

# HSP 4340 Healthcare Policy

Summer I 2022



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## **Instructor: Dinah J. Harriger Cummings, PhD, MS**

**Email:** Dharriger@angelo.edu

**Phone:** 325-486-6885

**Office:** Reidy Building

**Office Hours:** \*By appointment only

## **Course Information**

### **Course Description**

This course provides students with an introduction to the US health care system, both the public and private sector. The course will examine the structure of the health system (at the federal, state and local levels), current topics in health care reform, the policy process, and advocacy methods for public health issues.

### **Course Credits**

Three Semester Credit Hours (3-0-0)

Online Class: Meets completely online using Blackboard for 5 weeks

### **Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses**

None

### **Prerequisite Skills**

Accessing internet web sites, use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations of the Health Science Professions Program. Computer access requirements are further delineated in the Undergraduate Handbook. Tutorials for ASU Library and for Blackboard are available through RamPort. The ASU Undergraduate/Graduate Student Handbook should be reviewed before taking this course.

### **Program Goals**

## Mission Statement

The Bachelor of Science in Health Science Professions prepares students to enter health science professions either directly upon graduation or to enter advanced graduate study in healthcare. Students gain knowledge in ethics, policy, epidemiology, organization and leadership, research and evidence-based practice, and communication skills that span multiple health science disciplines.

## Goals

The Bachelor of Science in Health Science Professions strives to enhance multidisciplinary healthcare education and evidence-based principles to provide patient-centered care. Students will develop communication, decision-making, social, analytical thinking, and personal development skills necessary for professional practice as a healthcare professional.

## Student Learning Outcomes

<b>Student Learning Outcome</b> By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	<b>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</b>
1. Recognize the policymaking process and legal systems relating to healthcare.	Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Exams
2. Explain health care within the context of public health systems.	Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Policy Analysis Project
3. Identify techniques and strategies used by various stakeholders involved in healthcare policy at federal, state and local levels	Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, Policy Analysis Project
4. Recognize tactics (rhetoric and persuasion) used by stakeholders for political debate and advocacy.	Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Exams
5. Evaluate the role of policy as it relates to social determinants of health.	Discussion Board Assignments, Quizzes, Exams
6. Analyze healthcare policy.	Policy Analysis Project

## Course Delivery

This is an online course offering. The course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#)

## Required Texts and Materials

- Teitelbaum, J.B. & Wilensky, S.E. (2017) Essentials of Health Policy and Law 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett.
- See Supplemental Readings included in Blackboard.

## Technology Requirements

To participate in one of ASU's distance education programs, you need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

## Topic Outline

### Part I – Setting the Stage: An Overview of Health Policy and Law

- Understanding the Role of Health Policy
- Policy and Policymaking Processes
- Law and the Legal System
- Overview of the Healthcare System
- Public Health Institutions and Systems

### Part II – Essential Issues in Health Policy and Law

- Individual Rights in Health Care
- Social Determinants of Health and the Role of Law in Optimizing Health
- Understanding Health Insurance
- Health Economics in a Policy Context
- National Health Reform
- Government Health Insurance Programs: Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare
- Healthcare Quality and the Law
- Public Health Preparedness Policy

### Part III – Basic Skills for Policy Analysis

- The Art and Structuring of Writing a Health Policy Analysis

## Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email:** All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

**Virtual communication:** Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.

### Use Good "Netiquette":

- Check the discussion frequently and respond appropriately and on subject.
- Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles.
- Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!
- Be professional and careful with your online interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms./Mr. Jones unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.
- Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
- When posting a long message, it is generally considered courteous to warn readers at the beginning of the message that it is a lengthy post.
- It is extremely rude to forward someone else's messages without their permission.
- It is fine to use humor, but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or flaming (angry, antagonistic criticism). Feel free to use emoticons such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

## Grading

### Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Percent/Points of Total Grade
Discussion Board Assignments	50 (10%)
Weekly Quizzes	100 (20%)
Midterm Exam	100 (20%)
Final Exam	100 (20%)

Assessment	Percent/Points of Total Grade
Policy Assignments 1 and 2	50 and 100 (10% and 20%)
TOTAL	500 points (100%)

## Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

A = 450-500 points

B = 400-449 points

C = 350-399 points

D = 300-349 points

F = 0-299 points (Grades are not rounded up)

## Teaching Strategies

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

## Assignment and Activity Descriptions

**\*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located on Blackboard.**

**Discussion Board Activities:** Discussion Boards provide an avenue for synthesis of material / information. A Discussion Board is provided in this course as a way to help students’ process course materials, express thoughts, and engage others opinions and ideas in a healthy and productive learning environment. Students are expected to respond to all discussion board assessments using the “**Online Discussion Rubric**” to support individual answers to the assigned questions throughout this course.

**Weekly Quizzes:** (100 points) Students will have *eight* quizzes to assess course knowledge. Quizzes are timed (2-3 minutes per question) and will consist of 10 to 30 multiple choice questions, True/False or Fill in the Blank Questions. Access to quizzes will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Students may use written materials as well as their textbook; however, use of another electronic device is prohibited.

There is one short practice quiz (6 questions) over the syllabus that is not graded. However, students will receive a maximum of 12 bonus points for completing the practice quiz. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve testing environment.

**Exams:** There will be a midterm and final for 200 pts of the total course grade. The exams are designed to test understanding of textbook material and the application of the material covered in both the textbook and lectures.

Access to exam will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Respondus™ Monitor will also be required. Use of any written material, another electronic device or person is prohibited. A practice quiz is available to students to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded exam. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve testing environment. On the day of testing, no exam will be re-set without IT validation of a Blackboard system problem.

Evidence of cheating on an exam will result in failure of the course. You must show ID and complete a thorough environmental scan (i.e. show walls, floor, desk). If instructions are not followed points will be deducted from your exam accordingly. If you need technical assistance due to test malfunction, please contact IT.

**Policy Analysis Assignments #1 & #2:** (50 points & 100 points) The Policy Analysis Project is an opportunity for students to apply principles and concepts learned in the didactic portion of the class to “real world” health policy issues, in the form of a formal policy review and analysis. Each student will be required to select a health policy problem or issue (subsequent to instructor approval) and conduct an extensive review of the policy literature for purposes of summarizing the public policy history relating to the problem or issue as well as utilizing various tools/techniques of policy analysis to make recommendations regarding current/future policy alternatives.

### **Assignment Submission**

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time

to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at [dharriger@angelo.edu](mailto:dharriger@angelo.edu) and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. **Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue.**

This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

## **Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**

### **Late Work Policy**

The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Tuesday and ends on Monday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

## **General Policies Related to This Course**

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)<sup>2</sup>

## **Student Responsibility and Attendance**

**Online:** This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).<sup>3</sup>

## **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at [ADA@angelo.edu](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).<sup>4</sup> The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
[dallas.swafford@angelo.edu](mailto:dallas.swafford@angelo.edu)  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

## **Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)<sup>5</sup> for more information.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)<sup>6</sup> in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.



Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).<sup>7</sup>

## **Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for [Observance of Religious Holy Day](#)<sup>8</sup> for more information.

## **Copyright Policy**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

## **Syllabus Changes**

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student's responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

## **Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.boone@angelo.edu)

*Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).*

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

## Course Schedule

Week/Date	Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE
<p>Week 1 June 6 - 13</p>	<p>To Begin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review START HERE page</li><li>• Review Course Syllabus and ASU Honor Code. Select "Mark Reviewed" to agree to terms of the course and ASU's policies and access course content.</li></ul> <p><b>DUE June 11<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Post to Self-Introduction Discussion Board Flipgrid</b> <a href="https://flipgrid.com/Odb8ce1a">https://flipgrid.com/Odb8ce1a</a> = join Flipgrid using this link <a href="https://flipgrid.com/af615023">https://flipgrid.com/af615023</a> = reply to the Self Introduction Discussion</li><li>• <b>Complete and Submit</b> the Practice Quiz for Respondus Lockdown Browser</li></ul> <p><b>DUE June 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm</b></p> <p>Related to Teitelbaum Chapters 1-2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Self-Introduction Discussion Board Peer Responses (3)</b></li><li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 1</b></li></ul> <p>Related to Teitelbaum Chapters 3-4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 2</b></li></ul>

Week/Date	Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE
<p>Week 2 June 14 - 20</p>	<p><b>DUE June 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group Discussion Board Initial Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Flipgrid link:</b> <a href="https://flipgrid.com/c749e92a">https://flipgrid.com/c749e92a</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>DUE June 20<sup>st</sup> @ 11:59pm</b> Related to Teitelbaum Chapters 5-7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group Discussion Board Assignment Peer Responses (3)</b></li> <li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 3</b></li> <li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 4</b></li> <li>• <b>Midterm Exam opens Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 am and closes at 11:59pm.</b></li> </ul>
<p>Week 3 June 21- 27</p>	<p><b>DUE June 27<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm</b> Related to Teitelbaum Chapters 14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 5</b></li> </ul> <p>Related to Teitelbaum Chapters 10 - 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 6</b></li> <li>• <b>Policy Analysis Assignment #1</b></li> </ul>
<p>Week 4 June 28 – July 4</p>	<p><b>DUE July 1<sup>st</sup> @ 11:59pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group Discussion Board Initial Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Flipgrid link: <a href="https://flipgrid.com/ce92b75a">https://flipgrid.com/ce92b75a</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>DUE July 4<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group Discussion Board Assignment Peer Responses (3)</b></li> </ul> <p>Related to Teitelbaum Chapters 10 - 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 7</b></li> </ul> <p>Related to Teitelbaum Chapter 12 - 13:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Complete and Submit Quiz 8</b></li> </ul>
<p>Week 5 July 5-8</p>	<p><b>DUE July 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Policy Analysis Assignment #2</b></li> <li>• <b>Final Exam opens Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 am and closes at 11:59pm.</b></li> </ul>

## Grading Rubrics

Grading rubrics for discussions and assignments are located in the Blackboard Learning Management System. Students can View Rubrics through the My Grades tab in the course.

## Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

Select the SLO's you use

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
3. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course
4. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view

### End of Syllabus

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing\\_center/academic\\_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>