

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ISL 4313 Healthcare Systems

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: admission into the BSIS-Leadership program

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on the evolution of the American healthcare system. Topics include the formulation and implementation of health policy, the relationship between the national healthcare policy and local healthcare delivery, the imaging professional's role when addressing social and ethical issues impacting healthcare, epidemiological studies used to measure health care delivery, and technology's impact on healthcare delivery.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the basic characteristic of the U.S. healthcare system.
2. Explain why it is important for healthcare managers to understand the intricacies of the healthcare delivery system.
3. Explore the beliefs and values governing the delivery of healthcare.
4. Develop a position regarding the equitable distribution of health services.
5. List historical developments that have shaped the nature of the U.S. healthcare delivery system.
6. Evaluate why the system has been resilient to national health insurance reforms.
7. Describe some of the key forces that are likely to shape the delivery of health services in the 21st century.
8. Describe the various types of health services professionals and their training, practice requirements, and practice settings.

9. Differentiate between primary care and specialty care and list causes for an imbalance between primary care and specialty care in the United States.
10. Describe the role of medical technology in healthcare delivery.
11. Survey the factors influencing the dissemination and utilization of technology.
12. Explain the government's role in the regulation and assessment of technological innovations.
13. Evaluate the impact of technology on quality care, quality of life, healthcare costs, access to care, and structure of healthcare delivery.
14. Discuss the role of healthcare financing and its impact on the delivery of healthcare.
15. Review the key problems, issues and current reforms in healthcare financing.
16. Explain the reason for the dramatic growth in outpatient services and describe the various types of outpatient settings and services.
17. Describe the evolutionary development of hospitals and the factors that contributed to that growth prior to the 1980s.
18. Identify key ethical issues and the future of hospitals in a view of the public's trust.
19. Describe basic concepts of managed care and how managed care organizations realize cost savings.
20. Describe the concept of integration and the formation of integrated healthcare delivery systems.
21. List the current trends and issues in managed care and integration services.
22. State the concept and nature of long-term care institutions and the levels of services they provide.
23. Discuss how special population groups are facing greater challenges and barriers in accessing healthcare services:
 - a. Racial Disparity
 - b. Children
 - c. Women
 - d. Rural Health
 - e. Homeless
 - f. Mentally Ill
 - g. AIDS
24. Explain healthcare costs and recent trends.
25. Describe the scope and role of health policy in the United States.
26. List some of the critical health policy issues in the United States.
27. Assess the impact of demographic factors on the healthcare work force and on the types of health services required in the future.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will generate solutions/analysis of problems/issues evaluated.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will compose coherent documents appropriate to the intended audience.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will identify ethical frameworks to resolve a variety of ethical dilemmas.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The Healthcare Delivery System
- B. Beliefs, Values, and Health
- C. The Evolution of Health Services in the United States
- D. Health Services Professionals
- E. Medical Technology
- F. Health Service Financing
- G. Outpatient, Inpatient, and Primary Care Facilities and Services
- H. Managed Care and Integrated Organizations
- I. Long-Term Care
- J. Health Services for Special Populations
- K. Cost, Access, and Quality
- L. Health Policy
- M. The Future of Health Services Delivery