SYLLABUS

Everyone has become a health policy expert in the era of Covid-19. The healthcare industry accounts for nearly 20% of GDP in the United States, and the pandemic has prompted a full reconsideration of how it will be regulated, financed, and subsidized. This course will explore the links between major public policy events and the financial prospects and implications for various healthcare industry sectors and companies. Lectures will examine how current and potential public policy decisions will impact the bottom line and the behavior of pharmaceutical companies, hospitals, doctors, insurance companies, and others. Students will research, write and present a research paper and project on a live public health care policy or regulatory issue of their choosing. Students will be expected to use their analytic toolkits to evaluate the potential impact of a significant change in a specific government policy.

Requirements

Students are required to attend all meetings ready to discuss the assigned readings and having reviewed the provided data.

Research Paper and Presentation

Each student will work with one other student on their own paper topic and work throughout the semester in partnership with Professor Masia. Full instructions on how to construct the paper and how it will be evaluated will be provided as the semester progresses. All teams will prepare a 10 slide presentation reviewing their findings and 4-5 teams will be chosen to present to the class.

Grading

Grades will be determined as follows: final paper 50%, class presentation 25%, class participation and commitment 25%.

Class Topics

1. Introduction - How Does Our Health System Work? And....Covid-19

Overview of the US Healthcare System

Readings:

Americans’ Values and Beliefs About National Health Insurance Reform

“Americans Want the Health Care System to Change. Just Not Their Own Health Care.” Amelia Thomson-Deveaux, 538.com. Available at


2. Medicare, Medicaid and the ACA - details


Huberfeld, Nicole. “The Supreme Court Ruling That Blocked Providers From Seeking Higher Medicaid Payments Also Undercut The Entire Program.” Health Affairs, 2015, 34(7), 1156-1161. See http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/34/7/1156.full.html

3. HOSPITALS, HEALTH SYSTEMS, PHYSICIANS, INSURANCE


4. BIOPHARMACEUTICALS


Berndt, Ernst R., Deanna Nass, Michael Kleinrock and Murray Aitken. Decline in Economic Returns from New Drugs Raises Questions About Sustaining Innovations. *Health Affairs* 2015, 34, no.2: 245-252. Available at [http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/34/2/245.full.html](http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/34/2/245.full.html) (Links to an external site.)

5. **VALUE MEASUREMENT IN HEALTH POLICY**


More readings TBP