Course Prefix: NUR 701
Course Title: Healthcare and Policy for Advanced Nursing Practice
Term Offered: Spring
Credit Hours/Clock hours: 3 credits/45 clock hours
Prerequisite: Admission to DNP program
Corequisite: NUR 700
Mode of Instruction: Online

Course Description
Students will examine current problems in healthcare financing and delivery. Social, economic and political forces that shaped and continue to influence the system are traced. Students will compare and contrast healthcare system in the US with systems in industrialized and developing nations. Analysis covers current trends in healthcare and prospects for the future. Letter grade only.

Course Purpose
The purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of the many internal and external influences that shape public and health policy for the advanced practice registered nurse. Students will conduct a systematic policy analysis, using a framework that fosters development, comprehension and outcomes associated with the policy analysis process. Inclusive within this analysis are components of ethical and social justice platforms impacting the practice of healthcare delivery within the United States and globally. Upon successful completion of this course learners will be able to translate the complex principles of policy analysis into their personal and professional settings, and serve as resources to improve healthcare delivery across varied political and organizational settings.
Student Learning Outcomes

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

• Appraise the US healthcare delivery system and the values of the system as applicable to advanced practice roles. (DNP Essentials: V; Program Outcome: Clinical Practice & Prevention: 1)
• Explain the development and evolution of healthcare policy including regulatory and statutory mechanisms. (DNP Essentials: V; Program Outcome: Communication: 2, 3)
• Compare how decisions are made within non-governmental and government sectors related to healthcare policy. (DNP Essentials: V; Program Outcome: Professionalism and Professional Values: 9, 10)
• Evaluate the relationship between healthcare policy and health disparities. (DNP Essentials: V, VII; Program Outcome: Global Health – Global Engagement: 12)
• Identify factors that can influence health policy and the health status of individuals and populations. (DNP Essentials: VII; Program Outcome: Leadership: 8)
• Compare and contrast the healthcare delivery system in the US with those of other countries. (DNP Essentials: V, VI, VII; Program Outcome: Critical Reasoning: 5)

Course Schedule
Section 1171 – 7887; Web-based

E-Learning (Black Board Learn - BBL) is the course learning management system (LMS) that you will use for this course. E-Learning is accessed by using your NAU LOUIE account name and password. There are several tutorials and student help links on the eLearning login site. If you have technical questions call the NAU Student Technology Help Center at 928-523-9294 or 888-520-7215 or send email to ask-stc@nau.edu

It is important that you regularly check your NAU account email for College and University wide information and the course eLearning site for announcements and notifications. Course websites are generally made available on the first day of classes.

Attendance
Students may be expected to attend synchronous classes periodically with a 7-day advanced planning notice. Students are expected to participate in the activities and discussions as listed in the course syllabus and on the course web-site. Timeframes for the posting and receiving of materials are listed in the course materials on the course web-site. Make-up exams may not be available in all courses.

Accommodations due to Disability
Each semester, students are responsible for requesting a memorandum from the Disability Resource Center to notify faculty of their requested individual accommodations. This should be done at the start of the semester.

Counseling and Student Health
Personal issues may arise during the course of pursuing higher education that interfere with academic performance. If you find yourself facing problems affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and to seek confidential assistance at the Northern Arizona University Student Counseling Center, 928-523-2261. Visit their web sites for more information: http://nau.edu/counseling-services/

Student Handbook

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Students are to refer to the University Catalog and School of Nursing Student Handbook for information about University, College and School of Nursing policies, honor code, and professional behavior.

**Academic Integrity**
Northern Arizona University Online Student Handbook may be found at https://nau.edu/Student-Life/Student-Handbook/

**Communication**
I respond to email on the website generally within 24 to 48 hours, Monday-Friday. Students are asked to cc my NAU email if a response is needed sooner. Feedback on individual assignments is within 8 working days. Weekend email inquiries will be answered the following Monday, if not sooner. All course assignments are due on Monday at 23:59 hours.

**Topical Outline**
1. Perspectives on health, health care and health policy on individuals, populations and healthcare systems
2. Comparison of the U.S. and Global Health Care Delivery Systems
3. Health Policy:
   a. Policy Making
   b. Policy Analysis
   c. Power and Politics as they relate to Health Policy
   d. Policy Evaluation and Modification
4. Critical Health Policy Issues:
   a. Finance and Economic Drivers
   b. Delivery Systems: Governmental & Non-Governmental
   c. Populations
   d. Nursing Profession and Nurse Leaders
5. Health Care Financing:
   a. Language of Finance: Cost, Price, Revenue, Expenditures, and Reimbursement as it relates to Policy Processes
   b. Methods of Finance and Reimbursement and its impact of Health Policy
6. The Federal Budget and its Influence on Health Policy
7. Nursing roles in all aspects of health policy and health care financing

**Teaching Methods**
Web-enhanced learning activities, video presentations, weekly assessments, examinations, supplemental readings and/or examples, individual coaching.

**Learning Activities**
Readings, written papers, weekly assessments, examinations.

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Required Texts and Resources


5. All students will be expected to enroll in the following FREE online course to supplement the content of this course. Solving Public Policy Problems: UC Berkeley's Eightfold Path
   o Please follow these steps to enroll:
     1. Go to www.edx.org
     2. Create an account with EdX
     3. Select and enroll in the following self-paced, NON-GRADED course:
        HarvardX: PH210x United States Health Policy

Recommended Software

1. Grammarly: English Grammar and Plagiarism [Software]. Available from http://www.grammarly.com (This is not a free software package, and is a completely optional purchase)

Expected Informatics Competencies

1. Access to and use of e-mail for communication.
2. Submission of quality electronic documents created through word-processing.
3. Exchange of documents using course management system.
4. Use of literature search strategies to select relevant literature.
5. Use of online databases for locating best evidence.
6. Use of Internet search engines to find relevant information.
7. Use of PowerPoint/Breeze or other formats for in-class/online presentations.

Evaluation Methods
This course includes group presentations, discussions, individual written assignments, group financial case studies and a final health policy analysis paper. A grade penalty for late assignments may be applied.

1. Health Policy Analysis Paper and related assignments - 60%
2. Examinations (Mid-Term & Final) – 20%
3. Power Point Presentation of Policy Analysis Findings. 20%

Grading Scale
A - 93-100
B - 84-92
C - 78-83 (must retake course)
F - < 78%

* 84% is the minimal passing grade for graduate study in the School of Nursing
For more information on grades and grading policies, please refer to the SON Student Handbook Part I Academics: [http://nau.edu/CHHS/Nursing/Student-Resources/Advising/](http://nau.edu/CHHS/Nursing/Student-Resources/Advising/)

**Examinations**

This course will include two major examinations focused on course readings and module presentations. The mid-term exam will consist of 50 questions, each worth two points each (100 points), and will cover the content in Learning Modules I through IV. The final exam is comprehensive, but 75% of the content will focus on Learning Modules V through IX, with the remaining 25% focusing on previous content. The final exam will consist of 100 questions, each worth two points each (200 points).

*The Mid-Term Examination is scheduled for March 3rd, the Final Examination is scheduled for April 24th. Alternate dates may be acceptable with 100% class and faculty agreement.*

**Assignments**

The written assignments for this course (1) problem statement; 2) annotated bibliography; and 3) peer discussion) will build on one another to provide support for the final policy paper. Topics require faculty approval and should reflect the student’s program of study. DNP students are expected to provide an in-depth synthesis and analysis of their topic in the policy paper as it relates to their practice/research interest.

**Health Policy Paper**

DNP students are expected to provide an in-depth synthesis and analysis of their topic in the policy paper as it relates to their practice/research interest.

- **Length:** 12 to 15 pages excluding title page, abstract, reference page, and appendices (tables, figures, etc).
- **Style & Format:** It is expected that your paper will follow all APA guidelines. Please use the manual as you are writing and formatting your paper. *Papers that do not follow APA will not be graded.*
- **Content (Criteria and grading rubric will be available in the course)**
  - Introduction: Clear description of the issue and its importance globally, locally, and to your practice.
  - Description of the policy: Present its historical development including the pros & cons and surrounding viewpoints
  - Description of the role of stakeholders
  - Description of advocacy strategies from various perspectives
  - Ideas and recommendations for reform

**PowerPoint Presentation**

The PowerPoint presentations will summarize what was learned from researching the chosen topic and student recommendations. Criteria and grading rubrics for all assignments will be made available.

**Note**

The burden of reference verification lies with the author of the paper. Until the final course grade has been posted, all reference material must be maintained, and if the faculty request additional information about the use of any reference, the author must respond within 24-hours of the request for additional information. The inability to verify a reference or failure to respond within the 24-hour requirement may result in loss of points at a minimum, and may be elevated to an act of violation of the NAU Academic Integrity Policy which will follow the School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services and Northern Arizona University policies for resolution. Unfortunately, careless or plagiarized references...
have been submitted and found to be non-substantiated in prior student work, therefore this course policy will be followed and implemented in strict accordance with university policy. Approximately 10% of references will be randomly selected and verified. Learners may review the academic integrity policy at: https://policy.nau.edu/policy/policy.aspx?num=100601

**Dishonesty/Plagiarism:**
All forms of student academic dishonesty, including cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism are prohibited and subject to disciplinary action. Cheating means intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. Fabrication means intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. For further explanation of academic dishonesty refer to the School of Nursing Graduate Student Handbook and Northern Arizona University Student Handbook.

A student who commits an act of academic dishonesty/plagiarism will receive a grade of zero on the assignment, and a course grade of “F” and will not have the opportunity to continue in the course for the remainder of the term.

All assignments will be submitted via the plagiarism software available in the BB Learn platform. Students will be allowed to review the software report generated by this program. Please see the following NAU academic integrity information for additional policy statements related to student/faculty obligations and rights: https://policy.nau.edu/policy/policy.aspx?num=100601

Course Calendar Overview

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<th>Module</th>
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<td>Health and Health Policy</td>
<td>Milstead Ch. 1; Bardach Ch. 1</td>
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<td>The Context of Health Policymaking</td>
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<td><strong>Mid-term exam March 3rd</strong></td>
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<td>Health Policy Formulation: Setting the Agenda</td>
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<td>Policy Implementation Activities</td>
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*Reading assignments are subject to change.*

**Sample journals available online at NAU Cline Library**
- Health Affairs
- The Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law
- The Journal of Policy Analysis and Management
- Philosophy and Public Affairs
- Policy Studies Journal

**Sample online resources:**
- Health Affairs Web Exclusives
- The Kaiser Foundation
- The Morrison Institute (ASU)
- The Urban Institute