: Essentials of Health Care Finance – Chapter 22 “Working Capital and Cash Management” and Chapter 23 “Developing the Cash Budget”
Tuesday April 28

Session 15: Lecture - Overview of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Tuesday May 5

Session 16: FINAL EXAM
Tuesday May 12