

HCA 150 Essentials of Health Care in the US

Syllabus Overview

This syllabus contains all relevant information about the course: its objectives and outcomes, the grading criteria, the texts and other materials of instruction, and weekly topics, outcomes, assignments, and due dates. Consider this your roadmap for the course. Please read through the syllabus carefully and ask questions if you would like anything clarified. Please print a copy of this syllabus for reference.

Course Description

3 Credits

Prerequisites: NONE

This course will give students an overview of the current US healthcare delivery system and its associated costs. It will enable students to accurately define insurance terms and abbreviations and introduces students to the functions and procedures of health insurance programs. The course will familiarize students with requirements, rules, regulations and laws pertaining to various insurance programs.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Indicate and describe the historical milestones of the US health care system and describe their impact.
- Describe the impact of recent health care reform, including the ACA.
- Distinguish between the major stakeholders of the US health care system.
- Use statistics to compare the US health care system with those of other countries.
- Summarize key government and public health programs that have played a role in US health care and explain their impact.
- Identify and distinguish between the various hospital classifications, including the inpatient and outpatient services provided.
- Classify the types of physicians and professionals working in the US health care industry and distinguish between their roles.
- Identify and distinguish between various types of insurance programs and health care funding, including private health insurance plans and government programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid.
- Identify and describe current US health care trends.

Communication with Your Instructor

You will receive a welcome email from your instructor prior to the start of class. This email will contain your instructor's contact information. Your instructor will also be communicating with you via several methods in the course, including:

1. **Announcements** – This communication tool, located on the navigation menu within your course in Canvas, contains important updates. Be sure to check for new announcements from your instructor each time you access your course.
2. **Q&A** – Use this discussion board, located on the Home screen in your course, to communicate with your instructor and classmates regarding general course questions (e.g., missing links or assignment clarification).
3. **Inbox** – Use the Inbox, located in the top right corner of Canvas, to send a message to your instructor or classmates.

Required Textbook:

Basics of the US Health Care System

Third Edition

(Navigate 2 Advantage Access)

Nancy J Niles

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Library Services

Detailed information about the eLibrary can be found in the Student Resource Center. This is a course that all students have access to during their academic career.

Canvas Help Desk and Technical Questions

If you experience technical issues in your course, please contact the Canvas Help Desk by clicking the Help link (top right corner within Canvas). There are 3 ways to contact them:

1. Phone (888-628-2749)
2. Live chat
3. Report a problem (submit a ticket)

Be sure to notify your instructor of any technical difficulties you are experiencing.

Additional resources are available in the Student Resource Center and the Canvas Guides website:

<http://guides.instructure.com>

Weekly Schedule

Week 1	History of the US Healthcare System
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the milestones of health care in the United States and their importance to health care. 2. Identify milestones of public health and health insurance and their importance to health care. 3. Describe the EMTALA law and explain how it is applied.
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapter 1
Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Milestones and Their Impact on the US Healthcare System
Multimedia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the US Health Care System by Khan Academy https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/arts-humanities-partners/brookings-institution/introduction-to-healthcare
Discussion	<p>Discussion: One of your friends had a very serious medical emergency and had to go to the hospital for treatment. She was very upset because upon her arrival, she was asked for her insurance card, which she did not have, and was transferred to another hospital quickly. You had learned that there was a law that made this type of treatment by a hospital illegal. However, before telling your friend your opinion, you wanted to find out more about this law and whether it applied to her situation.</p> <p>Perform an internet search on public health regulations and give your informed opinion on whether you think the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) was applicable in this situation and why. Please be sure to cite all references using APA guidelines.</p>
Assignment	Complete Student Activity 1-1: "In your own words".
Quiz	See Due Date in your course.

Week 2	Impact of Recent Healthcare Reform
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List and summarize the 10 major provisions of the PPACA. 2. Evaluate the impact of the ACA n accessibility of health care plansto individuals and small businesses. 3. Discuss the impact of health reform on the health insurance industry.
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapter 2
Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), also known as ACA or Obamacare
Multimedia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Health Care_ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIR7TCPQh0c • Take this short quiz on health care reform (no grade). http://www.kff.org/quiz/health-reform-quiz/
Discussion	<p>Review the provisions of the ACA and select 3 initiatives in any of the 10 title areas that you think are important to improving our healthcare system. Please be specific and, where possible, defend you answer with data from valid sources. Be sure to include at least one scholarly reference cited using APA format.</p>
Assignment	<p>Complete Student Activity 2-3: "Internet Exercises".</p>
Quiz	<p>See Due Date in your course</p>

Week 3	Current Operations of the Healthcare System
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the stakeholders of the US healthcare system and their relationships with each other. 2. Discuss the importance of statistics. 3. Compare the US to five other countries using different statistics. 4. List at least five current statistics regarding the US healthcare system.
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapter 3
Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Stakeholders in the US Healthcare Industry
Discussion	<p>Identify three specific stakeholders in the US healthcare industry. Describe their function and purpose. Discuss how these stakeholders relate to each other - how some have common interests and others divergent, etc. Please be specific and, where possible, defend your answer with data from valid sources. Be sure to include at least one scholarly reference cited using APA format.</p>
Assignment	<p>Perform an internet search and find a current events topic over the past two years that is related to any major stakeholder in the US healthcare system. Provide a summary (minimum of 300 words) and a link to the article. Please be sure to discuss why you believe the article relates to information you have learned from readings this week.</p>
Quiz	<p>See Due Date in your course.</p>

Week 4	Government's Role in the US Healthcare System
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the US governmental organizations and their roles in health care including the role of Public Health 2. Analyze the integration of the collaboration of the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency and its importance to disaster management 3. Discuss the role of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in healthcare research 4. Discuss the US Food and Drug Administration's regulatory responsibility in health care 5. Evaluate the role of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in health care
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapters 4 & 5
Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal, State and Local Government Roles in US Health Care
Discussion	<p>You are thinking about continuing your education but are not sure what area of health care is of interest to you and decide to investigate the area of Public Health. Perform an internet search on the goals and services of public health. Pick one of the essential services of Public Health and give a concrete example of how that service is provided. What, if any, public health professions would interest you and why? Please cite at least one scholarly reference using APA format. Respond to your classmates' posts with comments and/or questions.</p>
Assignment	Complete Student Activity 4-1: "In Your Own Words".
Quiz	See Due Date in your course.

Week 5 Inpatient and Outpatient Services	
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define and discuss the different hospitals by their ownership classification and the populations that they serve 2. Identify outpatient care settings by type 3. Analyze the utilization trends of both inpatient and outpatient service 4. Evaluate the difference between inpatient and outpatient services
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapter 6
Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Brief History of Hospitals in the US
Discussion	<p>You just received your Master of Healthcare Management degree from and you decided you would like to pursue a career in hospital management. You cannot decide on what type of hospital you would like to apply to and decide to investigate the different types of hospitals available. Identify three types of hospitals and based on your research, select a hospital type and state why you chose this type of hospital. Please be sure to cite at least one scholarly reference using APA format.</p>
Assignments	Complete Student Activity 5-1: "In Your Own Words".
Quiz	See Due Date in your course

Week 6	US Healthcare Workforce
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe five types of physicians and their roles. 2. Describe six types of nurse professionals and their roles. 3. Describe six types of other healthcare professionals and their roles. 4. Define allied health professionals and their role in the healthcare industry.
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapter 7
Lectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Care Professionals: Who are they and what do they want?
Discussion	<p>The healthcare industry is a growing industry for employment. You are unsure of all the types of careers available to you. Research and report on three different roles. For each opportunity please provide the educational requirements, summary of job responsibilities and average wages. Please review your classmates' responses and try to add to the conversation by providing different roles.</p> <p>Please include at least one scholarly reference cited using APA format.</p>
Assignments	<p>One of your friends was just released from the hospital. She was pleased with her care but was not sure about the physician who told her she was a "hospitalist". You had not heard of that term before either. Perform an internet search on the term, "hospitalist". Define the term and report on current statistics on hospitalist use.</p> <p>Please be sure to cite your references using APA format.</p>
Quiz	See Due Date in your course.

Week 7	Healthcare Financing
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss the different cost-sharing strategies used by health insurance plans 2. Discuss the importance of PACE, TRICARE and SCHIP, Medicare and Medicaid to health care 3. Identify different governmental and private health insurance reimbursement methods 4. Evaluate health insurance policies
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapters 8 & 9
Lecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public and Private Financing of Health Care
Discussion	<p>Part 1: Identify an article in the mainstream media that address topics that have an impact on the cost of health care in the US. You will need to review newspapers, magazines and/or search online databases of articles and identify an article that addresses topic(s) with an impact on healthcare costs. The newspapers, magazines or databases used must be produced by mainstream media outlets, such as: Reuters, the Associated Press, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, Time Magazine, Newsweek, The Economist, Crain's, National Public Radio (NPR), CNN, or CNBC. Do NOT use articles or information from blogs, tabloids or un-edited sources. Attach a link to the article in your response.</p> <p>Part 2: Discussion of the Issues. You will need to write a discussion of the topic of the article and its impact on cost of care. You should strive to discuss a cost impact that is real and supportable by research. Don't speculate unless you can support your thoughts or ideas with available research data (in which case you should discuss this data in your response). Your discussion must address ALL of the following questions: What is the cost that is implicated by the article? What is the measurable impact over time? Who is affected by the issue?</p>
Assignments	<p>The four parts to Medicare: List the four parts of Medicare and define them in your own words. Why is each of the four parts important to an enrollee?</p> <p>Your response should be at least 300 words. Please cite any references using APA format.</p>
Quiz	See Due Date in your course.

Week 8 Analysis of the US Healthcare System	
Outcomes	1. Review and evaluate major issues in this introductory course
Navigate 2 Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basics of the US Health Care System - Chapter 14
Lectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Highlights and Statistics
Discussion	Reflection: What did you learn in Essentials of Health Care in the US? Choose two topics you learned in this course. How will this new knowledge be applied in your personal life and your current or future career?
Assignment	Complete the course evaluation survey.

Grading and Evaluation

Your grades will reflect the way in which you present and support your topics and positions in the various learning activities used in this course. The grades will be based on the quality and quantity of your comments and responses in the various activities.

Be sure to review the discussion and assignment rubrics in the course for specific grading criteria.

The various graded activities are weighted as follows:

Course Element	% of Final Grade
Assignments	30%
Discussions	40%
Quizzes	30%
Navigate 2 Readings	0%
Total	100%

Students will be expected to meet all the deadlines of the class as indicated throughout the course and in the syllabus. This is primarily so we don't get behind in the course. In addition, discussions cannot overlap from one week to the next. This is to ensure that all discussions and submissions take place within the week they are scheduled in order to be of value to the entire class, as well as to help you not get behind. If there are extenuating circumstances, you will need to communicate that to the instructor and make arrangements accordingly, if appropriate.

Late Assignments: Exceptions are to be determined by the instructor on a case-by-case basis. There will be no opportunities for extra credit.

Learner Success Guidelines

These guidelines are provided to help you succeed in your coursework:

- Participate in the class introduction activity on the first day of class.
- Submit ALL assignments by the posted due dates and times.
- Check your emails daily.
- Contact Portal Help for logon problems or Canvas Help for technical issues with Canvas.
- Participate fully in all threaded discussions.
- Contact your instructor if you have questions about an assignment or need additional help completing your work successfully.

Academic dishonesty is grounds for dismissal from the program.

Academic Policies

The following Academic Policies can be found in the [Student Resource Center](#).

- Grading Criteria
- Reasonable Accommodations Policy

- Student Attendance Policy
- Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy
- Student Engagement and the Granting of Academic Credit
- Copyright Policy

Caveat

The above schedule, content, and procedures in this course are subject to change. All policies are superseded by the latest College Catalog available on our website: <https://www.cambridgecollege.edu/student-rights-complaints-grievances/student-code-conduct>

Disclaimer

As a disclaimer, any materials in or related to this course are provided for educational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing any legal, financial, accounting, tax or other professional advice or services. The information provided in this class is of a general nature, and it cannot substitute for the advice of a licensed professional in any respect. The application and effect of laws may vary widely depending on the specific facts and jurisdiction, and no representation or warranty is made with respect to the accuracy of any materials in or related to the course. Accordingly, the information provided is solely for general educational purposes.