

**WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

HCA 401: Fundamentals of Health Care Finance Management & Policy

3 credit Hours

Updated 06/25/2015

**Professor Information:**

Gregory Ellis-Griffith, PhD, MPH  
Office Hours: By Appointment only.  
Telephone (270) 745-3076  
Email: Gregory.Ellis-Griffith @wku.edu

**Teaching Assistant:**

Juliana C. Pace, MHA(c)  
Email: juliana.pace378@topper.wku.edu

**Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to focus on the concepts that aid future health care administrators and advisors in financial management and financial health policy decisions.

As a result of this being a discussion and analysis based online only course, it is imperative that students prepare each week and ask questions or any material which need clarification.

**Lectures & Posted Readings:** The material covered on the power point slides and the readings posted on blackboard are the most important part of this course. Any material that is covered on the power point, or posted on blackboard are 'fair game' to be tested on.

**Weekly Discussions:** Each week students are to post to the discussion section of blackboard a reading reaction for each of the assigned reading(s). The instructions of the discussion board will be provided later.

**Paper: (HCA 401 G Students Only):** Graduate students enrolled in the HCA 401 G section will be required to complete a 5-7 page paper on a health care financial policy issue. More information will be provided later.

**Examination:** There will be one take home examination. The specifics of these exams will be provided later.

## EVALUATION

### HCA 401

Activity	% of Grade
Weekly Discussion Boards	40%
Examination (1)	60%

### HCA 401 G

Activity	% of Grade
Weekly Discussion Boards	30%
Paper	20%
Examination (1)	50%

**Grades:** The standard university grading scale will be used: 90-100 (A), 80-90 (B), 70-79 (C), and 60-69 (D). All grades under 60 will be given a letter grade of F.

**Academic Misconduct:** All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. This includes plagiarism where one represents ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own as well as various forms of cheating. In such cases, students will be disciplined in accordance with the WKU policies on plagiarism and cheating.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disability who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services (OFSDS), Student Success Center - DUC A201. The OFSDS telephone number is (270) 745-5004; TTY is 745-3030.

HCA 401(G) Course Schedule (*Tentative*)

Date	Topic	Projects
Week of 7/06/2015	History of Health Insurance in the United States A Summary of Insurance Coverage	TBA
Week of 07/13/2015	The Demand for Health insurance Adverse Selection Underwriting and Rate Making Risk Adjustment Utilization Management. Managed Care and Selective Contracting Selective Contracting: Managed Care and Hospitals Managed Care and Physicians Managed Care Backlash	TBA
Week of 07/20/2015	Provider Consolidation, Monoposy Power and Most Favored Nation Clauses. Non-Profit-v-For Profit Hospitals, Hospital Competition, The Future Role of Hospitals Premium Sensitivity for Health Insurers Compensating Differentials, The Small Group Market, Health Insurance Regulation, High Risk Pools	TBA
Week of 7/27/2015	Test & Projects: Due this week	Test & Projects: Due this week

*The requirements outlined above are subject to change by the professor.*