Syllabus for HCA 760
Health Law and Policy

NOTE: This syllabus document contains the basic information of this course. The most current syllabus is available in the full course.

Course Description

This course is a study of the political, legal, regulatory, and ethical environments within which healthcare administrators operate. You will examine the legal frameworks related to the healthcare system, with an ethical focus. The curriculum considers the impact of political structure on healthcare policy, with an emphasis on the role played by healthcare administrators in policy advocacy.

Prerequisite(s)

HCA 700

Course Outcomes

Upon completing this course, you will be able to do the following:
- Evaluate legal issues in healthcare.
- Assess ethical dilemmas in healthcare.
- Appraise the regulatory framework of the healthcare system.
- Distinguish the impact of political structure on healthcare policy.
- Formulate strategies to engage in policy advocacy for healthcare organizations.

Course Requirements/Components

Introduction Discussion Board Post and Peer Response
As an interactive online course, it is important that we get to know each other. As such, you are asked to contribute one main discussion board post and one peer review discussion board peer response in order to introduce yourself and greet your classmates. More detailed directions for this assignment are located on Canvas.

Main Discussion Board Posts and Peer Responses
Periodically throughout the semester, there will be an assigned discussion question, which you will answer using Canvas. These questions will ask you to respond to ideas introduced within the assigned readings. Each student is required to participate in the discussion by posting both an original response to the question along with a peer response to another classmate's post. All posts must reference the course text, including an in-text citation and reference list entry (using APA citation).

**Please note that the professor will have minimal interaction on the board because the purpose is to foster peer interaction rather than instructor-student interaction. This results in a richer student learning experience and more meaningful participation. Students will interact with the professor via individualized feedback for each graded post.

Exams
There will be two exams total – a midterm and a final. Each exam is worth 150 points. Details are available on Canvas.

Policy Analysis Project
Policy analyses can be presented in a variety of ways – oral briefing, written memorandum, a policy report, etc. – and can be informal, formal, or somewhere in between. For purposes of this class, you will complete a clear and concise written analysis because it is the most commonly used method to provide policy advice to a client. It is also a highly effective and practical way to communicate with a client.
You will be expected to find a client for their analysis (real or hypothetical) and employ the five-step method presented in Chapter 14 of your course text to address a policy problem. You may select your client from government actors, institutions, think tanks, nonprofits, etc.
The five-step method from Chapter 14 includes the following:
1. Problem Identification: Defines the problem addressed in the analyses
2. Background: Provides factual information needed to understand the problem
3. Landscape: Reviews the various stakeholders and their concerns
4. Options: Describe and analyze several options to address the problem
5. Recommendation: Offers one option as the best action to pursue
6.

Concluding Discussion Board Post and Peer Response
This post is due by 11:59 pm on the last day of class. Detailed directions for this assignment are available in Canvas.

Grading

The following grading scale will be used to evaluate all course requirements and to determine your final grade:

Grade	Percentage Range
A	94% - 100%
A-	92% - 93.99%
B+	89%-91.99%
B	85%-88.99%
B-	83%-85.99%
C+	81%-82.99%
C	75%-80.99%
C-	70%-74.99%
D	65%-69.99%
F	Below 64.99%

Assignment	Points
Introduction Discussion Board Post and Peer Response Post	30
Main Discussion Board Posts and Peer Response Posts	450
Exams	300.3
Policy Analysis Project	200
Concluding Discussion Board Post and Peer Response Post	20
Total	**1000.3**