Faculty of Record: Prof. Claudia Chaufan
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Office hours: by appointment

When: Wednesdays noon to 2 pm / Where: U456

Course description
This course introduces students to a global and comparative study of health care systems and policy, drawing from the fields of public policy, health care economics, public health, and sociology. The emphasis will be on health care systems and policy in industrialized nations. Some time will be devoted to health care systems in emerging and other economies.

Course objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the goals of health care policy and the functions of health care systems
2. Locate health care policy in the context of the emergence of the modern nation state and critically evaluate the historical, sociopolitical and cultural contexts within which different ideal type health care systems came into being
3. Apply key analytic categories of health care policy analysis to locate health care systems within a typology organized around contrasting conceptions of health care (i.e., social good vs. market good)
4. Identify measures of quality, cost and fairness, and determinants of costs
5. Understand the implications of health care policy choices for population health, health care inequalities, and social justice.
Instructor’s background: Claudia Chaufan is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Health Policy at the Institute for Health & Aging/School of Nursing in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at UCSF. Dr. Chaufan was trained as a physician in her native Argentina and later completed a doctorate in Sociology at the University of California in Santa Cruz. Her work has been in the areas of the social determinants of diabetes and obesity and in the sociology of human genetic research. Recently she has expanded her work in an global direction (Middle East and Latin America). Dr. Chaufan has taught comparative health care systems to students in the health and the social sciences, and frequently lectures on the topic to professional and lay audiences. Since 2006, she has been vice-president of Physicians for a National Health Program-California.

Course organization
The course will be conducted as a seminar. I will usually open with some remarks or brief observations but the remaining class period will be an open (and hopefully lively!) discussion of the readings, their implications, and their applications (see special organization of weeks 6 and 8 under class schedule).

Course requirements
This is a 2 units seminar, with the following requirements:

1. **Attendance and active participation:** My overall expectation is that all students will attend no fewer than 9 out of 10 meetings, will come to class having read the material carefully, and will write up to one page with one or more key ideas, concepts, observations, critiques, or questions that can serve to launch discussion and in-class activities, and email it to me the evening prior to class (this will count as participation).

2. **Applied health policy:** By the middle of the quarter, all students will conduct a practical project, *choosing one of two options* that I have created (and published in the “Handbook for Teaching Medical Sociology”). These projects are “Shop4insurance” and “Investigating Medicare Part D”, and I have designed them to give students a taste of the implications of health care policy decisions for individual lives. Please do not panic. These assignments are very easy. They require no additional reading and their success is guaranteed so long as you carry out the instructions in the prompt that I will explain in detail two weeks prior to the due date.

Course evaluation
It will be based on attendance, participation, and the applied health policy assignment.
Class schedule

Week one  Introduction to the study of health care systems and policy – Part 1
Goals, functions, measures, basic analytic categories (financing, delivery);
social welfare and the emergence of the modern state

Week two  Introduction to the study of health care systems and policy – Part 2
The concept of insurance, types of insurance, markets in health care,
social values in health care, models of financing, medically necessary care

Week three  The Bismarkian Model: Germany and France

Week four  The Beveridge Model: United Kingdom and Cuba

Week five  The Single Payer Model: Canada and Taiwan

Week six  Emerging and other economies: China, India, Turkey, Brazil, Venezuela, Cuba

Week seven  Discussion of Shop4Insurance/Investigating Medicare Part D assignments

Week eight  The American model: Structure, history, politics, challenges

Week nine  Health Care Reform I: The New Federal Law, Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P-PACA)

Week ten  Health Care Reform II: Medicare for All (HR 676 and SB810)
Conclusions: Where do we go from here?

Required Readings

*All other readings (journal articles, policy papers), required or recommended, will be available through CLE/Moodle or through the UCSF library website.

*As of the second week, students should subscribe to “California Healthlines”, which carries daily healthcare related news (http://www.californi healthline.org/) and “Quote of the Day”, (http://two.pairlist.net/mailman/listinfo/quote-of-the-day), which provides a daily critical analysis of healthcare related news as well. We will be using selected pieces in these publications as springboards for discussions about the politics of health care policy in America. They are both extraordinary sources of learning, particularly the contrast between the two.
Schedule and Readings (detailed)

**WEEK ONE**

Introduction to the study of health care systems and policy – Part 1

**Readings**

*Required*


*Recommended*


**WEEK TWO**

Introduction to the study of health care systems and policy – Part 2

**Readings**

*Required*


Reid, T.H., *Healing of America*, Chapters 1 & 2 (p. 5-27)

*Recommended*


WEEK THREE  The Bismarkian Model: Germany and France

Readings


Germany and France, Health Systems in Transition, European Observatory


WEEK FOUR  The Beveridge Model: United Kingdom and Spain

Readings


Spain, Health Systems in Transition, European Observatory


WEEK FIVE  The Single Payer Model: Canada and Taiwan

Readings


Royal Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada, Romanow Report of 2002 (Introduction & Executive Summary)

**Recommended**

Canada, Health Systems in Transition, European Observatory  

Canada Health Act 1984 (Original text of the Act)  

Cheng, T.-M. (2009), *Lessons From Taiwan’s Universal National Health Insurance: A Conversation With Taiwan’s Health Minister Ching-Chuan Yeh*. Health Affairs, 28(4): p. 1035-1044


**WEEK SIX**

Emerging and other economies: China, India, Turkey, Brazil, Venezuela, Cuba (*Note: This week’s readings will be distributed among participants*)

**Required**

Martinez, E. and García, A. *What is Neoliberalism? A brief definition*  


**Turkey**: European Observatory on Health Systems and Policy, HiT Summary on Turkey  

India: Chapter 9 of T.H. Reid’s “The Healing of America” (p. 143-162)


WEEK SEVEN “Shop4Insurance” and “Medicare Part D”, discussion of findings

Readings Selected readings related to each assignment (in Moodle)

WEEK EIGHT The American model: Basic structure, history, politics, challenges

Readings

Required Reid, T.H., (2009) Healing of America, Chapters 3 (p. 28-45) & 12 (205-225)


**WEEK NINE**

Health Care Reform I: The New Federal Law, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

**Readings**

*Required*


**Recommended**


http://pnhpcalifornia.org/2010/08/1909/

**WEEK TEN**
Health Care Reform II: Medicare for All (HR676)

**Readings**

**Required**
United States National Health Care Act, HR 676 (full text and summary)
http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-676
http://www.healthcare-now.org/hr-676/

SB810 Features of SB810: California Health Care Act

The Health Care For All Californians Act: Cost and Economic Impacts Analysis, Executive Summary

A Background History of SB 810-The California Universal Healthcare Act (Sen. Mark Leno) -- Last Updated Friday, 21 January 2011 00:14
(http://www.healthcareforall.org/learn-more/sb-810/background-and-history-of-sb-810)

**Recommended**