



The School of Law and Government
Master's Program in Public Policy (MPP)

Health Policy

LG 5063

Spring 2023

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Lectures and class discussions

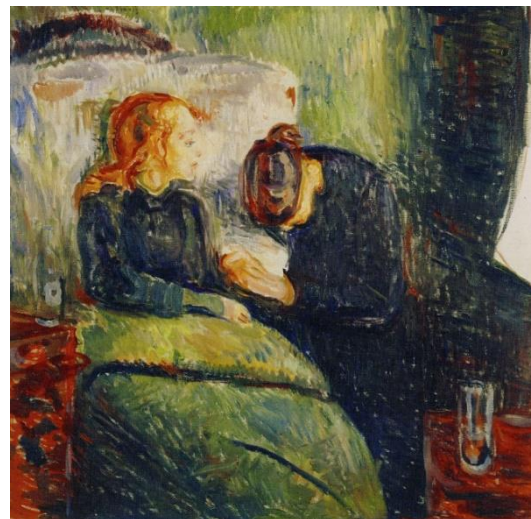
Fridays btw 5-7 pm

Office hours

Thursdays btw 4-6 pm
@ GLA.CG47 or online

Always by appointment,
please use this link to book a slot
**at least one day before the
meeting:**

<https://calendly.com/volkan-yilmaz/office-hours-for-volkan-yilmaz>



'The Sick Child', Edvard Munch, 1907

Module description

Health is political for at least two reasons: (a) political factors play a key role in the social distribution of health risks and outcomes, and (b) public and influential actors acknowledge the political character of health and engage in political action regarding it. Given these two factors, health is always present in politics, albeit sometimes implicitly. This is a master's level module on health policy that adopts a political science and public policy lens to health and health care. This module introduces students to the study of key components of health policy and politics literature. The health policy components covered in this module include the contemporary relevance of the public health approach including social, political and commercial determinants of health; key pillars of health care systems and their major components: health care financing, delivery and health workforce planning; the international political economy of

access to medicines; European Health Union initiative, mental health policies; sexual and reproductive health policies; and the health policy response to the current pandemic. No disciplinary background except pursuing a master's degree is required.

Outline and the reading list

Jan 16	Introduction (no reading assigned for the first class) – Week 1
Jan 23	<p>A brief history of public health policy – Week 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Morley, I., 2007. City chaos, contagion, Chadwick, and social justice. <i>The Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine</i>, 80(2), pp.61-72. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> Rosen, G. 1993. Chapter VI: Industrialism and the Sanitary Movement (1830-1875), In <i>A History of Public Health</i>, Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, pp.168-269.
Jan 30	<p>Social determinants of health – Week 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Marmot, M. 2005. Social determinants of health inequalities. <i>The Lancet</i>, 365(9464), pp.1099-1104. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> Pickett, K. and Wilkinson, R., 2010. <i>The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone</i>. Penguin UK.
Feb 2	<p>Financing healthcare and access to healthcare – Week 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Blank, R., Burau, V. and Kuhlmann, E. 2017. Chapter 3 - Funding, provision and governance, In <i>Comparative Health Policy</i>. Bloomsbury Publishing, pp.71-79. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> World Health Organization. 2021. <i>Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2021 Global Monitoring Report - Executive Summary</i>, pp. v-x.
Feb 13	<p>Healthcare systems – Week 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Blank, R., Burau, V. and Kuhlmann, E. 2017. Chapter 1 - Comparative health policy: An introduction, In <i>Comparative Health Policy</i>. Bloomsbury Publishing, pp.6-14.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recommended reading:</i> Reibling, N., Ariaans, M. and Wendt, C. 2019. Worlds of healthcare: a healthcare system typology of OECD countries. <i>Health Policy</i>, 123(7), pp.611-620. <p>Student leads the discussion - The real cost of childhood and adolescent cancer in Ireland (Rebecca Gorman, Advocacy Officer (Children, Adolescents and Young Adults) at Irish Cancer Society)</p>
Feb 20	<p>A case study - healthcare system in Portugal (Guest lecturer: Dr Gonçalo Santinha, Department of Social, Political and Territorial Sciences, University of Aveiro) – Week 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recommended reading:</i> Simões J.A., Augusto, G.F., Fronteira, I., and Hernández-Quevedo, C. 2017. The executive summary of “Portugal – health system review”, <i>Health Systems in Transition</i>, 19(2), pp. xix-xxiv. <p>Webinar: Working with local governments on their health strategies (Speaker: Dr Gonçalo Santinha)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recommended reading:</i> South Dublin County Council and the Health Service Executive. 2019. A Strategy for a Healthy South Dublin 2019 – 2022. Dublin.
Mar 6	<p>Health workforce policy and planning – Week 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Kuhlmann, E., Batenburg, R. and Dussault, G., 2018. A people-centred health workforce in Europe: how to make it happen. <i>Health Policy</i>, 122(10), pp.1053-1054. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> SEPEN Consortium. 2021. <i>Mapping of National Health Workforce Planning and Policies in the EU-28</i>. Brussels: The European Commission. <p>An overview of nursing as a discipline and practice (Guest lecturer: Dr Joanne Cleary-Holdforth, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, Dublin City University)</p>
Mar 13	<p>Pharmaceutical policy and access to medicines – Week 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Shadlen, K.C., Sampat, B.N. and Kapczynski, A. 2020. Patents, trade and medicines: past, present and future. <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>, 27(1), pp.75-97.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recommended reading:</i> UN Secretary-General, 2016. <i>The United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines Report: Promoting Innovation and Access to Health Technologies - Executive Summary</i>. pp.7-11.
Mar 20	<p>European Health Union – Week 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Godziewski, C. 2022. Setting the Scene: Are EU Institutions ‘HiAP-Friendly’?. In <i>The Politics of Health Promotion</i>. Palgrave Macmillan, pp.99-134. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> Guy, M. 2020. Towards a European Health Union: what role for member states?. <i>European Journal of Risk Regulation</i>, 11(4), pp.757-765.
Mar 27	<p>Mental health policy – Week 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Tomes, N., 2006. The patient as a policy factor: A historical case study of the consumer/survivor movement in mental health. <i>Health Affairs</i>, 25(3), pp.720-729. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> Mental Health Europe. 2021. <i>Policy Brief: Human Rights and Mental Health</i>, pp.1-6.
Apr 3	<p>Sexual and reproductive health policy – Week 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Core reading:</i> Lane, S.D. 1994. From population control to reproductive health: an emerging policy agenda. <i>Social Science & Medicine</i>, 39(9), pp.1303-1314. • <i>Recommended reading:</i> UNESCO. 2021. <i>The Journey towards Comprehensive Sexuality Education - Global Status Report</i>, pp.6-10.

The organisation of the module

The module will be delivered through live sessions that will take place via Zoom. I will be delivering the lecture in the first 40 minutes and receive any questions that you might have about the lecture. We will then give a short minute break. After the break, we will continue with a class discussion.

Only lectures will be recorded. This means that Q&A sessions on lectures and our class discussions will not be recorded, and thus will not be available to you later. However, a great deal of learning takes place through the interactions of motivated participants. You will have a lot to learn from other participants of this module, therefore, I will invite you to attend all sessions. You will also find the presentation slides of the lectures in each week's folder after the completion of the class.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge-based learning objectives:

- LO1 – Gain familiarity with key concepts and principles in health and healthcare policy.
- LO2 – Identify the difference between health and health care policy, and its importance.
- LO3 – Describe the key tenets of health care systems, including their access implications.

Skills-based learning objectives:

- LO4 – Learn a framework for analysing a range of health policy issues.
- LO5 – Compare health policies across countries.
- LO6 – Conduct a health policy analysis.

Participation requirements

I expect you to:

- Make the core reading before the class;
- Attend lectures and actively participate in class discussions regularly;
- Write a short proposal for your final paper;
- Write a final paper.

Please make sure to read the assigned material for the respective week (see folders for each week) before our live sessions as this will substantially increase the quality of our classes. I am here to help in whatever way I can. You will have the recording of each week's live lecture available and lecture slides on the Loop page of this module.

All information about our module will be available on the Loop page. Any class postponements or any other urgent announcement will go directly to your DCU student email. For personal matters, please contact me directly by email and every effort will be made to respond within 24 hours.

But if there are still things that are not clear to you, you can always send me an email or make an appointment with me. If you would like to talk to me in person, please do so during my office hours (TBA). I am an easy-to-reach instructor and I do reply to student emails within 24 hours. However, it is my policy not to answer student emails at weekends, on official holidays and during the reading week, and I make no guarantee to answer an email that arrives after 5:15 PM on the same day.

Assessment Overview

#	Title	Word length	Weighting	Expected workload	Description	Required reading	Deadline
1	Participation in weekly class discussions	-	20%	24 hours	-	Compulsory readings are listed in the outline.	Continuous.
2	Proposal	300 words and the list of resources you will be using.	20%	16 hours	Come up with a potential question for your final papers. It should also include a plan explaining how you will go about answering that question.	All relevant articles in the required reading section on the Loop page for the module and at least five journal articles directly on the topic of your final papers.	Proposal to be submitted via Loop by April 13 (no later than midnight)
3	Final paper	Min 3000-max 4000 words excluding a bibliography	60%	48 hours	Your final papers will provide an analysis of a health policy issue that you choose to focus on. Please submit your final papers via Loop.	All relevant articles in the required reading section on the Loop page for the module and at least five journal articles directly relevant to the topic of your final papers.	Final papers are to be submitted via Loop by May 6 (no later than midnight)