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Health Policy and Management for Universal Coverage

Course coordinator:

PROF. GIANFRANCO DAMIANI

Faculty:

Gianfranco Damiani; Mario Cesare Nurchis; Linda Lombi; Fabrizio Ferrara; Federica Morandi; Gilberto Turati; Luca Salmasi; Dario Sacchini; Manos Tsiasiotis

Area of study:	Health Sciences
Area Code:	HL/MG300su
Credit	6 ECTS
Dates	22 June – 3 July (2 weeks)

Course Description

The aim of this course is to analyze the key factors that affect the organization of a health care delivery system oriented to provide universal coverage to the population in a public welfare system. The challenge of social oriented healthcare systems is to comply with the need of the access to technological innovation, pursuing environmental, social and economic sustainability.

The course will address these topics through an innovative approach, aimed at integrating different disciplinary perspectives such as, among others, economics, psychology, public health, clinical medicine, bioethics, clinical engineering, sociology and international law.

Different teaching approaches will be used: lectures, team works, role playing, guided visits will provide the students with an embedding experience in the reality of a universal health care system.

Course Requirements

- Students are expected to regularly attend class sessions and to actively take part in class debate and case discussions
- Students are expected to be prepared on the assigned readings
- Students are expected to deliver one group assignments and present it to the class

Topics

- Patient's rights in an international perspective
- Megatrends in healthcare and determinants of health
- The features of health care systems
- Economics of healthcare systems



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- Quality of healthcare: structure, processes, indicators
- The case of the Italian National Healthcare Service
- The role of patients and care givers in co-producing healthcare
- The contribution of technology in healthcare
- The paths of innovation in healthcare systems
- Assessing the impact of healthcare technologies in a public healthcare system
- Equity and patient access to care between innovation and sustainability
- Ethical challenges in complex healthcare systems
- The role of prevention in a public healthcare system
- Organizational models for primary healthcare
- Organizational models for secondary and tertiary care
- Integrating the patient journey and the role of ICT

Teaching Methods

Lectures, team working and in class discussion, site visits, role playing and case studies.

Learning Outcomes

- Understanding the pillars of healthcare systems
- Analyzing the structure and functioning of a universal healthcare system
- Understanding of trajectories for healthcare systems' development
- Acquisition of an international perspective in healthcare delivery models

Evaluation

- Assessment of in class participation (30%)
- Group assignments (case studies presentation) (30%)
- Final exam, Individual assignments (multiple choice test) (40%)

Readings

- Selection from: Charles Guest, Walter Ricciardi, Ichiro Kawachi, and Iain Lang (2013) Oxford Handbook of Public Health (5 ed.), OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
- OECD Reviews of Health Care Quality: Italy 2019
- Selection of reading from individual faculty members.



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Schedule

LECTURES	TOPICS
Lecture 1: <i>“Challenges for universal healthcare systems”</i> Prof. Damiani	
Lecture 2: <i>“Managing resources in complex healthcare organizations”</i> Prof. Morandi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources management and leadership in healthcare organizations • Strategic management • Organizational models for secondary and tertiary care
Lecture 3: <i>“Economic evaluations: decision models for healthcare”</i> Prof. Nurchis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to economic evaluations • Introduction to decision modeling: decision tree and Markov models • Sensitivity analyses: tools for tackling uncertainty in parameters • Dissemination of an economic evaluations’ results • How to do an economic evaluation? Group work
Lecture 4: <i>“Co-production in healthcare”</i> Prof. Lombi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of patients and caregivers in co-producing healthcare
Lecture 5: <i>“The Role of prevention in public healthcare system”</i> Prof. Damiani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of prevention in a public healthcare system
Lecture 6: fieldtrip to Gemelli hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detailed information will be available during the course
Lecture 7: <i>“Quality and efficiency of healthcare systems”</i> Prof. Damiani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of healthcare: structure, processes, indicators • Organizational models for primary healthcare
Lecture 8: <i>“ICT for the integration of patient data and for the continuity of care”</i> Prof. Ferrara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies, methodologies and standards to evolve healthcare information systems • Integration and protection of patient data • Support of the continuity of care within and across health organizations
Lecture 9: <i>“The role of ethics in healthcare”</i> Prof. Sacchini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient’s rights in an international perspective • Ethical challenges in complex healthcare organizations



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Lecture 10: field trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detailed information will be available during the course
Lecture 11: “ <i>Tax-funded healthcare systems</i> ” Prof. Turati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional rules, equity and patient access to care between innovation and sustainability • Funding regions and hospitals: the Italian NHS
Lecture 12: “ <i>Economics of healthcare</i> ” Prof. Salmasi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics of healthcare • The production, cost and technology of healthcare
Lecture 13: “ <i>Health Technology Assessment and its role in management</i> ” Prof. Tsiasiotis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The contribution of technology in healthcare • The paths of innovation in healthcare systems • Assessing the impact of healthcare technologies in a public healthcare system
Lecture 14: “ <i>Critical thinking and organizational perspectives in healthcare management</i> ” Prof. Audi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical thinking in healthcare systems • Organizational structures and governance in healthcare
Final exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple choice questions • Group presentations

Rules Of Conduct

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory and no absence/s will be excused. Please consider that Field Trips are considered equal to regular classes and indeed you are expected to attend the visits. Unexcused absences will not be accepted. An excused absence will only be granted if you are seriously ill and can support your claim with a local doctor’s certificate dated the day you missed class (therefore you must go to the doctor that same day) that has to be delivered to the Professor or to Cattolica International Office. Any other absence will not be excused and will result in not being admitted to the final exam, which corresponds to a 0 (zero) in the final exam.

Exam Date: The exam date cannot be re-scheduled. Should the dates of the final exams be moved for force major reasons, Cattolica International Office and the Professor will promptly inform you in class and/or via email on the new date agreed. Unexcused absences to the exams will result in a failing grade in the course. In cases of unforeseeable circumstances such as illness or injury on the day of the exams, you must submit a medical certificate and communicate your absence to the Professor and Cattolica International Office via email prior to the exam. If the student does not justify his/her absence through sufficient documentation and with adequate notice before the final test, you will receive an automatic Failed. Absences for other unforeseeable circumstances will not be accepted and will result in a failing grade.



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Biographies

Gianfranco Damiani achieved a master's degree in medicine and surgery at UCSC, Rome (Italy) in 1989. Post Graduate School in Hygiene and Preventive Medicine at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome (Italy) in 1993.

He has attended numerous specialist training courses on the topic of organizing and planning health services and epidemiology. He is widely known as an expert in these fields.

He is Tenured Associate Professor of Public Health on the Faculty of Medicine at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome (Italy), and Assistant Medical Director of Hospital Hygiene Unit at Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS in Rome.

He has carried out research (over 500 publications) on several topics of Public Health, particularly on Health Services Research. The H-index for the evaluation of his scientific production is 26.

He teaches several topics of Public Health at the Faculty of Medicine both at the under-graduate and post-graduate level and Medicine for Managers at the Faculty of Economics; he also serves as lecturer at Medical Specialization Courses delivering lectures on several topics of Public Health. He has been involved since 1995, both as a supervisor and as a teacher, in the managerial education of health care professionals.

He has been working as scientific advisor of the health care management staff of several Hospital Trusts and Local Health Authorities. He is cofounder of the Italian Association of Medical Managers "Società Italiana Medici Manager (SIMM)" and the Italian Association of Health Technology Assessment "Società Italiana di Health Technology Assessment (SITHA)". From January 1, 2018 he is member of the board of directors of the General Medical Council of Rome for the years 2018/2020 and for the years 2021/2024.