

Course Title	Comparative Health Systems in the World				
Course Code	HSA-532				
Course Type	Elective				
Level	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cycle				
Year / Semester	2 / 1				
Teacher's Name	Professor Richard Alderslade				
ECTS	10	Lectures	15	Interactive learning activities	21
Course Purpose and Objectives	<p>The main objectives of the course are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze how health care systems are implemented differently in different countries, yet share certain global objectives and challenges.</li> <li>Understand how the global demand for equitable access to health services can be delivered, contributing to achievement of the human right to health (Universal Health Coverage).</li> <li>Analyze the ways in which health services can be configured to deal effectively with the 21<sup>st</sup> century disease burden; as well as meet and meet continual expectations for improving the quality and cost-effectiveness of services.</li> <li>Assess the differences in organization and financing of health systems across OECD countries which face common challenges.</li> <li>Analyze the health system governance, organization and financing challenges in LMIC</li> <li>Assess how comparative health systems analysis can support health system strengthening for both groups of countries.</li> <li>Analyze how comparative health systems analysis can help identify causes of poor health system performance and suggest ways of reforming policies and strengthening strategies for improvement.</li> <li>Analyze critically the components of the multiple measures of health care system performance in existence, and the different rankings these produce.</li> <li>Examine critically several national health reforms and health care systems (both mature and emerging) in a comparative manner focusing on their respective strengths and weaknesses and identifying best practices that may have wider application.</li> <li>Build possible scenarios for the future development of healthcare systems.</li> </ul>				
Learning Outcomes	<p>After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrate a conceptual understanding of health care needs.</li> <li>Demonstrate an understanding of conceptual and methodological issues in the analytical study of health care systems.</li> <li>Identify and analyse the main criteria used in the comparative assessment of health system performance.</li> <li>Describe common features and divergences in the health care systems within OECD/HIC and LMIC countries.</li> <li>Understand the main current principles of health system strengthening.</li> <li>Critically evaluate case study research in the field of comparative health policy analysis.</li> </ol>				

	<p>7. Explain complex analytical concepts with a clarity and conciseness of expression.</p> <p>8. Understand factors underpinning future healthcare development</p>		
Prerequisites	None	Required	None
Course Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to the Module</li> <li>2. The Determinants of Health</li> <li>3. A Conceptual Framework for the Analysis and Comparison of Healthcare Systems</li> <li>4. The development of health policy, and the policy making processes, the role of regulation</li> <li>5. Meeting healthcare demands and the fair allocation of healthcare resources</li> <li>6. The British NHS</li> <li>7. Health Care Systems in High Income Countries (HIC) in Europe</li> <li>8. The Cypriot Health System</li> <li>9. The United States Health System</li> <li>10. Healthcare Systems in Middle Income Countries (MIC)</li> <li>11. Healthcare Workforces</li> <li>12. Healthcare Systems in Low Income Countries (LIC)</li> <li>13. Future trends in health system development</li> <li>14. Assessment Preparation</li> </ol> <p>This module will focus on addressing the following series of comparative health policy analyses and challenges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the major challenges facing health care systems globally.</li> <li>2. Analyse different health system approaches to the delivery of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).</li> <li>3. Analyse examples of health care systems around the world and critically examine the main characteristics, strengths and limitations of each.</li> <li>4. Analyse mechanisms by which health care systems can identify and respond to need.</li> <li>5. Identify the key organizing principles that shape the structure and financing of health systems.</li> <li>6. Identify the most appropriate criteria to determine the allocation of health care resources.</li> <li>7. Analyse the relationship between demand for, and supply of, health care services.</li> <li>8. Identify the evaluation factors, tools and frameworks that aid the comparative assessment of health systems.</li> <li>9. Analyse why some health care systems appear to perform better than others.</li> <li>10. Explain how specific country and context characteristics can affect the implementation and performance of health systems.</li> <li>11. Identify the best practices in health reforms and health system implementation which can have wide applicability.</li> <li>12. Identify how health care work forces should best be managed.</li> <li>13. Review analytically how health system performance can be measured.</li> </ol>		

	14. Review the themes and factors that may govern health care development in the future.				
Teaching Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The course will be delivered using a range of lectures, seminars, tutorials, webinars, debates and workshops, delivered both in real-time and through internet based learning.</li> <li>• The focus will be on the fundamental principles of health system organization and financing, considering a number of conceptual frameworks for comparative analysis of health systems in both OECD and LMIC countries.</li> <li>• Issues that concern the political economy of health, and health system demand and supply will be considered.</li> <li>• The evolution of the various health systems will also viewed considering the prevalent conditions and history of the respective country. Relevant models and frameworks will be introduced to aid in the structured assessment of health systems.</li> <li>• The literature concerned with system performance assessment, and how organizations and health professionals are regulated and governed will also be reviewed. Students will be expected to apply and critically analyze frameworks for comparative health analysis within specific global contexts.</li> <li>• Students will also be expected to learn through self-directed learning and independent study.</li> <li>• Teaching sessions will be designed to impart a large but structured content base to the student, give an overview of a subject matter, or review difficult concepts and summaries. Wherever possible teaching will be interactive and will be enhanced using various media.</li> <li>• Additional sessions will provide opportunities to discuss the particular topics in depth, contributing, to students developing their critical thinking and analysis of key global health system challenges.</li> <li>• Appropriate information and material will be provided and students will be expected to read and make independent notes on this material.</li> </ul>				
Bibliography	<b>Required Textbooks / Reading:</b>				
	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
	Health Care systems in Europe and Asia.	Aspalter, C, Uchida, Y and Gould, R (eds)	Routledge	2012	ISBN-13 978-0415671682  ISBN – 10 041567168X

	Comparative Health Policy (4 <sup>th</sup> Edition)	Blank, R and Burau, V (eds)	Palgrave Macmillan	2014	ISBN 13 978-1137023531  ISBN 10 1137023562
	In Search of the Perfect Health System.	Britnell, M	Palgrave	2015	ISBN 9781137496614
	Making Health Policy.	Busse, Mays and Walt	Open University Press		ISBN 13 978-0335246342  ISBN 10 0335246346
	Health Policy: A Critical Perspective.	Crinson, I	Sage	2009	ISBN 10 1412922879  ISBN 13 1412922876
	Health Professions & Professional Practice. In, Scambler, G (ed) Sociology as Applied to Medicine 7 <sup>th</sup> Ed. Chp 15	Crinson, I	Elsevier	2008	ISBN 0702029017  9780702029011
	Successes and Failures of Health Policy in Europe.	Mackenbach, J and McKee, M (eds) (2013)	European Observatory on Health Systems Open	2013	

			University Press		
	Health Care Reform and Globalization.	Watson P (ed)	Routledge	2014	ISBN 13 978-1138024076  ISBN 10 1138024074
	Introduction to Health Economics.	Guinness and Wiseman	Open University Press	2011	ISBN 13 9790335243563  ISBN 10 0335243568
	Comparative studies and the politics of modern medical care. (Chapter 5)	Marmor, T. R et al	New Haven Yale University Press	2009	ISBN 13 9780300149838  ISBN 0300149832
	Social Determinants of Health: The Solid Facts, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition at <a href="http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en">www.who.int/social_determinants/en</a>	Marmot M, Wilkinson R (eds)	World Health Organization	2003	ISBN 9789289014014
	World Health Organization Implementation of the Tallinn Charter: Final Report WHO Copenhagen 2015 <a href="http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/287360/Implementation">http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/287360/Implementation</a>	World Health Organization		2015	

	<a href="#">n-of-Tallinn-Charter-Final-Report.pdf?ua=1</a>																													
<b>Recommended Textbooks / Reading:</b>																														
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	Measure of Performance?				
	Resolving the challenges in the international comparison of health systems: The must do's and the trade-offs	Forde, I., Morgan, D., Klazinga, N	<i>Health Policy</i> .112:4-8	2013	
	<i>Community Health Funds in Tanzania: A literature review</i>	Gemini, M and Mulligan, J-M	Consortium for Research on Equitable Health Systems (CREHS) London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK	2007	
	Protecting the growth of health care incomes (costs)	Reinhardt, U	<i>Health Economics</i> . 21: 41–54	2012	
	<i>The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper and Fairer Health Care</i>	Reid, T.R.	Penguin	2010	
	A Survey of Primary Care Physicians in Eleven Countries: Perspectives on Care, Costs and Experiences	Schoen, C et al.	<i>Health Affairs Web Exclusive</i> . DOI.10.1377	2009	
	Mapping European	Wendt, C	<i>Journal of European Social</i>	2009	

	<p>healthcare systems: a comparative analysis of financing, service provision and access to healthcare</p>		<p><i>Policy. 19(5)</i> 432-445</p>		
<p>Websites: UN Agencies: UNICEF <a href="http://www.unicef.int">www.unicef.int</a>; UNDP ; UNFPA <a href="http://www.unfpa.int">www.unfpa.int</a>; UNAIDS <a href="http://www.unaids.org">www.unaids.org</a>; WIPO <a href="http://www.wipo.int">www.wipo.int</a> – review role, structure and progress reports.</p>					
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>The module will be assessed by both formative and summative assessment. The assessment strategy is designed to maximize validity and educational impact of the assessment methods employed within the module.</p> <p>Assignments x 2 (30%) Exams (60%) Participation (10%)</p> <p>In course-assessment: <u>Oral presentation</u> on critical evaluation why some health systems perform better than others. (15%) <u>Essay</u> on how well does the US healthcare system perform (15%)</p>				
<p>Language</p>	<p>English</p>				