

HEALTH POLICY AND SYSTEMS

Instructor: Dr. Sc. Dagmar Radin

E-mail: dradin@fpzg.hr

Time: TBD

Degree program: graduate

Course: elective

ECTS points: 7

COURSE SUMMARY

This course provides a comparative overview of the different health care systems in the world. It is designed to introduce the student to issues affecting health care systems and explain why the study of health care is different from other public policy issues. After an introductory portion of the course, the following lectures are divided into three different sections: the health policy process, the specific problem areas of health care, and a sample of health care systems around the world. Here the students will have the opportunity to learn in depth about the individual health care systems of the countries selected. Finally, the last part of the class will provide a venue for students to get involved in the comparative studies of the countries through the analysis of the success of their health care approaches.

EXPECTED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. The students will have an understanding of the fundamental concepts in the study of health policy.
2. The students will have an understanding of the process of health care policymaking.
3. The students will have an understanding of health care system in a comparative context through the analysis of systems in different countries.
4. The students will be able to conduct a study involving issues in the arena of health care policy and systems.

WEEKLY COURSE CONTENT:

WEEK 1: What is it?

- Hsiao, William. 2003. What is a Health System? Why Should We Care?
- Turner, Paul W. and Peter Kotzian. 2001. Comparative Health Care Systems.

- Coyne, J. and P. Hilsenrath. (2002). "The World Health Report 2000: can Health Care Systems be Compared Using a Single Measure of Performance?" *American Journal of Public Health* (92) 1.

WEEK 2: Issues to Consider

- Whitehead, Margaret. 1999. "Where do We Stand? Research and Policy Issues Concerning Inequalities in Health and in healthcare." *Acta Oncologica*; 02/15/99, Vol. 38 Issue 1.
- Hsiao, William C. 1995. "Abnormal Economics in the Health Care Sector." *Health Policy*, 32.
- Kornai, Janos and Karen Eggleston. 2001. *Welfare, Choice and Solidarity in Transition*. Cambridge UP. pp. 47-79

WEEK 3: THE POLICY PROCESS

Sabatier, Paul. *Theories of the Policy Process*. 2007. 2nd edition (Ch 1, Ch.3)

WEEK 4: THE POLICY PROCESS

Sabatier, Paul. *Theories of the Policy Process*. 2007. 2nd edition (Ch 5, Ch.6)

WEEK 5: THE POLICY PROCESS

Hacker, Jacob. 2004. "Review Article: Dismantling the Health Care State? Political Institutions, Public Policies, and the Comparative Politics of Health Reform." *British Journal of Political Science*, 34: 693-724.

Wilsford, David. "Path Dependency, or Why History Makes it Difficult but not impossible to reform health care systems in a big way." *Journal of Public Policy*. Vol. 14 (3): 251-583.

Immergut, Ellen. 1990. "Institutions, Veto Points, and Policy Results: A Comparative Analysis of Health Care." *Journal of Public Policy*. Vol. 10 (4): 391-416.

WEEK 6: FINANCING, DELIVERY

Roemer, M. *National Health Systems of the World* (vol. II – The issues). Oxford, England: Oxford UP. Chapter 9. (Provided)

Hsiao, William. 2007. "Why is a Systemic View of Health Financing Necessary?" *Health Affairs*, 26 (4): 951-961.

WEEK 7: CORRUPTION

Rose-Ackerman, Susan. 1999. *Corruption and Government: Causes, Consequences, and Reform*. Cambridge UP. (Ch. 1 & Ch. 2) (Provided).

Ensor, T. (2004). Informal Payments for Health Care in Transition Economies. *Social Science and Medicine*, Vol. 58, 237-246.

Radin, D. (2013).

WEEK 8 :Midterm Exam

WEEK 9: Great Britain

Graig: 9-38, 151-173, 175-182

Brown, Lawrence D. and Michael S. Sparer. "Window Shopping: State Health reform Politics in the 1990s". *Health Affairs*, January 2001.

Gaiimo, Susan and Philip Manow. "Adapting the Welfare State – The Case of Health Care Reform in Britain, Germany and the United States." *Comparative Political Studies*, vol. 32 (8), December 1999. (read the **British and US cases only**)

WEEK 10: France

Graig: 121-147

Raffel: 49-76

Le Faou, Anne-Laurence and Jolly, Dominique. 1995. "Health promotion in France: Toward a new way of giving medical care." *Hospital Topics*; Vol. 73 (2): 17-22.

Fielding, Jonathan and Pierre-Jean Lancry. 1993. "Lessons From France: Vive la Difference. The French health care system and US Health System Reform." *JAMA*. Vol. 270 (6): 748-756.

WEEK 11: Taiwan

Wong, Joseph. 2003. "Resisting Reform: The Politics of Health Care in Democratizing Taiwan." *American Asian Review*, vo. 21(2):57-90.

Cheng, Shou-Hsia and Chiang, Tung-Liang. "The effect of universal health insurance on health care utilization in Taiwan." *JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association*, 07/09/97, Vol. 278 Issue 2, p89, 5p, 3.

Hsiao, William C. and Jui- Fen Rachel Lu. "Does Universal Health Insurance make Health Care Unaffordable? Lessons from Taiwan." *Health Affairs*, 22 (3).

WEEK 12: Switzerland / MOVIE

The European Observatory on Health Care Systems. "Health Care Systems in Transition: Switzerland." World Health Organization. <http://euro.who.int/document/e68670.pdf>

Immergut, Ellen. 1990. "The Rules of the Game: the logic of Health policy making in France, Switzerland, and Sweden." *Journal of Public Policy*, vol. 10 (4): 391-416.

MOVIE: Sick Around the World.

WEEK 13: Health care before and after the transition and its problems

Kornai, Janos and Karen Eggleston. 2001. Welfare, Choice and Solidarity in Transition. Cambridge UP. pp. 47-79,: pp. 135-175

Nelson, Joan M. 2001. "The Politics of Pension and Health-Care Reforms in Hungary and Poland. In Reforming the State: Fiscal and Welfare Reform in Post Socialist Countries, edited by Janos Kornai, Stephan Haggard, and Robert R. Kaufman. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge UP.

Brainerd, Elizabeth. "Life and Death in Eastern Europe – Economic Reform and Mortality in the Former Soviet Union: A Study of the Suicide Epidemic in the 1990s." *European Economic Review*, Vol. 45 (2001), 1007-1019.

WEEK 14: Final Exam.

GRADING:

Students are expected to attend and participate in regular class meetings and seminars, take two exams, one research paper and presentation. Since classes and seminars are closely correlated, students are required to attend both. They are required to attend at least 70% of all classes in order to get a signature (total of 4 absences are allowed). Class participation is 10% of the grade.

Grade breakdown:

Midterm exam (25%)

Final exam : 25%

Research paper: 30%

Presentation: 10%

Participation: 10%