



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Health Policy

2627-1-F8205B028

Learning objectives

This course aims to introduce students to an analysis of key health policy concepts and processes and key issues of health economics and health systems functions, taking into account global challenges and their impact on health care organisations and policies. In relation to health policy, the course will address the theory and practice of policy process and decision making, including key features relevant to the Italian and other international health care systems. Regarding health economics the course will provide an introduction to its key concepts and elements and to the relevance of economic evaluations within the healthcare field. Regarding health systems, the course will examine and discuss the key elements and the complexity of health systems from a comparative perspective. Students will get an understanding of specific issues and challenges currently affecting health policies and systems at international level drawing on different perspectives and practical examples. Students will also develop critical thinking in addressing key challenges affecting health policy and health systems.

Contents

Detailed program

Health Policy

Key issues and concepts in health policy (power, role of the State, interest groups, policy implementation, agenda setting)

Role of policy actors

Key elements of health planning

Health policy frameworks

Comparative health policy

The policy process

Values in health policy
Evaluation in health policy
Ethics of distribution and resource allocation in healthcare
Resource allocation in healthcare
Health policy and globalization
Public health policy
Health systems reform
Health Policy analysis

Health Economics

Concepts of margin, scarcity, and opportunity cost
Role of the state and the market in healthcare
Supply and demand equilibrium
Elasticity
Efficiency
Equity
Introduction to economic evaluation in healthcare

Health systems

Introduction to health system analysis
Health systems models
The healthcare context
Funding, governance and health services provision
Comparative analysis of health care organisation, delivery and performance in different countries
Key concepts of global health
Empirical case studies of health policies and health systems
Universal health coverage
Health policy and systems reform in the Italian and English health systems

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

Face to face lessons, seminars and groups work

Assessment methods

There are no ongoing tests. Written questions on the topics covered during the lessons (5/6 open questions). Exam takes place in the classroom and lasts one hour. Students can choose to have an interview as well. Students attending the course could replace the written exam with an oral presentation and an interview.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Slides

Buse K., Mays N., Colombini M., Fraser A., Khan M., Walls (2023). *Making Health Policy*, McGraw Hill, Third Edition

Blank R., Burau V., Kuhlmann E. (2017). *Comparative Health Policy*, Red Globe Press

Additional material will be provided by the teacher

Semester

Second semester

Teaching language

Italian and English (most of the sessions include teaching material in English)

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
