Comparative Health Politics BISC/POSC 4461-101 Marquette University Dr. Susan Giaimo Spring 2016

<u>Course time and location:</u> Tues/Thurs. 9:30-10:45 AM, Wehr Physics 138

<u>Dr. Giaimo</u>

health care? How is the United States similar to or different from other industrialized democracies in this respect? What are the similarities and differences in the health care challenges confronting industrialized nations and developing countries?

To answer these questions, this course takes as its starting point that health care systems and health policies fundamentally reflect politics. We will explore how the structure of the political system, the power and actions of health care interest groups and political parties, and the influence of ideas and values, shape health policy choices across different nations. We will also employ comparative analysis to consider a broader range of possible policy options than would be afforded by studying a single nation or health care system. And we will draw on international

With the exception of in-class exams, all writing assignments must be uploaded to turnitin.com. The course name on turnitin.com is <u>Comparative Health Politics</u>. The course number is <u>11384778</u>. The course password is <u>health</u>.

Please be aware that there is a <u>significant reading and writing component</u> to this course. If you are unable to fulfill these requirements, you should not be in this course. I will grade written assignments on the content and clarity of your argument, (including the organization of your essays/paper), on the quality of evidence and sources you use, and on your writing style (grammar rules, punctuation, spelling). Therefore, I encourage st

Integrity page for more information on such policies:

There are also a number of excellent health policy websites that you can access directly without charge. Simply click on the links below:

For comparative, cross-national studies, see:

World Health Organization (<u>www.who.org</u>)

European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, World Health Organization (WHO). This is a rich database with a variety of publications on national health care systems and policies primarily in Europe (broadly defined) but also in North America.

Class Schedule and Assignments

Readings on reserve are noted with an asterisk (*)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Course introduction: key themes and questions

Jan. 19:

*Health in International Perspectiveummary report, pp. 1-9 and interactive graphic,

The National Academies, Jan. 10, 2013. JAMA, Jan. 10, 2013.

Reid, The Healing of America 2010, Prologue and chap. 1.

Jan. 21:

*Karen Davis, Kristof Stremikis, David Squires, and Cathy Schoen, Mirror, Mirror, on the Wall: How the Performance of the U.S. Health Care System Compares Internationally, 2014 Update, Washington DC: Commonwealth Fund, 2014.

Reid, Appendix.

II. THE INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES

A. Explaining health care systems and policy choices

Jan. 26: * Jessica R. Adolino and Charles H. Blake, Comparing Public Policies: Issues and Choices in Industrialized Countrie²⁸nd ed., Washington DC: CQ Press, 2011, chap. 2.

B. The United States

<u>1. Overview of US health care system and underlying politics</u>
Jan. 28:
* Paul Starr, Remedy and Reaction

D. National Health Service model: Britain

Feb. 23: Reid, chap. 2.

Feb. 25:

Reid, chap. 7.

* Readings on Cameron government reforms (Timmins, BBC).

March 1:

*Tsung-Mei Cheng, "NICE Approach," Financial TimesHealth (3) Sept. 16, 2009, pp. 12-13.

* NICE Charter.

*Ander Ward, "Counting the cost of cancer," Financial Times Jan. 16, 2105

E. Single payer NHI: Canada

March 3:

Reid, chap. 8.

*Antonia Maioni and Theodore Marmor, "Canada: Health Care in Crisis," 2014.

* Olga Khazan, "What If America Had Canada's Healthcare System?" The Atlantic Oct. 21, 2014.

* Joseph Hall, "Canadians face longest emergency room waits in developed world, survey finds," Toronto Star Nov. 29, 2012.

<u>F. Social Health Insurance (SHI): Germany</u> March 8: Reid, chap. 5.

March 10:

- * Tsung-Mei Cheng and Uwe Reinhardt, "Shepherding Major Health System Reforms: A Conversation with German Health Minister UIIa Schmidt," Health Affairs Web Exclusive April 8, 2008, w204-w213.
- * Melanie Lisac, Kerstin Blum and Sophia Schlette, "Changing Long-Established Structures for More Competition and Stronger Coordination-Health Care Reform in Germany in the New Millennium," IntereconomicsJuly/August 2008, 184-189.

MARCH 10: PAPER PROSPECTUS DUE to turnitin.com

<u>G. Other models; comparative lessons</u> March 15: Reid, pp. 176-185 (Switzerland), and chaps. 12 and 13. In class: excerpts from PBS Frontline, "Sick around the World."

March 17-28: NO CLASS; SPRING/EASTER BREAK

March 29: Finish "Sick around the World" and Reid chaps. 12 and 13.

III. HEALTH POLICIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH A. Health challenges in the developing world