



**Take home exam:** At the end of the course, students will complete a take home exam that will cover materials discussed in the assigned readings and in class.

**Readings:** The weekly readings will all be relevant to the weekly seminar topic and are all available online. In addition, two books that would be useful to read are:

1. The Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office

By David Blumenthal and James Morone

2. The Social Transformation of American Medicine: The rise of a sovereign profession and the making of a vast industry

By Paul Starr

**In class:**

**Policy Defense:** At the beginning of each class, one student will defend a “policy misstep” relevant to that day’s lecture. They should address why some may consider it a misstep and what perspectives are missing that should be included for a fuller understanding of the situation. Students should prepare a thorough response (around 5 minutes) and be prepared to answer questions from both their peers and the instructor.

**Mock FDA Approval:** The class will act as the FDA, debating whether they should approve a new drug to be on the market. Students will have to consider the clinical studies of the drug as well as take into consideration the potential harms that this drug may have. Students must come to a consensus by the end of class.

**In Class Debate:** Students will be placed into groups and given a side of a current bioethical issue that they must defend and refute claims from the other side. They must also be prepared to answer questions from their peers and the instructor.

**Mock Emergency Response Plan:** Students will be placed into groups and given a fact sheet with information regarding a bioterrorism scenario. Students will then develop an emergency response plan, coordinating between different agencies and resources. They will present their plan at the end of class.

**Attendance/Participation:** Students will be expected to come to class on time, and to have read the assignments and be ready to discuss. ***Students need to hand in two written discussion questions based on the reading at the beginning of each class.***

**Grading**

| Course Assignment   | % of Grade |
|---------------------|------------|
| In Class Activities | 15%        |
| Infographic         | 15%        |
| Opinion article     | 15%        |



- Ø History and current state of the ACA
- Ø **Policy Defense:** Defend the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court's decision to both uphold the Preventive Care Mandate while agreeing to not penalize the plaintiffs for their refusal to cover

History of Healthcare and the White house

<https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/health-care-in-america>

<https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-record/health-care>

Public Opinion of the Affordable Care Act

<https://www.kff.org/health-reform/poll-finding/5-charts-about-public-opinion-on-the-affordable-care-act-and-the-supreme-court/>

Affordable Care Act: 12 Years Later

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/18/fact-sheet-celebrating-affordable-care-act.html>

Current: ACA Preventive Care Mandate

<https://www.axios.com/2023/06/13/appeals-court-aca-preventive-care->

<http://www.cdcfoundation.org/content/what-public-health>

The Threat of Pandemic Influenza

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK22148/>

TROY: 'What World War Z' can teach us about pandemics

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/06/what-world-war-z-can-teach-us-about-pandemics-93497.html>

The Kind of Outbreak Our Scientist Knew Would Happen

<https://www.publichealth.columbia.edu/news/kind-outbreak-our-scientists-knew-would-happen>

U.S. Mental Health Crisis

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/05/health/cnn-kff-mental-health-poll-wellness/index.html>

Most See Role for Government in Reducing Childhood Obesity: Pew Research

<http://www.people-press.org/2011/03/08/most-TJET-ple>

<https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/changes-science-law-and-regulatory-authorities/part-v-consumer-protection-late-20th-century>

The growth of the FDA – A different perspective

[http://www.independent.org/pdf/policy\\_reports/2010-02-10-fda.pdf](http://www.independent.org/pdf/policy_reports/2010-02-10-fda.pdf)

## **Section 5: How We Pay for Health Care**

**October 1**

## Section 7: Importance of Healthcare Innovation and the Government's Role

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

- Ø Overview of healthcare innovation: the process, its impact, and the players involved
- Ø Review of the history of governmental involvement in healthcare innovation
- Ø How does government promote or stifle innovation?
- Ø What is the future of healthcare innovation?
- Ø **Mock FDA approval**
- Ø **Guest Speaker: Bob Goldberg, PhD. Center for Medicine in the Public Interest**
- Ø **Policy Defense:** Defend why the U.S. should continue to support medical innovations despite the costs.

The End of Medical Miracles?

<http://www.commentarymagazine.com/article/the-end-of-medical-miracles/>

Can the U.S. Repair Its Health Care While Keeping Its Innovation Edge?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/09/upshot/can-the-us-repair-its-health-care-while-keeping-its-innovation-edge.html>

John Lechleiter, The Biomedical Century

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203611404577042813309766648.html>

Biosimilars and BPCIA

[https://phrma.org/-](https://phrma.org/)

<https://www.brookings.edu/essay/procompetitive-health-care-reform-options-for-a-divided-congress/>

How abortion access has shifted in 11 months since Roe v. Wade was overturned

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/map-abortion-access-shifted-11-months-roe-wade/story?id=99566023>

FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Makes Progress in the Whole-of-Government Response to Long COVID

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/04/05/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-makes-progress-whole-government-response-long-covid.html>

## **Section 9: Ethical Issues**

**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

- Ø The impact policies have on ethical issues
- Ø Discussion of key current ethical issues in health policy
- Ø **Policy Defense:**



AIDS and the President –

Tobacco harm reduction

<https://tobaccotactics.org/article/harm-reduction/>

Tobacco harm reduction in the 21st century

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/DAT-02-2020-0007/full/html>

Regulating Vaping — Policies, Possibilities, and Perils

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1917065>