



Course Number: NURS 550
Course Title: Health Care Policies and Systems
Course Term and Year: Spring 2010

Course Section: NURS 550 - 00
Meeting Time and Place: Designated Fridays: 2:00 PM – 4:50 PM; Hybrid Course with web-based component--Harrogate
Course Credit Hours: 3 credit hours

Faculty Contact Information:

Course Coordinator – Harrogate-Judy Edds, EdD, MSN, APN-BC, 423.869.8318 (office); 423.526.7130 (cell); judy.edds@lmunet.edu

I. Course Description:

Develops awareness of complex health care systems that influence practice. Includes past and current economic, political, social, developmental, environmental (including rural health issues) and cultural aspects of health (in the U.S. and comparable international health care systems). Government and non-government expenditures, health care programs and plans, managed care systems, and diagnostic related groups are examined. Primary focus is on leadership skills and strategies to develop multidisciplinary partnerships required to influence health policy, provision of quality care that includes culturally congruent care, and acceptable options to access care. Effective utilization of information technology with techniques to search and find information is emphasized.

II. Course Objectives:

At the completion of NURS 550, the student will be able to:

1. Evaluate the impact of the economic, political, social, and cultural dimensions on nursing and health care systems.
2. Recognize the magnitude of the U.S. government and non-government systems' involvements and fiscal appropriations covering both acute and chronic health care.
3. Understand and recognize the current U.S. health care providers' organizational infrastructures.
4. Compare the U.S. health care system's financing with other selected countries' systems and their financing.
5. Assess the importance of health care policy and the process through to its enactment.
6. Recognize and utilize information technology for professional planning and its relevance for high quality care across the lifespan.
7. Analyze nursing's leadership role and effects in the overall multidisciplinary health care delivery and within complex health care organizations.

III. TEXTS/MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE:

Mason, D., Leavitt, J., and Chaffee, M. (2007). Policy and politics in nursing and health care. Fifth edition. Elsevier/Mosby: St. Louis.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSESSMENT (LEARNING OUTCOMES) AND EVALUATION METHODS:

A. Fulfill attendance requirements

1. Attendance is mandatory. Any lecture/lab/clinical absence will result in a 2% reduction of the final course grade for each recorded absence. Students must be present for the entire class in order not to be recorded as absent

B. Written Requirements and Exams

1. Weekly assignments—Students will have topics to research and explore with web-based component and in-class discussion
2. Midterm exam
3. Final exam
4. Student paper and presentation—students will prepare paper regarding a topic related to health care policy and will present the information in a class presentation.

Rules regarding tests and examinations:

1. All students are expected to take exams as scheduled. Students are required to notify the faculty by phone or email (see faculty contact information above) prior to the scheduled exam time if they are not going to be present. Students are given faculty contact information in each NURS course syllabi and are expected to have it available at all times. If for any reason a student is unable to leave a message for the faculty member via the contact information provided, it is the student's responsibility to contact the Nursing Office on campus (1-800-325 - 0900, ext. 6324) and talk to the Nursing Secretary or leave a message on her voice mail. Please remember to state you are unable to take the exam and be specific as to the course, the faculty's name and the site you attend. **Any student that does not notify the appropriate faculty will receive a zero for the exam.**
2. The faculty will determine the date and time of any alternate make-up exam. **If the student does not make up the exam on the scheduled date and time, the student will get a zero on the exam.**
3. All electronic devices (pagers, cell phones, PDA's, etc), personal belongings (book bags, purses, coats) are prohibited during examination times. Students may only bring into the exam room pencils and a simple calculator. Students must make arrangements for their other personal belongings during test time.
4. Ball caps or hats with any type of brim will not be allowed to be worn during exam administration.
5. Simple calculators are the ONLY calculators allowed during test time. Scientific calculators or those combined with cellular phones, PDA's, or other electronic devices are not permitted. If a student presents to an exam with any calculator other than a simple calculator the faculty will collect the calculator and the student will be

required to do mathematic calculations by hand only. Calculators collected prior to the exam will be returned after the exam is completed.

6. Editorial corrections will be given at the beginning of the exam. If corrections to the exam are needed once the exam has started, the faculty will interrupt the exam and announce the correction and also write it on the board.
7. Any student who has questions during the exam must raise his/her hand and stay seated.
8. The student must not leave his/her seat until the exam is finished, except for emergencies.
9. The exam will be timed. The time for exam booklets to be turned in and for class to resume will be written on the board. Any student entering late will be required to turn his/her exam at the stated time.
10. After the exam is finished, the student has the following options:
 - a) Return to his/her seat, and remain quiet until class resumes.
 - b) Leave the classroom. (If the student chooses to leave the room, he/she may not reenter until class resumes.)
11. Nursing Faculty will review and score exams during the week after the exam is given. Individual student grades will be available and posted one week after the exam has been given. Faculty will post exam grades on Blackboard.
12. Faculty reserves the right to correct any clerical error. This includes both increases and decreases to adjusted exam grades.
13. Exam reviews will be scheduled outside of class time. Attendance for exam review is strongly recommended. No books, pencils or taping are allowed during the exam review.
14. If a student wishes to challenge a question on an exam, the rationale must be put in writing and documented by page number in the textbook within one (1) week from the time of the test review. This documentation should be given to the faculty who taught the unit by the student challenging the test item.

C. Campus Lab/Clinical Requirements

Not applicable.

D. Methods of Evaluation

Web-based assignments – 30%

Midterm exam - 20%

Final exam - 20%

Health policy paper -20%

In class presentation – 10%

TOTAL Grade – 100%

E. Incomplete Policy

Students are expected to complete all requirements as assigned during the semester. Incompletes are only given in extreme circumstances deemed by the instructor. If the request for an “I” is approved, the work must be completed within the first six weeks of the following semester (excluding summer terms); otherwise the grade automatically

becomes “F”. The grade of “I” is calculated in the grade point average with zero points.

F. College of Nursing Grading Scale:

The LMU grading system is based on a four – point scale. A grade of “B” or better is required in order to be successful in this course and to receive graduate credit at LMU. The grading scale is as follows:

93 – 100	A
89 – 92	B+
83 – 88	B
79 – 82	C+
73 – 78	C
72 or below	D

G. Clinical Facilities

Not applicable

V. Method of Instruction:

There will be lecture with midterm and final exams, health care policy paper, in class presentation, and web-based assignments.

VI. INFORMATION LITERACY/TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Blackboard will be used for this course to post announcements and individual course grades. Students must have computer skills necessary to participate in this course.

VII. UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY: As a rule, all students must read and comply with standards of the LMU Student Handbook and LMU catalog. Any student needing assistance in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990 as amended) should contact the instructor and the LMU ADA Compliance Officer, donna Treece-Paul, in order to make appropriate arrangements. Contact information: donna.treece-paul@lmunet.edu and/or 423-869-6251 (800-325-0900, ext. 6251). Office is located on the third floor of the Student Center.

DISCRIMINATION, SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY, CHEATING, AND PLAGIARISM POLICIES:

Discrimination Policy: LMU policies can be found at <http://www.lmunet.edu/campuslife/sthandbook/handbook.pdf> and in the LMU, Caylor School of Nursing, *Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook 2009-2010*.

Lincoln Memorial University is committed to maintaining study and work environments that are free from discriminatory harassment based on sex, race, color, national origin, religion, pregnancy, age, military status, disability or any other protected discriminatory factor. Sexual or other discriminatory harassment

of its students is strictly prohibited, whether by non-employees (such as contractors or vendors), other students, or by its employees, and LMU will take immediate and appropriate action to prevent and to correct behavior that violates this policy. Likewise, students are strictly prohibited from engaging in harassing behavior directed at LMU's employees, its visitors, vendors and contractors. All students must comply with this policy and take appropriate measures to create an atmosphere free of harassment and discrimination. Appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including, as appropriate, suspension, expulsion, and termination from employment or being banned from LMU properties, will be taken against individuals who violate this policy.

Scholastic Dishonesty Policy: LMU policies can be found at <http://www.lmunet.edu/campuslife/sthandbook/handbook.pdf>; *LMU Undergraduate Catalog 2009-2010*; LMU, Caylor School of Nursing, *Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook 2009-2010*).

It is the aim of the faculty of LMU to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present work as his/her own that he/she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and the administration as a very serious offense and renders the offender liable to several consequences and possible suspension

Cheating: LMU prohibits dishonesty of any kind on examinations or written assignments. These include unauthorized possession of examination questions, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from another student, assisting others to cheat, altering grade records, or illegally entering an office are instances of cheating.

Plagiarism: LMU prohibits offering the work of another as one's own without proper acknowledgment. Any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical material taken from books, magazines, encyclopedias, or other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student has committed plagiarism.

LMU's Inclement Weather Policy:

For information on inclement weather policy and class cancellations due to weather visit the LMU website: <http://www.lmunet.edu/curstudents/weather.shtml> or type "inclement weather" into the LMU search engine. Information on radio and TV listings is at the site.

Local radio and television stations will be contacted and every effort made to have morning or daytime cancellations posted/announced by 6:00 a.m., along with a recorded announcement on the LMU main campus telephone number: 423-869-3611. You may also check the above website for class cancellation notices.

In addition, check your LMU e-mail for any notices from the course faculty.

VIII. MISSION STATEMENTS:

LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT:

Lincoln Memorial University is a values-based learning community dedicated to providing educational experiences in the liberal arts and professional studies. The University strives to give students a foundation for a more productive life by upholding the principles of Abraham Lincoln's life: a dedication to individual liberty, responsibility, and improvement; a respect for citizenship; recognition of the intrinsic value of high moral and ethical standards; and a belief in a personal God.

The University is committed to teaching, research, and service. The University's curriculum and commitment to quality instruction at every level are based on the beliefs that graduates must be able to communicate clearly and effectively in an era of rapidly and continuously expanding communication technology, must have an appreciable depth of learning in a field of knowledge, must appreciate and understand the various ways by which we come to know ourselves and the world around us, and must be able to exercise informed judgments.

The University believes that one of the major cornerstones of meaningful existence is service to humanity. By making educational and research opportunities available to students where they live and through various recreational and cultural events open to the community, Lincoln Memorial University seeks to advance life in the Cumberland Gap area and throughout the region through its teaching, research, and service mission.

Approved by the Board of Trustees May 5, 2006.

CAYLOR SCHOOL OF NURSING MISSION STATEMENT:

In conjunction with the University's mission, the Faculty of the Caylor School of Nursing strives to instill responsibility and high moral/ethical standards in the preparation of quality nurses, at multiple levels of nursing education, through superior academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate level. Specifically, the mission of the Faculty is to prepare nurses with the ASN degree, the RN to BSN degree, and MSN degree, to assist individuals, families, communities, and society as they adapt to changes in physiological needs, role function, self-concept, and interdependent relationships during health and illness. The Caylor School of Nursing seeks to respond to the needs of nursing education and healthcare in the surrounding communities by preparing nurses at multiple levels and by providing continuing education/professional development opportunities that are rooted in knowledge, research, and other scholarly activities.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE/ASSIGNMENT/UNITS OF INSTRUCTION OR CLINIC SCHEDULE:

Date	Topic	Chapter Readings	Lecture/Assignments
1/8*	Introduction of Course and Assignments	Introduction	N550 – 3:30-4:50:Edds
1/15*	Introduction to Health Policy	Unit I	Lecture
1/22*	Health Care Delivery and Financing	Unit II	Lecture

1/29 WEST KNOX			
2/5*	Policy and Politics in Workplace	Unit III	Lecture
2/12*	Mid-term Policy and Politics in the Government	Unit IV	Mid-term Exam Lecture
2/19 *	Policy and Politics in Organizations Policy and Politics in the Community	Unit V, VI	Lecture
2/26 WEST KNOX	Web-based Assignment	Web-based Assignment	Web-based Assignment
3/5*	Presentation of Paper	Presentation of Paper	Presentation of Paper
3/12	Web-based Assignment	Web-based Assignment	Web-based Assignment
3/19	NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK	
3/26 WEST KNOX	Web-based assignment	Web-based assignment	Web-based Assignment
4/2	NO CLASS	GOOD FRIDAY	
4/9*	Presentation of Paper	Presentation of Paper	Presentation of Paper
4/16	Take-Home Final Guidelines	Final Guidelines	Final Guidelines
4/23	Continue completion of final	Continue completion of final	Continue completion of final
4/30 WEST KNOX	Final Exam	Final Exam	Take-Home Final Due

***In-class Sessions**

VII. IMPORTANT DATES IN THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR (SPRING 2010)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR SPRING 2010	
Registration and New Student Orientation	January 4
Classes Begin	January 5
Last Day to Complete Registration/Add Classes	January 13
Martin Luther King Day (<i>No Classes</i>)	January 18
Convocation (9:30am in session classes & resident students)	February 2
Lincoln Day/Founders Day (special activities)	February 12
Last Day to Drop Course Without "WD"	February 19
MID-TERM	February 22-26
Last Day to Drop Course Without "F"	March 10
SPRING BREAK (<i>No Classes</i>)	March 15-19
Early Registration Begins	March 29
Classes End	April 23
FINAL EXAMS	April 26-30
COMMENCEMENT (11am)	May 1

XII. THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE, ALTER AND/OR AMEND THIS SYLLABUS, AS NECESSARY. STUDENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING AND/OR BY EMAIL OF ANY SUCH REVISIONS, ALTERATIONS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.