

<p><b>Course Name:</b>  <b>HLTH 305/3.0</b></p> <p>Foundations of Health Policy</p>	<p><b>Course Instructors:</b></p> <p>Ms. Mary Rita Holland</p>	<p><b>Contact Hours:</b>  Lectures: 2 x 1.5 hrs/wk / 12 weeks</p>
		<p><b>Prerequisite:</b></p> <p>Level 3 or above in a HLTH, KINE or PHED Plan and HLTH 101/3.0</p>
		<p><b>Exclusion:</b>  NONE</p>
<p><b>Course Description:</b></p> <p>Canadians regard their health care system as a core part of their national identity. Few things are more heated in our country's political life than the passionate debates we have about this Canadian icon. The health care system is complex and can never perform "perfectly." Debates about what problems to focus on and how to fix them are fiercely political and ideological.</p> <p>This course examines the principal features of health policy in Canada, and puts them into historical, theoretical and comparative perspective, particularly within the body of literature about the "welfare state." The primary objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to understand discussions about health policy, particularly in Canada but also elsewhere, and to be able to critically analyze media articles about health policy. To this end, for example, we will look at what is "public" or "private" in our system and in those of other countries; and we'll ask what people mean when they say it is "unsustainable"; we will unpack what is meant by the idea of health care as a "right" and how policy addresses it.</p> <p>Our goal is to see health policy not as a set of "best practices," good for all places and times, but as a series of constantly changing and contested goals that vary in important ways across place and over time. In short, we'll look at it as part of a deeply political and historical process. As well, the course addresses some theoretical material about public and social policy making.</p>		<p><b>Course Text:</b></p> <p><i>Required text:</i>  Maioni, Antonia (2015) <i>Health Care in Canada</i>. Don Mills: Oxford University Press. Available at Queen's University Bookstore.</p> <p><i>Additional readings/other media</i>  As listed in the weekly schedule, either available through Queen's Library or linked to an online source, available through onQ.</p>

**Course Objectives:**

- To understand the historical, cultural and political context of the development of the Canadian health care system
- To critically analyze media articles about health policy and the functions of the health care system in Canada
- To understand theoretical underpinnings of the Canadian welfare state and categorize current and future debates within the broader social policy framework in Canada
- To write a short, concise briefing note that recommends policy options on the basis of a synthesis of academic articles, policy papers and government reports
- To acquire enhanced critical thinking, research and writing skills

**Course Evaluation:**

Quizzes 8% x 5	40%
Briefing note	10%
Briefing note part 2	25%
Final take home exam	25%

**Course Outline**

Overview of current health care debates and welfare state regimes	Regional disparities in Canadian health care
History of Health Care in Canada – Depression to postwar / postwar to today	Medical dominance prevention and alternative health policy
Federalism and the Cana Health Act	Reforming the system – Drug policy and Pharmacare
Health Care Governance and Administration	Reforming the system – Mental health policy
Public and private delivery of care in provinces/territories	Reforming the system – Home Care and long-term care policy
Health care human resources	Comparative analysis – United States / Beveridge and Bismarck systems
Formal care / informal care	Sustainability of Canada's Health Care System

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