

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
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**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
**479-788-7000**

### **General Syllabus**

#### **MHCA 5013 Healthcare Policy and Governance**

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

Prerequisite: Admission into MHCA program

Prerequisite or corequisite: MHCA 5003 Healthcare Systems

Effective Catalog: 2017-2018

#### **I. Course Information**

##### **A. Catalog Description**

Using contemporary healthcare policy issues, examines the role the economy, distribution of health services, health insurance, government programs, healthcare personnel, and health service organizations play in influencing the structure of and changes to the healthcare delivery system.

##### **B. Additional Information**

Serves as a foundation course for students.

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter**

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

1. Relate the interdependency of healthcare policy and governance.
2. Analyze major health policy issues and how they affect the healthcare system.
3. Apply different types of policy analysis approaches and methods to healthcare decision needs.
4. Discuss the correlation of healthcare economies and distribution of health services, health insurance, government programs, healthcare personnel, and health service organizations.
5. Evaluate the impact of U.S. global health policies on healthcare in developing countries.

**B. Program Learning Outcomes**

This graduate course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

1. Goal: Healthcare Systems and Environment - Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of healthcare systems and the environment in which healthcare managers and providers operate.
  - a. Objective: Demonstrate knowledge of healthcare systems, service delivery, and operational environments including interdisciplinary approaches.
  - b. Objective: Demonstrate knowledge of the broad healthcare environment, including the role of healthcare policy, law, regulation, and ethics.
2. Goal: Healthcare Management and Business - Utilize business principles, including systems thinking, to the healthcare environment.  
Objective: Develop critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving skills that can be applied to all aspects of healthcare management.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. The history and evolution of U.S. health policy
- B. The role of healthcare leadership in the change process
- C. The policy analysis process
- D. The professional as a participant in healthcare policy