GLOBAL HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT- with special focus on the Spanish health system:

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Office Hours: by appointment
Prerequisite: open to all language levels; taught in English
Students: foreign students
Class meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:30 – 13:45. Room: CINECU
Contact hours: 45
Tutoring: by appointment

Course Description:

This course describes and contrasts health systems and models of health policies in political, economic and cultural context to analyze the organization, management and outcomes of health services in public and private working field, NGO work included. It is based on the active participation of the students, therefore classes are based on the personal experience of the students and will reach its cognitive objectives by continuous interaction.

Learning outcomes:

This course will teach participants:

1. Cognitive insight in the field of health systems and their management.
   a. What are health, health systems and health services?
   b. Different models in USA, Europe and other parts of the world.
   c. The Spanish health system, often subject of controversy. Rightfully so?
   d. Governance of health systems: public, private and NGO systems.
   e. Sustainability of health systems worldwide.
   f. Ethics in health services: legal framework; patient rights, medical mistakes, unethical behavior.

2. Practical learning:
   a. Critical sense with regards to theory and practice in the field of Health systems and health services
   b. Analytic insight in the different funding mechanisms of health systems and the way they allocate their funds
   c. Synthesizing, forming in depth opinions about health systems and their sustainability
   d. Decision making skills
   e. Team work
   f. Communication, presentation skills
   g. Impression management
   h. Time management and working under pressure
Content (order of content may be modified by lector):

INTRODUCION TO THE CLASS: class 1

MODULE 1: DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS AND FACTS ABOUT HEALTH CARE IN THE WORLD: class 2 – 5
- Introduction to health: health is a human right and is related to physical, mental and social factors
- Definition and examples of health services: direct and indirect parties; prevention and cures; examples of services in Spain, Canada, Sweden
- Health systems: private and public systems; how economics play a role in the health of individuals

Reading about mental healthcare in USA

Reading and discussion about mental health and healthcare in the USA

MODULE 2: WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION: class 6 – 10
- History and mission
- Funding and organization
- Most important strategy: 'Universal health coverage' + practical example: hepatitis C and Sovaldi case - Spain
- 6 essentials for a country to dynamically move towards UHC + concrete examples of how different countries outline their process towards UHC (Vietnam, Nicaragua, Rwanda, The Netherlands, India, UK,...)

Homework based on reading about healthcare and financial hardship in USA
Teamwork: prepare a presentation about your search on the WHO webpage

MODULE 3: SPECIFIC AND CROSS BORDER RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION WITH REGARDS TO HEALTHCARE WITHIN ITS TERRITORY: class 11 – 13
- A conglomerate of country-run health systems, focusing on UHC; example of how UHC is a dynamic, never ending story; Greece
- Mission of EU with regards to healthcare
- Specific responsibilities: European Medicines Agency, precautionary principle...
- Cross border responsibilities: blood/organs and tissues, center for rare diseases, falsified medicines...
- Management of cross border threats:
  - infectious diseases: case study about Ebola outbreak in Europe + comparison with the Ebola outbreak in the USA + ZIKA outbreak
  - chemical and radioactive contaminants: case study about Chernobyl and the INES scale
  - biological weapons: discussion about ethics of A.M.R.I.I.D., USA, vs. C.D.C.

Paper covering falsified drugs
Reading about NHS, United Kingdom
Paper about video regarding philosophy of people centered and integrated healthcare

MODULE 4: HEALTHCARE IN MEMBERSTATES OF THE EU: class 14 – 17
- Solidarity principle
- Sustainability of the systems
- Redefinition of health care, M. Porter, examples in Germany, Spain
- Presentation of the Belgian and Spanish health system
MODULE 5: HEALTHCARE IN THE USA: class 18 – 21
- The Affordable Care Act + pre and post?
Homework: covering history of Affordable Care Act
Homework: interview with a tax-paying American citizen about healthcare in the USA
Homework: search about CDC

MODULE 6: END OF SEMESTER PROJECT: class 22 – 25
- Reading and discussion about 'The healing of America.' by T. R. Reid
- Each student interviews a citizen of 2 countries in the world and reports about the learning in class
- Tangible result: part 2 of 'The healing of America.'
Prep work: interviews about public healthcare with 2 citizens of countries we haven't discussed in class

MODULE 7: ETHICS: class 26 – 28
- The legal framework for our work
- Patient rights
- Ethics in the healthcare: discussion about topics such as: abortion, euthanasia, medicinal marijuana...
- Medical errors and its consequences
- Personal value exercise as personal values will guide you when you have to make difficult and maybe unpopular decisions
Personal value exercise
Paper: defend your position towards euthanasia of minors in Chile

Bibliography:

Complementary bibliography:
- Per module: more or less 3 mandatory and 6 optional readings (articles), all to be downloaded from the internet + critical reviews of some web pages related to universal healthcare.

Grading and absence policy:

My evaluation of your work will be based on the following categories:

A: 90-100 – represents excellence and 'work of a very high character'
B: 80-89 – represents good work that 'is definitely above average, though not of the highest quality'
C: 70-79 – represents 'work of average or medium character'
D: 60-69 – represents passes, but the work is unsatisfactory
F: 59 or below – represents failure and indicates that the student knows 'so little'

Absences
2. None of the assignments which appear on the course syllabus (including exams, essay deadlines, quizzes, etc…) will be rescheduled due to student’s personal travels or for any other personal matter, such as the visit of friends or relatives. Students will not be penalized for missing class, although everyone is responsible for all the material and assignments which appear on the course syllabus for the given dates, whether the student is in class or not. If a student misses any assignment (quiz, homework, test, etc.) due to an absence, he/she will automatically receive a “0”, and no make ups will be allowed, unless there was a legitimate medical excuse for the absence.