



[University Name]

I. Name of course

Integrated Health Policy & Services

II. Overview

In 2009, national healthcare expenditures grew 4.0 percent, reaching a level of \$2.5 trillion (\$8,086 per person), and absorbing 17.6 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Mental health expenditures have increased over time as well (from \$32 billion in 1986 to \$132 billion in 2005), however, they have fallen as a share of all health expenditures (from 7.2 percent to 6.1 percent in the same period) (SAMHSA, 2012). Roughly 50 million Americans (and another 700,000 older adult Americans) lack access to health insurance, which limits their access to quality health and behavioral healthcare. And meeting the long-term care needs of the current older adult population and the large baby boom generation remain a paramount concern. These problems have led to constant strains on the public insurance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, which are designed to provide access to acute and long-term care for older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income individuals.

The connection between behavioral health and overall health of an individual is clear, yet services have largely remained siloed both within behavioral health (that is, separation of substance use and mental health services) and between behavioral health and primary healthcare. In 2009, it was estimated that 11 million U.S. adults (4.8 percent) had serious mental illness; of those, more than a quarter (25.7 percent) had co-occurring substance dependence or abuse, related to either illicit drugs or alcohol. And one out of eight U.S. children (13.1 percent of those aged 8 to 15) had a mental health disorder. Further, it was found that on average, public mental health clients (people served through state mental healthcare systems) die 25 years younger than other Americans (SAMHSA, 2012). Of all individuals, aged 12 years or older 23.1 million (9.1 percent) needed treatment for an illicit drug or alcohol use problem in 2010, but 20.5 million of those did not receive treatment at a specialty facility (e.g., hospital inpatient, drug or alcohol rehabilitation, or mental health centers) in the past year (SAMHSA, 2011).

Perceived problems with our healthcare system pushed national healthcare reform to the top of the policy agenda in the United States in 1993-1994, but the sweeping reforms proposed by President Clinton were ultimately rejected. Since that time a number of incremental reforms have been proposed to alter our healthcare and behavioral health systems and, in March 2010 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was signed into law. Implementation of this new legislation will take place over a number of years, eventually resulting in changes to





both the Medicare and Medicaid systems, as well as employer-sponsored and individuallypurchased health insurance. Even prior to the PPACA, the payments from all government sources accounted for nearly half of all healthcare spending in the U.S. each year (Kaiser Family Foundation, 2009). The legislation also has the potential to change healthcare and behavioral healthcare systems through integration of services.

Kaiser Family Foundation. (March 2009). *Trends in health care costs and spending*. Retrieved September 25, 2012 from <u>http://www.kff.org/insurance/upload/7692_02.pdf</u>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2012). *Mental Health, United States, 2010.* HHS Publication No. (SMA) 12-4681. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

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III. Course Description and Rationale

The purpose of this course is to provide intensive study of the evolution of the integration of Primary Care and Behavioral Health services and to provide an opportunity for synthesis and application of learning and practice of policy in this service arena. The course builds on policy content offered in the professional foundation year and links policy to practice and research skills. Diversity, inequality, social and economic justice are continuing themes of study in the advanced concentration year. The content of the course reflects the values of the profession and focuses on the role of the "social policy practitioner" in assisting individuals in the maintenance or attainment of optimal health and mental health, social and economic justice, and recovery and wellness. Theories related to organizational structure and change within an Integrated Behavioral Health environment and strategies for practitioners to influence policies and promote change in the interest of service consumer, agency, and society will be presented. Opportunities for students will be encouraged for direct involvement in the political and organizational processes used to influence policy and delivery systems.

IV. Course Goals and Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding the role of social workers and other professional disciplines within an Integrated Behavioral Healthcare (IBH) environment
- Develop an understanding of the history of health policy in the U.S., and the political, economic and social forces that have led to the development of our U.S. healthcare system
- Develop an understanding of current models, major issues and trends in IBH





- Demonstrate an understanding of the structure, organization, and funding arrangements of IBH service delivery systems
- Understand the importance of addressing health disparities in Health Information Systems (HIS)
- Acquire an understanding of the social worker's role in the formation and implementation of policies within IBH
- Demonstrate advocacy skills with service providers, community organizations, policy makers, and/or stakeholders related to IBH.

V. Course Outline

Introduction: Being a Person with Chronic Illness and Challenges of Seeking Care (Simulation Exercise)

The goal of a simulation exercise is for students to take a real life role, address the issues connected to that role that they encounter during the simulation, and experience the consequences of the decisions that they make. Simulations differ from role plays in their length, and use of goals, barriers to reaching those goals, and the context of the task the students must complete.

This exercise requires students to take on the role of a person who is seeking healthcare insurance under the Affordable Care Act, e.g., a single mother with two children whose income is 150% of poverty level, a college student whose parents are unemployed and uninsured, or an older adult who qualifies for both Medicaid and Medicare. Designate individual students to represent community agencies where the seeking student may go to get assistance with obtaining help. Set a time for seeking students to complete their task and do a debriefing with agency and seeking students about their experiences.

Module 1: Need for Integrated Behavioral Healthcare in the United States

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- Gawande, A. (2011, January 24). The hot spotters: Can we lower medical costs by giving the neediest patients better care? *The New Yorker*.
- Kathol, R.G., Butler, M., McAlpine, D., & Kane, R.L. (2010). Barriers to physical and mental condition integrated service delivery. *Psychosomatic Medicine*, 72, 511-518.





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Module 2: Integrated Behavioral Health Models

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Module 3: Legislative Background

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Module 4: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Required Reading

The National Association of Social Workers. (Fall 2011). Accountable care organizations (ACOs): Opportunities for the social work profession. *Practice Perspectives*. Retrieved September 25, 2012 from <u>http://www.socialworkers.org/assets/secured/documents/practice/health/ACOs%20Opportunit</u> <u>ies%20for%20SWers.pdf</u>

Health Policy Brief: Accountable Care Organizations. (2010). *Health Affairs*, July 27, 2010. Retrieved September 25, 2012 from http://www.healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief.php?brief_id=23

The National Association of Social Workers. (2011). The medical home model: What is it and how do social workers fit in? *Practice Perspectives*, *10*.





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Module 5: Integrated Behavioral Health & Disparities

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Module 6: Funding for Integrated Behavioral Health Services

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Module 7: Implementing Integrated Behavioral Health

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Required Reading

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- Jansson, B. (2011). *Improving healthcare through advocacy*. Chapters 12-14. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Useful Websites

AHRQ: The Academy Integrating Behavioral Health and Primary Care <u>http://integrationacademy.ahrq.gov/</u>

ARHQ: Patient Centered Medical Home Resource Center www.pcmh.ahrq.gov/portal/server.pt/community/pcmh_home/1483

California Integrated Behavioral Health Project <u>http://ibhp.org/index.php?section=pages&cid=152</u>

The Commonwealth Fund http://www.commonwealthfund.org/

CSWE PPACA of 2010: A Guide for Social Workers http://www.cswe.org/File.aspx?id=48334

Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation: *Health Reform Source* <u>http://healthreform.kff.org/</u>

Integrated Care Resource Center (CMS) http://www.integratedcareresourcecenter.com/Default.aspx

Massachusetts Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Reform http://bluecrossmafoundation.org/Health-Reform/Lessons.aspx

National Standards on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) <u>http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/templates/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlID=15</u>

The New York Times: Healthcare Reform

http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/health/diseasesconditionsandhealthtopics/health_insurance_a_nd_managed_care/health_care_reform/index.html

Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative <u>www.pcpcc.net/</u>





PBS Unnatural Causes http://www.pbs.org/unnaturalcauses/explore_learn.htm

Robert Wood Johnson: Health Policy Connection http://www.rwjf.org/healthpolicy/coverage/index.jsp

SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions <u>http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/</u>

The University of Washington AIMS Center http://uwaims.org/index.html

CDC: The State of Mental Health and Aging in America <u>http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/MAHA/MahaHome.aspx</u>

UCLA Health Policy Institutes: Health Disparities <u>http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/SearchResults.aspx?keywords=Health+disparities+mental+hea</u> <u>lth&page=1</u>



1. Annotated Bibliography

Each student will select a major health/mental health policy issue to serve as his/her focus. Potential topics are listed below. Each student will need to find at least 8 *articles from academic journals*, at least 2 *from popular press sources* (may be from the web if they also appear in print, such as an article from the New York Times), and at least 1 *source of information from a national, state, or local non-profit or governmental organization* that primarily focuses on this topic (may be a webpage or informational literature).

- Your bibliography will consist of a problem statement, an introduction to the issue, and a comprehensive annotated bibliography from a variety of fields.
- In your introduction, construct an overview of your identified health policy issue and its relationship to the health of the American public.
- Describe the incidence and prevalence of the problem.
- Include the following parameters: identification of at-risk populations; identification of risk factors, causes, known prevention measures; any efficacious evidence-based diagnosis and treatment that may or may not be available for the at-risk population and this specific health problem.
- What situations/barriers exist in the community that prevent elimination or decrease in this health problem?
- What situations/supports exist in the community that facilitate prevention, elimination or decrease in this health problem?
- Each annotation will consist of a 1-2 paragraph summary of the article in your own words and a 1-2 paragraph critical discussion of the article which may include how the article fits into the existing literature, or highlight the major contribution of the article to the literature, or discuss some element of the methodology or approach used in the article.

Possible topics include: Prescription drug coverage for older adults; the right to die / assisted suicide; policies related to substance use or addiction; mental health parity; policies related to genetic screening; stem cell research; poverty and child healthcare/health disparities; health insurance coverage; denial of care; access to care; health reform (any aspect); CLASS Act (part of the ACA); health disparities; disability policy (health aspects); gun control; obesity; comorbid health/mental health disorders; inequities in AIDS care (or any other medical/mental healthcare); smoking/drug policies in the U.S. (or another country); domestic violence policies; healthcare for the incarcerated / the homeless / for undocumented immigrants; teen pregnancy / reduction policies; reproductive health issues / women's health issues; innovations in long term care for older adults; environmental health (how the environment we live in, including infrastructure, affects health and mental health).





2. Opinion Piece

Students are to write an opinion piece on their impressions of the Affordable Care Act. Paper should address their personal opinion of the ACA, what they believe to be true about the Act and their opinion as to whether or not this is a good law.

3. Presentation: Interview

Conduct an interview with a relative who is at least 65 years old. Ask them the following questions and summarize their answers in your short 10 minute presentation to the class. Goal is for the instructor to use the presentations to illustrate how the older population deals with their medical issues, Medicare, insurance coverage and to illustrate a wide variety of opinions about the ACA and the expectations.

How do they pay for their health insurance?

How much money do they have to spend, during an average month, for out of pocket health related costs, including co-pays, prescription drugs, over the counter medications/supplies.

Has there been a time in their lives when they had health insurance and in their opinion was the coverage better than what they have currently? Have them give a description of the coverage.

Ask them their opinion of the Affordable Healthcare Act and what they hope to gain because of its passage.

If they could fix the healthcare system, what would they do?

Describe a medical emergency that has occurred in their lives, the condition or medical issue, the length of time of the recovery, the estimated cost for the medical treatment, any challenges that happened as a result of the medical emergency and how the medical emergency cost was paid for by the individual or family member.

4. Team Presentation: Comparing Health Policies

Form teams of 2-3 students. Each team is expected to do a comparison between the Affordable Care Act elements as upheld by the US Supreme Court in its July 2012 decision to one of the countries mentioned in the charts found in the David Squires Article, *The US Health System in Perspective: A Comparison of Twelve Industrialized Nations,* published by the Commonwealth fund. The teams should identify the top 5 strengths in the ACA and then compare and contrast these 5 strengths to the country's healthcare policies they have decided to analyze. Student teams will then develop a 15-20 minute presentation for the class outlining the similarities and differences and present their findings to the class for discussion.





5. Public Service Announcement (PSA) Video

This assignment will be completed in teams of *no more than 3 students*. You can complete it on your own, if desired.

By completing this assignment you will:

- Be able to use a video camera and digital video editing software
- Understand how pen and paper, live visuals, and electronic texts work together to provide public information
- Display your understanding of theory and information from our class and other resources and incorporate these into a practical application

You will be given somewhat limited resources to complete this project, with limited time possibly the greatest constraint. Keep your design as simple as possible. Don't be too ambitious.

There will be three components to this project: a digital video, a presentation to the class, and an evaluation of the process.

Your ultimate goal is to produce a 1 to 2 minute original video dealing with an important health policy topic in a public service announcement type format. Each video will need to either provide information on the topic or create a persuasive argument for change. You must create at least some of your own material by filming. This may be combined with material available on the internet. The end result must contain some film you shot and must be your own creation. Do not use copyrighted material (with an exception for music if needed). Do not film anyone without their permission. Do not film on private property (unless your own or you have permission). No swearing, no violence.

Steps:

It helps if your topic either matches the topic of your policy paper or is something you know quite a lot about, so choose wisely.

Research. Start by thinking about the following questions:

- What did you find in your research that surprised you?
- How does this information conflict with your beliefs?
- How are the facts different that you expected?
- How might this issue/problem be solved?
- Is there a local or national agency/organization that deals with this issue?





If addressing a specific problem, you may try to ask/address questions that are aimed at finding explanations for the problem you are exploring, such as:

- How can you explain . . . ?
- What steps can you take to find explanations?
- What rationale can you give for . . . ?

Or, you may ask imaginative, speculative, and exploratory questions, such as:

What are some ways to promote . . . ?

What would you do if you were in charge?

Can you imagine all the benefits if ...?

Plan your project using the PSA Outline. Decide on a "plot." Think about who your target audience is and what message you want to communicate. What should your video achieve, and how? Use the Persuasion Map to plan your storyboard, filling in your Outline as follows:

- Section 1: What type of words should flash across the screen to put across the message or your *goal*? Think of a catchy phrase or slogan.
- Section 2: How could you discuss the *reasons* in the video? How do you convince people to listen to your message?
- Section 3: What are your *facts*? How will you share these facts dramatically?

Complete filming and/or compiling of images for your video. Edit to the appropriate length. Include a credits screen with resources (not included in the time cap).

Present your video on the last day of class. The final video and all worksheets should be burned onto a CD. Keep in mind that some video formats store the final version in *multiple* files.

During/after the presentations, each student will fill out the Evaluation Rubric (for videos created by other students) and the Reflecting on the Process sheet (for their own project).

Sources:

Brownstein, David. CAP-Foundations 103 Video Assignment: eWaste Public Service Announcement. Available: <u>www.brownstein.ca/teaching/103video-assignment.pdf</u>. See example videos at <u>http://ca.youtube.com/profile_videos?user=capubc</u>.

Kozdras, Deborah. MyTube: Changing the World with Video Public Service Announcements. Available: <u>http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/mytube-changing-world-with-1069.html</u>





6. Policy Advocacy

This learning activity involves taking an advocacy position on a particular policy issue, proposing a task that addresses the issue, and carrying out that activity. This assignment can be done in groups of 4-6 or as a class. You will:

Choose a current health policy area related to integrated behavioral healthcare that interests you. It can be at the federal, state, county, local, and/or agency level. Examples include: addressing health literacy and the ACA, prescription drugs and integrative medicine practices, need for trained health professionals in rural areas. The policy/issue being targeted must be a social justice issue, either in relation to a vulnerable population or a social problem.

Write a brief proposal that includes:

- Statement of the policy, problem, and/or issue
- A historical context of the policy, problem, and/or issue
- The significance of the problem or issue to you both personally and professionally
- The social justice implications of the problem or issue
- The task(s) that you will perform relative to the policy or issue.

Once your proposal is returned and approved by the instructor, carry out the proposed task.

After you perform the task, evaluate its effectiveness in relation to the policy/issue. Write a paper that includes what you learned by carrying out this task. Attach additional items such as news releases, letters, legislative testimony, position papers, etc., that you developed.