

Health Care Policy for Rehabilitation Sciences (Hybrid)

DRSC 3312 – 002

CRN: 23943

The University of Texas at El Paso

Spring 2024

Hybrid Course

Live Class Sessions: Tuesdays, 5:00pm - 6:20pm

Health Sciences and School of Nursing Building (HSSN), Room 211

Instructor: Bryan Monroe, MPA

Lecturer

Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Sciences Program

Office: HSSN Building Room 455

Email: bmmonroe2@utep.edu

Virtual Office Hours: Thursdays: 3:30pm – 5:30pm - Also available by appointment (please email to request an appointment)

Instructions and link to attend online will be available in Blackboard in the Welcome folder

Class Website: Blackboard for this course through your MY UTEP PORTAL

Course Description

This course considers health care policy for rehabilitation sciences, with a geographic focus on the United States. In pursuit of interprofessional health education and a broad understanding of public policies related to health, we take a general approach to analyzing health care policy and explore relevant applications for rehabilitation professionals. We will study the different stages of the public policy process, with an emphasis on recent health care policy changes. We examine issues mostly at the national level, but we also will discuss applications for the state and local levels.

Throughout the course, we will focus on developing answers to the following four questions:

(1) What are the main stages of the public policy process? (2) What were the main problems with the U.S. health care system prior to the Affordable Care Act? (3) How and why did the Affordable Care Act pass? (4) What roles do private individuals, rehabilitation service providers and other health professionals, and nonprofit organizations play in implementing health policy and addressing community health problems?

Course Objectives (Learning Objectives)

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Identify the characteristics (i.e., structure, basic policy) of the U.S. health care system and the processes governing the development of health care legislation.
- Identify the problems with the U.S. health care system before the Affordable Care Act.
- Evaluate how health policy in the United States has changed in recent years and evaluate the tradeoffs for rehabilitation service providers.

- Analyze the role of civic engagement in rehabilitation services and community health.
- Create original research on available community resources for disadvantaged populations

Also, by the end of the semester, students should make improvements in the following skill areas related to the UTEP Edge initiative:

- Social responsibility
- Leadership
- Communication
- Critical thinking

Students will have opportunities to exercise and develop the skills listed above through UTEP Edge experiences, such as research and scholarly activities and community engagement.

Assessment of Course Objectives

A learning outcomes evaluation (self-assessment) will be handed out for you to complete around the same time that the course evaluation forms are completed.

Required Readings (available at the UTEP Bookstore or elsewhere):

- **An Introduction to the Policy Process: Theories, Concepts, and Models of Public Policy Making**
 - Author: Thomas A. Birkland
 - 4th edition
 - 2016
 - ISBN-13: 978-0765646620
- **Sick: The Untold Story of America's Health Care Crisis – and the People who Pay the Price**
 - Author: Jonathan Cohn
 - 1st reprint edition
 - 2008
 - ISBN-13: 978-0060580469
- **America's Bitter Pill: Money, Politics, Backroom Deals, and the Fight to Fix Our Broken Healthcare System**
 - Author: Steven Brill
 - 1st edition
 - 2015
 - ISBN-13: 978-0812986686

Course Requirements

- Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, and it will cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions up to the date of the midterm exam. Through this requirement (and in line with the UTEP Edge initiative), students will have opportunities to exercise critical thinking skills (250 points; 25% of grade).
- Final Exam: The final exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, and it will cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions after the midterm exam. Through this requirement (and in line with the UTEP Edge initiative), students will have opportunities to exercise critical thinking skills (250 points; 25% of grade).
- Progress Summary: Students will be required to submit a short-written summary of their progress on the civic engagement research project. Through this requirement (and in line with the UTEP Edge initiative), students will have opportunities to exercise the following skills: communication and critical thinking (100 points; 10% of grade).
- Civic Engagement Research Project: Students are required to write a research paper that analyzes current local community resources for social assistance. Through this requirement (and in line with the UTEP Edge initiative), students will have opportunities to exercise the following skills: social responsibility, leadership, communication, and critical thinking (250 points; 25% of grade).
- Class Attendance and Participation: Students will be able to earn participation points each week by actively participating in the live class sessions and by posting responses to the online discussion boards created by the instructor. For live class participation and discussion board posts, points will be awarded based on the quantity and quality of participation. All participation opportunities will be available in the live class sessions and in Blackboard. Through this requirement (and in line with the UTEP Edge initiative), students will have opportunities to exercise the following skills: leadership, communication, and critical thinking (150 points; 15% of grade).

Extra Credit Opportunities

In order to provide students the freedom to concentrate on the actual material and discourse in class, there will be several opportunities to earn extra credit throughout the semester. In theory this will ease the stress placed on students worried about their final grade. However, **DO NOT** abuse these opportunities and neglect your primary assignments. Even with the inclusion of extra credit you cannot pass this class if you do not apply the necessary time and effort needed to comprehend the material and do well on assignments.

Specific extra credit assignment details and requirements will be posted on Blackboard on a monthly basis throughout the semester.

Grading Policies

Final grades will be calculated by adding up the earned points from the requirements that are listed above. The final grade will use the following grading scale:

A: 900.00 – 1000.00

B: 800.00 – 899.999

C: 700.00 – 799.999

D: 600.00 – 699.999

F: Below 600.00

Assignment	Due	Points
EC Assignment 1	02/19- Due Sunday by 11:59pm	10
EC Assignment 2	03/19- Due Sunday by 11:59pm	10
EC Assignment 3	04/16- Due Sunday by 11:59pm	10

Points Total= 30

Other grading policies are included below.

Course Instruction Format and Design

This course is a hybrid format, and it includes live class sessions, pre-recorded lectures, and online discussion boards. The live class sessions will take place on the day/time listed at the top of the syllabus. Live class sessions will be face-to-face (i.e., in-person). Note that the live class sessions only cover half of the scheduled class times for this course. Asynchronous pre-recorded lectures and online discussion board posts will fill the remaining times. The course instruction format is subject to change due to UTEP policies and/or changes in health circumstances.

This course uses Blackboard, so all course materials—syllabus, research paper guidelines, instructions on how to connect online to each class session and virtual office hours, exams, submission areas, discussion boards, and pre-recorded lectures—will be posted in Blackboard.

Note: Course announcements will be communicated in class, via Blackboard, and/or by email. Students are required to regularly check Blackboard and their email.

Technology Requirements

Course content is delivered in-person and via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP email account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop with a microphone and webcam. If you are in need of a laptop this semester, you may apply to check one out via UTEP's Technology Support Equipment Checkout (https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/TSCenter/tsc_eqcheckout.html). You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office and Adobe

Acrobat Reader. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

Course Communication: How we will stay in contact with each other

Because this is a hybrid class, we won't see each other as much as we would in a full face-to-face (in-person) course. However, there are a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- **Office Hours:** I will be holding office hours via Zoom, Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm. If you would like to meet in-person, please email me to set up a time that works for you. You can find the Zoom link for office hours on Blackboard.
- **Email:** UTEP email is the best way to contact me. When emailing me, please put the course title in the subject line. In the body of your email, clearly state your question. At the end of your email, be sure to put your first and last name.
- **Announcements:** Check the Blackboard announcements and your email for important messages.

Netiquette

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It is possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of other's ideas.
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

University Policies

This instructor abides by university policies in the UTEP undergraduate catalog: <http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/academic-regulations/curriculum-and-classroom-policies/>. It is the student's responsibility to understand their rights and university policies. In addition to university policies, I add the following policies below.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be taken. The expectation is that students will not miss classes without valid excuses and attendance is considered **mandatory** for in-class sessions. However, two **unexcused absences** will be allowed without penalty. After you have accrued two unexcused absences, points will be deducted for each additional absence unless a valid excuse and documentation are provided. I completely understand that circumstances can quickly change, and personal matters come up. I am willing to work with you in these situations if you notify me **BEFORE** your absence. If a genuine emergency such the loss of a loved one, a serious medical issue, or conflicts with work, childcare etc. should arise, then please let me know at your earliest convenience and we will discuss any make-up work. Generally, **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED** past the due date unless proper documentation is provided as a valid excuse. Note that the class participation portion of each student's grade is left solely to the discretion of the instructor. Students also are strongly encouraged to listen to any pre-recorded lectures each week.

Also, please note the following:

- The instructor reserves the right to accept, or not, excuses related to medical issues. Students with severe medical problems that result in missing a majority of the semester may want to consider a complete withdrawal from the university for medical purposes.
- According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, "When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor can drop the student from the class with a grade of W before the course drop deadline and with a grade of F after the course drop deadline."
- Excuses for missed exams and other course assessments may not be accepted by the instructor as valid excuses. For example, missing any exams or other course assessments due to vacations and pre-booked travel arrangements are not valid excuses.

Final Exam Policy

The Final Exam will be an in-person E-exam, and it will be made available through Blackboard during the Final Exam testing period (listed below in the Schedule of Classes). The final exam is considered over when the instructor is no longer in the room (all other students present have completed the exam), so do not be late. The exam must be taken on this day unless you have a valid university accepted excuse. Students are required to bring a laptop computer to class on the date of the exam. The final exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, and it will cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions after the midterm exam. More instructions will be given through class communications.

Midterm Exam Policy

The Midterm Exam will be an in-person E-exam, and it will be made available through Blackboard during the Midterm Exam class session (listed below in the Schedule of Classes). The midterm exam is considered over when the instructor is no longer in the room (all other students present have completed the exam), so do not be late. Students are required to bring a laptop computer to class on the date of the exam. The midterm exam will consist of multiple choice questions, and it will cover material from the course readings, class lectures, and/or class discussions up to the date of the midterm exam. More instructions will be given through class communications.

No make-up midterm exam will occur without a student having provided to the instructor valid documentation explaining or excusing the absence. The instructor has the discretion to decide if a make-up is allowable outside the university excused absences. If you miss an exam due to an emergency or illness, you must notify me (and confirm with me that I have received your notification attempt) as soon as possible to arrange a make-up exam. A make-up exam may be of a different format than the original exam.

Progress Summary

In this short-written summary, you will have the opportunity to answer questions regarding your progress on the civic engagement research project. Further details and instructions will be provided through course communications (about 500-750 words, worth 100 points; 10% of overall grade). Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for each class day they are late. **An electronic copy of your paper (in Microsoft Word or PDF) must be submitted via Blackboard by the due date for the progress summary (listed below in the Schedule of Classes).**

Civic Engagement Research Project

Imagine that you know someone in El Paso who is food insecure (i.e., they know or fear that they don't have enough food to eat) or transportation insecure (i.e., they don't have access to safe and reliable transportation). In this community-based research project, you will conduct research online to determine what local resources are available to help food insecure and transportation insecure community members.

Students are required to write a research paper (minimum 8 pages - maximum 10 pages) that analyzes current local community resources for food assistance and transportation assistance in El Paso, Texas. In the paper, students must respond to the following questions: Which entities (community organizations, government agencies, private companies, or schools/universities) provide food assistance or transportation assistance for people in El Paso? Name at least three entities that provide food assistance (e.g., free or reduced-cost food) and at least three entities that provide transportation assistance (e.g., free rides, reduced fares, free bus passes, free or reduced-price car services, etc.), and describe the assistance that each entity provides. In your description of each example of assistance, describe what assistance is being offered, how and when one can access it, and what eligibility requirements there are (if any) to receive the

assistance (if some information is not available online, then in your paper you may report this missing information as unavailable). How would you characterize the current level of support for food insecure and transportation insecure individuals in the El Paso community? How do you think food insecurity and transportation insecurity affect the provision of rehabilitation services in El Paso? What are the implications of your findings for health care policy at the local, state, or national level? In your research, you should refer to the websites of local entities that provide food assistance or transportation assistance in El Paso (minimum of 6 website sources). Students will discuss the results of their research project with other class members during a live class session. **To receive credit, students must submit their paper through Blackboard as a Microsoft Word or PDF document by the due date (listed below in the Schedule of Classes).** Further details and instructions will be provided in course communications.

Online Discussion Board Posts

Many weeks, students will be able to earn participation points by posting a response to the online discussion board created by the instructor. Students also are required to read their classmates' posts. For discussion board posts, points will be awarded based on the quantity and quality of the posts. All discussion board participation opportunities will be available on Blackboard. **To receive credit each week, students must submit their post through Blackboard by the due date (the due date for each week is listed below in the Schedule of Classes).**

Other Course Communication

In addition to standard in-class announcements during live class sessions, other course announcements will be communicated via Blackboard and/or email. Students are required to regularly check Blackboard and their UTEP-recognized preferred email address (i.e., the email address that they indicated to UTEP as their preferred email address).

Other Course Policies and Expectations

- Debate and discussion are important in the critical evaluation of policy and health ethics. It is expected that students will treat the instructor and other students with respect, including refraining from disparaging remarks, personal insults, derogatory comments, and other unprofessional behavior, in person or electronically. Any problem related to disruptive or threatening behavior may result in immediate and follow-up responses by the instructor and/or relevant UTEP offices, including (but not limited to) the student being asked to leave the class and the student being dropped from the course.
- At the discretion of the instructor, a student can be dropped from a course because of lack of effort. A grade of "W" will be assigned before the course drop deadline and a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline. A grade of "F" received due to disciplinary action imposed by the University overrides a grade of "W" received through a student-initiated or faculty drop. Students will be notified of their drop through their UTEP e-mail account. Students may also be administratively withdrawn from a course during the semester for other reasons, with the concurrence of the instructor and department chair, or dean. Approved requests will be forwarded to the Registration and Records Office for processing. Students are responsible for checking their class schedules in Goldmine and

for checking their official UTEP preferred e-mail accounts to determine if they have been dropped from a class.

Email Protocol

When emailing me, please put the course title in the subject line. In the body of your email, clearly state your question. At the end of your email, be sure to put your first and last name. Please do not email me about information you can obtain from the syllabus. I generally do not answer substantive material from lectures or readings via email, as it is not an effective means of communicating. If there is class material you are confused about, please come see me during my office hours.

Academic Integrity and Dishonesty

As stated in the UTEP undergraduate catalog, “Any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Academic dishonesty includes, and is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the *Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP)*, and available in the Office of Student Life and on the homepage of the Office of Student Life at www.utep.edu/dos, can result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to a failing grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others.”

Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services \(CASS\)](#). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#). The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any CASS accommodation letters and instructions before arrangements need to be made for exams or other needs.

Students with accommodations approved by CASS must set up a meeting with the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester (or within the first two weeks after receiving the accommodations, if the accommodations are approved after the start of the semester). It is the student’s responsibility to contact me and arrange a meeting date/time that is mutually convenient.

Class Recordings

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to some class lectures. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP's acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

COVID-19 Precaution Statement

Please stay home if you are sick or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling sick, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors.

The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

Resources for Students

We are in difficult times, and many UTEP students are experiencing very difficult situations. Please remember that UTEP offers many assistance resources for students! Please see the links and bullet points below for more information, and just let me know if I can help connect you to available resources. I am here to help.

Links that provide a large list of available assistance resources for UTEP students.

<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students-office/emergencyaid/>

<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/resources/index.html>

Some specific examples of available assistance for UTEP students:

- Emergency Aid for UTEP Students
 - The Dean of Students Office has several emergency aid programs for students. Please visit their website (<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students-office/emergencyaid/>) to see a list of all the programs.
 - If you would like more information or have any further questions, you can contact the Dean of Students Office at DOS@utep.edu or (915) 747-5648
- Emergency Grants and Assistance for UTEP Students
 - Visit <https://www.utep.edu/utepcares/apply/> or call 877-747-8983

- UTEP Writing Center
 - Library Building, Room 227
 - (915) 747-5112
 - <http://uwc.utep.edu/>
- UTEP Career Center
 - 103 W Union Building
 - 915-747-5640
 - <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/careers/>
- UTEP Counseling and Psychological Services
 - Union West, Room 202
 - 915-747-5302
 - After Hours Crisis Line: 915-747-5302
 - <http://sa.utep.edu/counsel/>
- University Police Department
 - 915-747-5611
 - <https://www.utep.edu/police/>
- UTEP Student Health Center
 - 915-747-5624
 - <https://www.utep.edu/chs/shc/>
- Center Against Sexual and Family Violence
 - 580 Giles Road
 - 915-593-7300
 - 24/7 Crisis Hope Line: 1-800-727-0511
- Campus Advocacy, Resources, and Education (CARE)
 - Advocacy and counseling for students who are victims of a crime or secondary victims. These services may be extended to the students' support system, if applicable. A victim of crime is a person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, and/or emotional harm because of the commission of a crime.
 - 1101 N. Campbell Building, Room 103
 - 915-747-7452
 - care@utep.edu
 - www.utep.edu/care
- UTEP Food Pantry
 - Memorial Gym, Room 105
 - 915-747-8053
 - foodpantry@utep.edu
- Kelly Center for Hunger Relief
 - 915 N Florence St, El Paso, TX 79902
 - 915-261-7499
 - <https://www.facebook.com/915kmfp/>

- El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank
 - 9541 Plaza Cir, El Paso, TX 79927
 - 915-298-0353
 - <http://www.elpasoansfightinghunger.org/>
- UTEP Student Support Services for Challenges with Finances (FHAR)
 - Academic Advising Center
 - 915-747-5290
- 2-1-1
 - Phone number to call in El Paso if you would like more information on any available assistance.
- If you would like to access other resources, please contact me and I will do my best to help you search for additional resources.

Schedule of Classes (Subject to Change)

*Note: Lectures will take place during live class sessions and pre-recorded sessions.

Weekly Schedule

	Live Class Session (in-person)	Topic	Assigned Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1	Tues, Jan 16 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Class Introduction	Course Syllabus	Submit Week 1 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Jan 21 at 11:59pm
Week 2	Tues, Jan 23 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Boston and Gilbertsville Introducing the Policy Process Overview of the Civic Engagement Research Project	Cohn, Introduction and Ch. 1 Birkland, Ch. 1	Submit Week 2 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Jan 28 at 11:59pm
Week 3	Tues, Jan 30 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Deltona Elements of the Policy Making System	Cohn, Ch. 2 Birkland, Ch. 2	Submit Week 3 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Feb 4 at 11:59pm

Week 4	Tues, Feb 6 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Austin Overview of Agenda Setting, Power, and Interest Groups	Cohn, Ch. 3 Birkland, Ch. 6	Submit Week 4 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Feb 11 at 11:59pm
Week 5	Tues, Feb 13 5:30pm – 6:50pm	Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Lawrence County Overview of Policies and Policy Types	Cohn, Ch. 5 Birkland, Ch. 7	Submit the Progress Summary in Blackboard by Feb 18 at 11:59pm
Week 6	Tues, Feb 20 5:30pm – 6:50pm	Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Los Angeles Review Session	Cohn, Ch. 7	Submit Week 6 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Feb 25 at 11:59pm
Week 7	Tues, Feb 27 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Midterm Exam	No assigned reading	Complete the Midterm Exam during class
Week 8	Tues, March 6 5:00pm – 6:20pm *Spring Break: March 11-15	Overview of Health Policy and the Affordable Care Act Background Politics related to the Affordable Care Act	Brill, Ch. 1 and Ch. 2	Submit Week 8 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by March 10 at 11:59pm
Week 9	Tues, March 19 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Background Politics related to the Affordable Care Act (continued) Overview of Decision-making and Policy Analysis	Brill, Ch. 3 and Ch. 4 Birkland, Ch. 8	Submit Week 9 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by March 24 at 11:59pm
Week 10	Tues, March 26 5:00pm – 6:20pm *March 28: Last day to drop with a W	Federal Politics and Lobbying for the Affordable Care Act	Brill, Ch. 5 and Ch. 6 Brill, Ch. 7 and Ch. 8	Submit Week 10 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by March 31 at 11:59pm

Week 11	Tues, Apr 2 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Overview of Policy Design and Policy Tools Legislative Politics and Negotiations for the Affordable Care Act	Birkland, Ch. 9 Brill, Ch. 9 and Ch. 10	Submit Week 11 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 7 at 11:59pm
Week 12	Tues, Apr 9 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Legislative Politics and Negotiations for the Affordable Care Act (continued)	Brill, Ch. 11 and Ch. 12	Submit Week 12 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 14 at 11:59pm
Week 13	Tues, Apr 16 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Overview of Policy Implementation Implementation Politics of the Affordable Care Act	Brill, Ch. 13 and Ch. 14	Submit Week 13 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 21 at 11:59pm
Week 14	Tues, Apr 23 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Reflection Session Implementation Politics of the Affordable Care Act (continued)/Beyond the ACA	No assigned reading	Submit the Civic Engagement Research Paper in Blackboard by Apr 28 at 11:59pm
Week 15	Tues, Apr 30 5:00pm – 6:20pm	Review Session	No assigned reading	Submit Week 15 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by May 4 at 11:59pm
Week 16	Tues, May 8 TBD	Final Exam	No assigned reading	Complete the Final Exam during the testing period

Adjustments in Course Schedule

I will do my best to follow the course schedule outlined above, but I reserve the right to make reasonable adjustments with adequate warning if unforeseeable or uncontrollable circumstances so warrant.