

Lecture Time: Monday and Wednesday, 3-4:50pm. Discussion Sections times will be posted.

Instructor's office hours: Wednesday 2-3 and by appointment (825-2595 or sschweit@ucla.edu) at CHS 31-269. Students are invited to write to either the instructor or the graduate readers asking questions - specific or general. Replies will be sent to all participating students through a class e-mail list. Feel free to use this system to address questions and issues, as you feel appropriate. Real office hours remain available for real person-to-person communication! The graduate readers for the course are Carla Howard and Ryan Olsen. They will announce their office hours individually.

Purpose of the Course: The purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the U.S. Health Care System. The course describes how various health care components work individually, and how they work (or fail to work) together to create the "health care system." It also covers the important issues and questions relating to health care reform, pointing out trends and forces that are likely to influence the future direction of the U.S. health care system. Though the orientation of the course is toward the American health care system, the experience of foreign systems will frequently be noted.

Course Requirements: Evaluation of the student's performance in the course will be based upon

1. Prepared participation in classroom discussions of readings. Students may be called upon without prior warning to present summaries of assigned readings or views of issues that arise in general discussion (weighted 10%).
2. Submission of abstracts (one paragraph) of two of the readings. Students may be called upon to present one or both abstracts during discussion sections. (10%).
3. Three in-class "Midterm" Examinations, including short-answer and essay questions. The exams are weighted 16% (first exam) and 32% each for the two remaining exams).
4. As an inducement to become acquainted with a particularly good and influential weekly news publication, students will be given an additional 1% extra credit for each half-page abstract of a health-related article from *The Economist* magazine (up to a maximum of 5%). Current issues are available in the Powell Undergraduate Library and the Young Graduate Research Library, and slightly older issues are available in 31-269, outside Professor Schweitzer's office. The extra credit points will be added to one's total score at the end of the quarter before rankings and grades are determined.

Grading: Final grades will be based upon the weighted individual scores (including extra credit) noted above. The normal grade for graduate students at UCLA is "B." "A" and "A-" are reserved for those few students who do exceptional work. Grades will be assigned with reference to the entire distribution of final scores. The very top cluster of students will receive an "A", with the next receiving an "A-" and so forth. There is no a

priori assumption that any particular score (e.g. 90) will deserve an "A."

Readings: The required text is Stephen J. Williams and Paul R. Torrens, editors, Introduction to Health Services (Sixth Edition). Albany: Delmar Publishers (2002). It is abbreviated as **WT** in the reading schedule. The book is available at the Health Sciences Bookstore. A set of collected readings is also required, and is available at Westwood Copies, on Gayley Avenue (next to The Coffee Bean). The lectures are on PowerPoint and the complete set is available from Westwood Copies. Purchase of the lectures is optional.

Schedule of Topics and Reading Assignments: Reading assignments are to be read by the assigned date. Exam dates cannot be changed, so consult your calendars early.

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE and OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Oct 4 **Introduction to the Course and the Subject**
The U.S. Health System: Where we are and where we came from
Readings: **WT** Chapters 1 and 2
Ginzberg E, "Ten Encounters With the US Health Sector, 1930-1999,"
JAMA 282(17):1665-8, 1999.

THE NEED AND DEMAND FOR HEALTH CARE

Oct 6 **Health and Illness**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 4
"Highlights," Health United States 2003, p. 3-7.
"What is Healthy People", "Goals", "Health Status", "Determinants of Health", "Healthy People 2010 Goals", Healthy People 2010.
and
Health Services Access and Utilization
Readings: **WT** Chapter 4
"Highlights", Health United States 2003, p. 8-10.
Zuvekas S and Weinick R, "Changes In Access To Care, 1977-1996: The Role of Health Insurance".
Scott G and Ni H, "Access to Health Care Among Hispanic/Latino Children, United States: 1998-2001," CDC Advance Data 344:1-8, June 24, 2004.

THE COMPONENTS OF A HEALTH SYSTEM

Oct 11 **Managed Care**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 6
Allen JE, "HMOs Still Have Work To Do, Survey Finds," LA Times, June 12, 2000.
Gordon S, "HMOs Fight the Sick Instead of the Sickness," LA Times, June 15, 2000.

Oct 13 **Public Health: The Public's Response to National Health Issues: The Case of Smoking in America**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 8
U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Smoking and Health: Report of the Advisory Committee to the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, Chapter 4 "Summaries and Conclusions", (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office), 1964.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Strategies for Reducing Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke, Increasing Tobacco-Use Cessation, and Reducing Initiation in Communities and Health Care Systems: A Report on Recommendations of the Task Force on Community Preventive Services, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 49/no. RR-12 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:Atlanta) November 10, 2000.

Breslow L, "From Disease Prevention to Health Promotion," JAMA 281(11):1030-1033, 1999.

Schoenborn CA, Vickerie JL, and Barnes PM, "Cigarette Smoking Behavior of Adults: United States, 1997-1998," CDC Advance Data 331:109, February 7, 2003.

Barnes PM and Schoenborn CA, "Physical Activity Among Adults: United States, 2000," CDC Advance Data 333:1-7, May 14, 2003.

Schoenborn CA, Adams PF, and Barnes PM, "Body Weight Status of Adults: United States, 1997-98," CDC Advance Data 330:1-8, September 6, 2002.

- Oct 18 **Ambulatory Health Care**
Readings: WT Chapter 9
 Cherry DK and Woodwell DA, "National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2000 Summary," CDC Advance Data 328:1-9, June 5, 2002.
First mid-term exam (one hour)
- Oct 20 **Hospitals**
Readings: WT Chapter 10
- Oct. 25 **Long Term Care**
Readings: WT Chapter 11
 Gabrel CS, "Characteristics of Elderly Nursing Home Current Residents and Discharges".
 Binstock RH, Spector WD, "Five Priority Areas For Research On Long-Term Care," Journal of Health Services Research 23(5):715-30, 1997.
- Oct 27 **Medical Technology: The Example of Pharmaceuticals**
Readings: WT Chapters 3 and 13
 "Out of Reach," LA Times, May 29, 2000.
 Pharmaceutical Industry Profile 2000, (Wash. D.C.:PhRMA), Executive Summary, Research and Development: The Key to Innovation, Regulatory and Legal Aspects of Drug Development, and Prescription Drugs in the Health Care System." (See <http://phrma.org/publications/industry/profile00/main.html>)
- Nov 1 **The Health Professions**
Readings: WT Chapter 14
 Bodenheimer T, "The American Health Care System: Physicians and the Changing Medical Marketplace," NEJM 34(7):584, 1999.
- Nov 3 **Second "midterm examination" (2 hours)**
- Nov 8,10 **No Class.** Annual Meetings of the American Public Health Association, Washington, D.C.

- Nov 15 **Mental Health Services** (Guest Lecturer: Mr. Clayton Chau)
Readings: **WT** Chapter 12
Findlay S, "Managed Behavioral Health Care In 1999," Health Affairs
September/October 1999.
Burnam A and Escarce J, "Equity In Managed Care For Mental Disorders",
Health Affairs September/October 1999.

PAYING FOR HEALTH SERVICES

- Nov 17 **Private Health Insurance**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 7
Long SH and Marquis MS, "Stability and Variation In Employment-Based
Health Insurance Coverage, 1993-1997," Health Affairs,
November/December 1999.
Rosenblatt RA, "HMOs Move To Dump 700,000 Medicare Patients," LA
Times, June 30, 2000.
- Nov 22 **Financing Health Services**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 5
"National Health Expenditures," Health United States 2003 p. 10-13.
Smith S, Heffler S, and Freeland M, "The Next Decade of Health Spending: A
New Outlook," Health Affairs July/August 1999.

HEALTH POLICY ISSUES

- Nov 24 **Regulation and Quality Assurance**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 16
Bodenheimer T, "The American Health Care System: The Movement For
Improved Quality In Health Care", NEJM, 34(6):488.
Chen J, Radford MJ, and Wang Y, "Performance of the 100 Top
Hospitals: What Does the Report Card Report," Health Affairs July/Aug 1999.
- Nov 29 **Health Policy and Politics**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 15
"Executive Summary" and "Policy Review and Recommendations," The State
of Health Insurance In California, 1999.
Shalala DE, and Reinhard UE, "Viewing the US Health Care System from
within: Candid Talk from HHS", Health Affairs May/June 1999.
- Dec 1 **A Look at the Ethics of Health Care**
Readings: **WT** Chapter 17
Loey EH, "Health Care Systems and Ethics: What Can We Learn?"
Health Care Analysis 7(4):309-20, 1999.
- Dec 6 **A review of Current Issues in Health Policy**
Madrack P, "Studies Look at Health Care in the U.S." New York Times, July
8, 2004.
"The Health of Nations", The Economist, July 17, 2004, pp. 3-19.
- Dec 8 **Third "mid-term" examination (two hours)**