

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

MHCA 6104 Graduate Project in Healthcare Administration

Credit Hours: 4

Lecture Hours: 1

Research/Project Hours: 3

Prerequisites: MHCA 6013 Information Systems Management in Healthcare, MHCA 6023 Managed Care and Reimbursement Systems, MHCA 6033 Healthcare Quality Improvement

Effective Catalog: 2017-2018

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on the synthesis of the knowledge acquired and the development of core competencies during the program. The final product is a research thesis or project identifying an issue, concern, or area in need of analysis related to healthcare administration while exploring the standards of excellence and addressing the role of a healthcare administrator.

B. Additional Information

Serves as the capstone project of the program.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Synthesize previous knowledge gained from the program.
2. Distinguish areas of need and areas of excellence in a healthcare setting.
3. Appraise critical issues pertinent to the role of a healthcare administrator.
4. Illustrate the core competencies of healthcare executives in relation to current self-assessment of competencies.
5. Conduct scholarly research and a literature review.
6. Demonstrate scholarly writing in the application of appropriate research design and methodology.
7. Integrate knowledge and research into a written report outlining topic, possible solutions, conclusions, and the role of the healthcare administrator.

8. Present project in written form and through an oral defense.

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 understanding of healthcare personnel and organizational structure in terms of support services, personnel roles, and workforce issues.
2. Goal: Healthcare Management and Business - Utilize business principles, including systems thinking, to the healthcare environment.
 - a. Objective: Develop critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving skills that can be applied to all aspects of healthcare management.
 - b. Objective: Demonstrate understanding and the application of theories and tools in the areas of organizational dynamics and human resource management.
3. Goal: Communication and Relationships - Demonstrate clear and concise communicate skills, establish and maintain relationships, and facilitate constructive interactions with individuals and groups.
Objective: Demonstrate effective written, oral, and presentation skills.
4. Goal: Professionalism and Ethics - Practice professionalism and ethical behavior through personal and professional accountability, employ a service orientation, and display a commitment to lifelong learning and improvement.
 - a. Objective: Promote professional roles, responsibility and accountability for self and others.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Identification of an issue, concern, or area in need of analysis related to healthcare and/or healthcare administration.
- B. Standards of excellence in healthcare.
- C. The role and competencies of a healthcare administrator.
- D. Project requirements and evaluation, including a written paper and oral defense.