**Health Care Policy for Rehabilitation Sciences (Online)**

DRSC 3312 – 002
CRN: 27345
The University of Texas at El Paso
Spring 2021
Online Course

Live Online Class Sessions: Tuesdays, 5:30pm - 6:50pm

Instructor: Dr. Gregory S. Schober
Assistant Professor
Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Sciences Program

Office: None (Online course)
Phone: None (Online course)
Email: gschober@utep.edu

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays: 9:30am – 11:00am (instructions will be provided in Blackboard)
Also available by appointment (please email to set up an appointment)
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.**
- **Explain 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.**
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):

  - Author: Thomas A. Birkland
  - 4th edition
  - 2016

- Sick: The Untold Story of America’s Health Care Crisis – and the People who Pay the Price
  - Author: Jonathan Cohn
  - 1st reprint edition
  - 2008

- America’s Bitter Pill: Money, Politics, Backroom Deals, and the Fight to Fix Our Broken Healthcare System
  - Author: Steven Brill
  - 1st edition
  - 2015

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 (in live online class sessions and online discussion boards) 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 (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 (in live online class sessions and online discussion boards) after the midterm exam. Through this requirement (and in line with the UTEP Edge initiative), students will have opportunities to exercise critical thinking skills (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 (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 (25% of grade).

• **Participation:** Students will be able to earn participation points each week by actively participating in the live online 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 online 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 (15% of grade).

**Grading Policies**

Final grades will be calculated using the weighted formula indicated above in the course requirements. The final grade will use the following grading scale:

A: 90.00 – 100.00  
B: 80.00 – 89.999  
C: 70.00 – 79.999  
D: 60.00 – 69.999  
F: Below 60.00

Other grading policies are included below.

**Course Instruction Format and Design**

This course is 100% online, and it includes live online class sessions, pre-recorded lectures, and online discussion boards. The live online class sessions will take place on the day/time listed at the top of the syllabus. Note that the live online 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.

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

This course is designed using a modular format—that is, each week is “packaged” as a single module so that all the materials are in one area for a given week. Instructions on how to connect to each live online class session and each virtual office hours session will be posted in Blackboard.

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

**Technology Requirements**

Course content is delivered 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, microphone, and webcam (if possible). 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 an online class, we won’t see each other in the ways you may be accustomed to: during class time, small group meetings, and office hours. However, there are a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- **Virtual Office Hours:** We will not be able to meet on campus, but I will still have online office hours for your questions and comments about the course. The times for my virtual office hours are listed at the beginning of this syllabus, and instructions on how to connect to virtual office hours will be available in 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 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/](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**

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all live online class sessions. If a student is unable to attend a live online class session, then they are strongly encouraged to listen to the recording of that session (technology permitting). 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 E-exam, and it will be made available online through Blackboard during the Final Exam testing period (listed below in the Schedule of Classes). Each student will take the exam independently at their preferred time and place during the testing period, and the exam will be open-book and open-note (i.e., students will be allowed to use their books, notes, class slides, etc., but they will NOT be allowed to communicate with others about the test during the testing period). Lockdown Browser will NOT be required to access the exam, and you will NOT be forced to complete the exam once you start. More instructions will be given through class communications.

Midterm Exam Policy

The Midterm Exam will be an E-exam, and it will be made available online through Blackboard during the Midterm Exam testing period (listed below in the Schedule of Classes). Each student will take the exam independently at their preferred time and place during the testing period, and the exam will be open-book and open-note (i.e., students will be allowed to use their books, notes, class slides, etc., but they will NOT be allowed to communicate with others about the test during the testing period). Lockdown Browser will NOT be required to access the exam, and you will NOT be forced to complete the exam once you start. 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 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 medication insecure (i.e., they don’t have health insurance or the money to pay for medications out of pocket). In this community-based research project, you will conduct research online to determine what local resources are available to help food insecure and medication 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 medication 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 medication 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 medication assistance (e.g., prescription assistance, patient assistance, free or reduced-cost medications programs, 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 medication insecure individuals in the El Paso community? How do you think food insecurity and medication 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 medication 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 online 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**

Each week, students will be able to earn participation points by posting a response to the online discussion board created by the instructor. For discussion board posts, points will be awarded based on the quantity and quality of 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 online 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. 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 class lectures, group discussions, and so on in the event you miss a live online class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. 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 Precautions

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know anyone who should report any of these three criteria, encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you cannot wear a face mask for medical reasons, please let me know ahead of time to discuss accommodations. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 Health and Safety and Section 1.2.2.5 Disruptions in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.
Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.

Resources for 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/policie/
- 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 Student Food Bank (Student Engagement and Leadership Center)
  - Union West, Room 106
  - 915-747-5670

• Kelly Center for Hunger Relief
  - 915 N Florence St, El Paso, TX 79902
  - 915-261-7499
  - https://www.facebook.com/915kmfp/

• UTEP Student Support Services for Challenges with Finances (FHAR)
  - Academic Advising Center
  - 915-747-5290

• 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 online class sessions and/or pre-recorded sessions. All times are in MST.*

**Weekly Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Live Online Class Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 18 – Jan 24</td>
<td>Tues, Jan 19 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Class Introduction</td>
<td>Course Syllabus</td>
<td>Submit Week 1 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Jan 24 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Live Online Class Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 25 – Jan 31</td>
<td>Tues, Jan 26 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Cohn, Introduction and Ch. 1 Birkland, Ch. 1</td>
<td>Submit Week 2 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Jan 31 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Live Online Class Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 1 – Feb 7</td>
<td>Tues, Feb 2 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Deltona Elements of the Policy Making System</td>
<td>Cohn, Ch. 2 Birkland, Ch. 2</td>
<td>Submit Week 3 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Feb 7 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Live Online Class Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 8 – Feb 14</td>
<td>Tues, Feb 9 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Austin Overview of Agenda Setting, Power, and Interest Groups</td>
<td>Cohn, Ch. 3 Birkland, Ch. 6</td>
<td>Submit Week 4 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Feb 14 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Tues, Feb 16 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Lawrence County Overview of Policies and Policy Types</td>
<td>Cohn, Ch. 5 Birkland, Ch. 7</td>
<td>Submit the Progress Summary in Blackboard by Feb 21 at 11:59pm</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Tues, Feb 23 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Problems with the U.S. Health Care System before the Affordable Care Act: Los Angeles Review Session</td>
<td>Cohn, Ch. 7</td>
<td>Submit Week 6 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Feb 28 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>No live class session</td>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam</strong> Online Testing Period from Mar 2 – Mar 5</td>
<td>No assigned reading</td>
<td>Complete the Midterm Exam in Blackboard by Mar 5 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Tues, Mar 9 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Overview of Health Policy and the Affordable Care Act Background Politics related to the Affordable Care Act</td>
<td>Brill, Ch. 1 and Ch. 2</td>
<td>Submit Week 8 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Mar 14 at 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Class</td>
<td>No live class session (Spring Break)</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Tues, Mar 23 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Background Politics related to the Affordable Care Act (continued) Overview of Decision-making and Policy Analysis</td>
<td>Brill, Ch. 3 and Ch. 4 Birkland, Ch. 8</td>
<td>Submit Week 9 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Mar 28 at 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Tues, Mar 30 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Federal Politics and Lobbying for the Affordable Care Act Federal Politics and Lobbying for the</td>
<td>Brill, Ch. 5 and Ch. 6 Brill, Ch. 7 and Ch. 8</td>
<td>Submit Week 10 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 4 at 11:59pm</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Tues, Apr 6 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Overview of Policy Design and Policy Tools</td>
<td>Birkland, Ch. 9 Brill, Ch. 9 and Ch. 10</td>
<td>Submit Week 11 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 11 at 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 5 – Apr 11</td>
<td>Legislative Politics and Negotiations for the Affordable Care Act</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Tues, April 13 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Legislative Politics and Negotiations for the Affordable Care Act (continued)</td>
<td>Brill, Ch. 11 and Ch. 12</td>
<td>Submit Week 12 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 18 at 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 12 – Apr 18</td>
<td>Overview of Policy Implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Tues, April 20 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Implementation Politics of the Affordable Care Act</td>
<td>Brill, Ch. 13 and Ch. 14</td>
<td>Submit Week 13 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by Apr 25 at 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 19 – Apr 25</td>
<td>Reflection Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Tues, April 27 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Implementation Politics of the Affordable Care Act (continued)</td>
<td>No assigned reading</td>
<td>Submit the Civic Engagement Research Paper in Blackboard by May 2 at 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 26 – May 2</td>
<td>Reflection Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Tues, May 4 5:30pm – 6:50pm</td>
<td>Review Session</td>
<td>No assigned reading</td>
<td>Submit Week 15 Online Discussion Board Post in Blackboard by May 9 at 11:59pm</td>
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<td>May 3 – May 9</td>
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</table>
| Week 16 | No live class session | Final Exam  
Online Testing Period from May 11 – May 14 | No assigned reading | Complete the Final Exam in Blackboard by May 14 at 11:59pm |
| May 10 - May 16 | | | | |

*The information above is subject to change.*