



SYLLABUS – SPRING 2025

COURSE NUMBER	EMBA 5361
COURSE TITLE	Issues in the American Healthcare System
INSTRUCTORS	Dr. Kirk A. Calhoun
EMAIL	KCalhoun@uttyler.edu
PHONE	903-565-6528
OFFICE HOURS	By Appointment
CLASS MEETINGS	Ref. EMBA-HCM Cohort Schedule

I. **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course is a review of both the historical development of the American healthcare system and contemporary policy issues in healthcare financing and delivery. The impact of these issues on all aspects of the healthcare system (including providers, employers, employees, the uninsured, payers, and federal and state governments) will be covered. This course will also focus on the quality, safety, and strategic considerations that healthcare executives face in this rapidly changing environment.

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

This course is a review of contemporary policy issues in healthcare financing and delivery. The impact of these issues on all aspects of the healthcare system including physicians, hospitals, employers, employees, uninsured, payors, and federal and state governments would be covered. [Catalog](#)

III. **REQUIRED TEXT**

[Open Source Textbook:](#)

Exploring the U.S. Healthcare System

Author:Karen Valaitis

IV. **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Understand the development of healthcare policy development
- Review the evolving healthcare payment and care delivery models
- Understand the increasing complexity of medicine and the impacts of regulation and analytics
- Review the strategic considerations facing healthcare executives

V. **SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS MISSION/CORE VALUES**

Mission

The Soules College of Business pursues excellence in business education by engaging our learners, faculty, industry, and community members. We cultivate and deliver innovative undergraduate and graduate programs to foster the success of our learners and stimulate impactful faculty research. We prepare the next generation of leaders and professionals to pursue career opportunities in East Texas and beyond.



Core Values

We value the role that business plays in recognizing, responding to, and solving societal problems: quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequality, and industry, innovation and infrastructure.

We value existing and emerging industry standards and needs that make our learners competitive in the marketplace.

We hold ourselves to the highest ethical standards and responsibly manage the resources of the Soules College of Business.

We respect and value diversity in ideas, peoples, and cultures.

VI. GRADING POLICY

Grade Distribution	
Discussion Posts	50%
Cases	25%
Final Project	25%

Final Grades		
A	=	90% +
B	=	80% - 89%
C	=	70% - 79%
D	=	60% - 69%
F	=	<60%

VII. ATTENDANCE/ MAKE-UP POLICY

The Executive MBA Healthcare Management program “Healthcare Leadership” course offerings utilize an online model. This curriculum is offered to Healthcare Leadership Distinction and Healthcare Leadership Concentration students as customized interprofessional education opportunities for students, in good academic standing, from select degree programs. It is expected that HLD/C students are present and engaged weekly within each course via the associated learning platforms modules as outlined within Canvas. Late work is not permitted, all due dates are outlined within the Canvas modules. Failure to engage and participate in the course will be reflected in the final course grade.

VIII. ASSIGNMENTS

Discussion Posts (50%) – Students will engage in weekly discussion prompts related to the course content. Students are expected to answer each prompt questions in detail. APA Citation is required. Refer to the Canvas module for discussion post prompts and submission requirements.

Cases (25%) – Students will engage in case-based learning. Cases are selected based on the course content and application to the field of study. Students are expected to upload case study documents and utilize APA Citation, as appropriate. Refer to the Canvas module for case documents and submission requirements.



Final Project (25%) – Students will author a final project and present their findings through a formal paper. Refer to the Canvas module for the final project prompt and submission requirements.

IX. CONTENT

MODULE	DATES	CONTENT	DUE*
Module 1	January 13- January 24, 2025	Chapter 1: Overview of the U.S. Healthcare System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Background • Organization & Regulation • Health Status • Health Disparities 	Discussion Post 1 Case 1
Module 2	January 27- February 7, 2025	Chapter 2: Delivery Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient Care • Outpatient Care • Post-Acute & Long-Term Care (PALTC) • Palliative & Hospice Care 	Discussion Post 2
Module 3	February 10- February 21, 2025	Chapter 3: Health Insurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Concepts • Private Health Insurance • Public Health Insurance & Systems • Insurance Coverage & Trends 	Discussion Post 3
Module 4	February 24- March 7, 2025	Chapter 4: Access, Quality & Cost <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Concepts • Access to Care • Quality of Care • Cost of Care 	Discussion Post 4 Case 2
Module 5	March 17- March 28, 2025	Chapter 5: Current Issues in Healthcare Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Policy • Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act • Value-Based Contracting in Healthcare 	Discussion Post 5
Module 6	March 31- April 11, 2025	Chapter 6: Technology in Healthcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Information Technology • Health Information Legislation • Developing Technology in Healthcare 	Discussion Post 6
Module 7	April 14- April 25, 2025	Final Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper • Presentation 	Final Project 7

*ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE THE FINAL FRIDAY OF THE MODULE BY 11:59PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

X. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

[Student Resources](#)