

## PPHA 37710

### Medicaid: Understanding the Public Policy of a Federal-State Partnership

Winter 2024, Wednesday 4:30 – 7:20 pm

Harris School of Public Policy

**Instructor:** Catina Latham, PhD

**Office Hours:** Fridays, 9 – 10 am (virtually) and by appt. (in person or virtual)

**Email:** [crbradley@uchicago.edu](mailto:crbradley@uchicago.edu)

**Teaching Assistant:** Natalia McCormick, Recent graduate

Office Hours: Wednesday, 3:30-4:30 in person, Conference Room 3003

Email: [carolinek@uchicago.edu](mailto:carolinek@uchicago.edu)

#### Course Description:

This course will provide an understanding of the application of health policy and analysis through the lenses of the Medicaid program. The course will begin with an overview of health policy and public health policy analysis and evaluation as it relates to the administration of the Medicaid program, a federal-state partnership and the largest health insurance program in the U.S., covering millions of low-income individuals and families. State Medicaid programs have been an important locus of innovation and improvement in health care delivery and financing as well as health outcomes. This course will also provide in-depth view of Medicaid policies from birth to the end of life, covering maternal and child health, mental health, long-term care, among other topics. This will include highlights of many state program approaches and innovations with designing their programs, applying the policies and evaluating the outcomes. This course is part of the Harris Health Policy Certificate program.

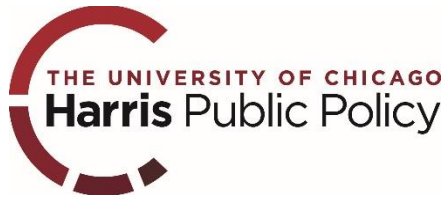
#### Reading Materials

**Required Text:** Patton, C., Sawicki, D., Clark J. (2016) *Basic Methods of Policy Analysis and Planning*

#### Recommended Text:

Olson, Laura K. (2010) *The Politics of Medicaid*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Chrisinger, David. (2017) *Public Policy Writing that Matters*. Baltimore, MD: John Hopkins University Press.



All other readings are listed below and will be posted on the course website. The reading list links to external websites and the list may be updated. **Please check for updates on Canvas the Friday before each class:**

[PPHA 37710 1 \(Winter 2023\) Medicaid: Understanding the Public Policy of a Federal-State Partnership \(uchicago.edu\)](https://www.uchicago.edu/courses/54473)

<https://canvas.uchicago.edu/courses/54473>

### **Learning Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, the goal is for students to be able to:

- Understand the basic principles of the Medicaid program.
- Identify the main health policy issues related to Medicaid facing leaders today.
- Apply the core elements of policy option analysis to key issues in Medicaid.
- Write effective policy documents.
- Recognize the interconnections between Medicaid and public health issues.

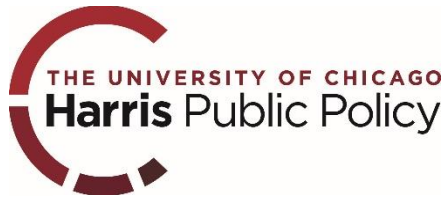
### **Course Requirements:**

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in all weekly sessions of the course. Prior to coming to class, students are expected to read the materials required for each session. Students are also strongly encouraged to read at least some of the supplemental readings, especially in areas of particular interest to them.

Each class will be centered on discussion and dialog. Students may be expected to have discussion questions prior to some of the sessions for guest speakers.

A Policy Brief, a Decision Memo and one Group Project will be required:

- The Policy Memo will be a short brief on state Medicaid programs' coverage (2-3 pages). **Due Date: Week 4 (Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>)**
- The Policy Brief will be an analysis on the topic related to the student's mock testimony. (5-7 pages) **Due Date: End of Week 8 (Feb 24<sup>th</sup>)**
- The Group Project will be a mock hearing. Students will work in groups to develop and then present a testimony statement (3 minutes each maximum) on one of four selected Medicaid policy issues discussed in class. Each group (the presentation panel) will have a witness from the perspective of one of the following stakeholders – government, providers (e.g., hospital association, physician association, etc.), and the consumers (e.g., consumer or community



organizations). There will be an Independent Committee member for each mock hearing. Each group will serve as the Committee members for another respective panel. **Presentations Week 9 (Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>)** *Note: Exam week is also reserved, if needed.*

- Students are also encouraged to sign up to discuss an article in the news with the class to help contribute to our discussion as health policy issues are changing every day. Students should sign up for Google alerts for Medicaid related media to receive alerts.

**For most weeks, the first half of the class will consist of a lecture and discussion on the selected topic. The second half of the class will be case study reviews with group breakout sessions or in-class activity as well as additional discussion.**

Any student who believes they may need assistance should inform the Harris Dean of Students office by the end of the first week of class. The Dean of Students office will coordinate any student accommodations with Harris instructors.

### **Evaluation:**

Class participation -- 15%

In Class Assignments -- Discussion questions/Case studies/Other Activities/Article Summary -- 20%

Policy Memo 15%

Policy Brief/Policy Analysis Paper 20%

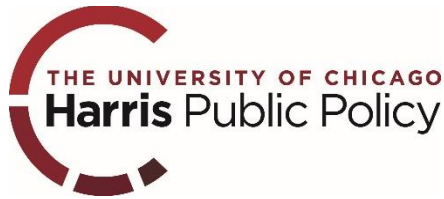
Final Project -- 30%

### **Communication:**

Please feel free to email, stop by during office hours, or schedule an appointment if you have any questions. The TA is also available to answer any administrative questions about the course. **Please allow at least 24 hours for a response to your questions.**

### **Academic Dishonesty Statement and Penalties:**

All University of Chicago students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic Integrity and honesty. Among other things, this means that students shall not represent another's work as their own, use un-allowed materials during exams, or otherwise gain unfair academic advantage. All students suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Harris Dean of Students for investigation and adjudication. The disciplinary process can result in sanctions up to and including



suspension or expulsion from the University. In addition to disciplinary sanctions, I will impose a grade penalty of “F” for students who have committed academic dishonesty.

The Harris policy and procedures related to academic integrity can be found at <https://harris.uchicago.edu/gateways/current-students/policies>.

The University of Chicago Policy on Academic Honesty & Plagiarism can be found at <https://studentmanual.uchicago.edu/academic-policies/academic-honesty-plagiarism/>

## **Class Policies**

### **Participation**

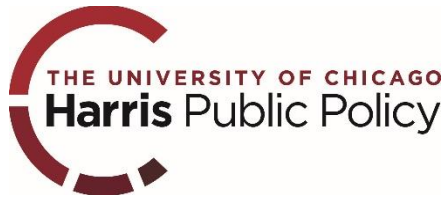
This course requires engagement with a range of demanding disciplines -- requiring students to think critically and utilize high-level analytical skills regarding complex issues. The discipline requires such mastery not only in well-articulated written work, but also in thoughtful discussions between and among students. Receiving full points for participation will include class attendance, class participation, and completion and submission of in-class assignments. Outstanding participation grades require truly thoughtful, insightful, and well-argued contributions and leadership in class that demonstrate a high level of mastery of the course material.

### **Late Work**

Under extenuating circumstances, a student may ask the instructor for extended time to complete the assignment. It is the instructor’s choice to grant an extension or not. There will be a penalty of at least 5% of total points for assignments submitted late without advance permission for extenuating circumstances.

### **Make-up Work**

Any student who experiences significant family or personal illness or emergency after the final withdrawal date and is unable to complete course work should ask the instructor for an incomplete for the course. Each case will be managed on an individual basis. The Incomplete Policy must be followed as outlined by the University.



## Week 1: Overview of Medicaid, Medicare, and Health Policy Analysis

Jan 3, 2023

### Required Readings

- Kaiser Family Foundation. Medicaid Primer <https://kaiserfamilyfoundation.files.wordpress.com/2010/06/7334-05.pdf>
- Kaiser Family Foundation. A Primer on Medicare <http://files.kff.org/attachment/report-a-primer-on-medicare-key-facts-about-the-medicare-program-and-the-people-it-covers>
- Patton, C., Sawicki, D., Clark, J. 2016. The Policy Analysis Process. Chapter 2.4 [pp 40-58].
- Collins, T. Health Policy Analysis: A Simple Tool for Policy Makers <https://residency-scal-kaiserpermanente.org/healthpolicyelective/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2018/05/GW-Health-Policy-Analysis-Framework.pdf>

### Supplemental Readings

- Olson. *The Politics of Medicaid*, pp. 21-50.
- Overview of Medicare <https://www.kff.org/medicare/issue-brief/an-overview-of-medicare/>

## Week 2: Health Policy Analysis cont. and Health Equity

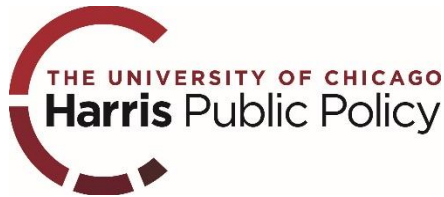
Jan. 10, 2024

### Required Readings

- National Quality Forum. A Roadmap for Promoting Health Equity and Eliminating Disparities: The Four I's for Health Equity [https://www.qualityforum.org/Publications/2017/09/A\\_Roadmap\\_for\\_Promoting\\_Health\\_Equity\\_and\\_Eliminating\\_Disparities\\_\\_The\\_Four\\_I\\_s\\_for\\_Health\\_Equity.aspx](https://www.qualityforum.org/Publications/2017/09/A_Roadmap_for_Promoting_Health_Equity_and_Eliminating_Disparities__The_Four_I_s_for_Health_Equity.aspx) (pp 7-31)

Andrew C. Anderson, Erin O'Rourke, Marshall H. Chin, Ninez A. Ponce, Susannah M. Bernheim, and Helen Burstin. Promoting Health Equity And Eliminating Disparities Through Performance Measurement And Payment. *HEALTH AFFAIRS* 37, NO. 3 (2018): 371–377. PDF File attached

State Health and Value Strategies: Driving Health Innovation Across States.  
Promoting Health Equity in Medicaid Managed Care: A Guide for



States [https://www.shvs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Promoting-Health-Equity-in-Medicaid-Managed-Care\\_A-Guide-for-States.pdf](https://www.shvs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Promoting-Health-Equity-in-Medicaid-Managed-Care_A-Guide-for-States.pdf)

### **Supplemental Readings**

- Center for Health Care Strategies. Measuring Social Determinants of Health among Medicaid Beneficiaries: Early State Lessons [https://www.chcs.org/media/CHCS-SDOH-Measures-Brief\\_120716\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.chcs.org/media/CHCS-SDOH-Measures-Brief_120716_FINAL.pdf)
- Center for Health Care Strategies. New Report Explores How Managed Care Contracts and Section 1115 Demonstrations Address Social Determinants of Health <https://www.chcs.org/news/new-report-explores-how-managed-care-contracts-and-%C2%A7-1115-demonstrations-address-social-determinants-of-health/>
- National Quality Forum. *A Roadmap for Promoting Health Equity and Eliminating Disparities: The Four I's for Health Equity* file:///C:/Users/crbradley/Downloads/disparities1\_final\_report.pdf (accessed on 4/2/2019) pp 7-31.
- Andrew C. Anderson, Erin O'Rourke, Marshall H. Chin, Ninez A. Ponce, Susannah M. Bernheim, and Helen Burstin. *Promoting Health Equity And Eliminating Disparities Through Performance Measurement And Payment*. HEALTH AFFAIRS 37, NO. 3 (2018): 371–377.

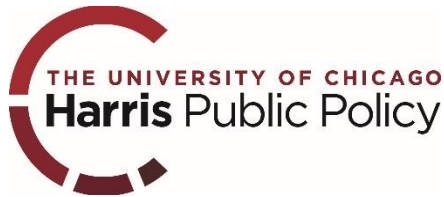
## **Week 3: Adult Health**

**Jan. 24, 2024**

*Guest Speaker: Carolyn Yocom, Former Director (Retired), Health Care Team, U.S. Government Accountability Office*

### **Required Readings**

- MACPAC. Access in Brief: Adults' Experiences in Accessing Medical Care <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Access-in-Brief-Adults-Experiences-in-Accessing-Medical-Care.pdf>
- MACPAC Access to Mental Health Services for Adults Covered by Medicaid <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Chapter-2-Access-to-Mental-Health-Services-for-Adults-Covered-by-Medicaid.pdf>



- MACPAC. Medicaid and the Opioid Crisis. [www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Medicaid-and-the-Opioid-Epidemic.pdf](http://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Medicaid-and-the-Opioid-Epidemic.pdf)
- GAO. Routine Vaccines: Adult Rates Vary by Vaccine Type and Other Factors <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-22-105334.pdf>
- GAO. Federal Safety Net Programs: Millions of Full-Time Workers Rely on Federal Health Care and Food Assistance Programs <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-21-45.pdf>
- MACPAC. Medicaid Work and Community Engagement Requirements <https://www.macpac.gov/publication/medicaid-work-and-community-engagement-requirements/>

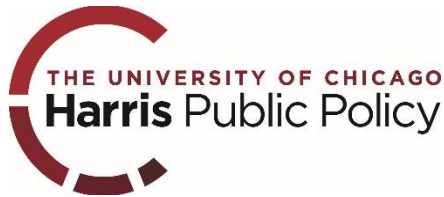
## **Week 4: Maternal and Child Health**

**Jan. 31, 2024**

*Guest Speakers: TBD*

### **Required Readings**

- Illinois Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Report 2021 <https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/maternalmorbiditymortalityreport0421.pdf>
- Medicaid Expansion Linked to Lower Maternal Mortality Rates <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Pregnant-Women-and-Medicaid.pdf>
- Illinois Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Report 2018 <http://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/publications/publicationsowhmaternalmorbiditymortalityreport112018.pdf>
- Perinatal Report to the General Assembly 2018 <https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/SiteCollectionDocuments/HFSPerinatalReportfinalcompleted282018.pdf>
- Medicaid Access in Brief: Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs <https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Medicaid-Access-in-Brief-Children-and-Youth-with-Special-Health-Care-Ne...pdf>



- Transformation of the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4428533/>

- **POLICY BRIEFS DUE BY 4:30 PM**

**Week 5: Universal Coverage Proposals and Health Care in Other Countries**

**Feb. 7, 2024**

There will not be an in-class lecture for this week. A video recording of the lecture will be provided online on the day of class. Students are encouraged to use the class time to meet with their groups to prepare for the group presentations.

**Required Reading: - TBD**

**Week 6: States' Flexibility with Waivers of Federal Requirements and Responding to Natural Disasters, the Pandemic and Other Emergencies**

**Feb. 14, 2024**

**Required Readings**

- U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). Medicaid Demonstrations: Evaluations Yielded Limited Results, Underscoring Need for Changes to Federal Policies and Procedures. <https://www.gao.gov/assets/690/689506.pdf>
- Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF). Key State Policy Choices About Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services <https://www.kff.org/report-section/key-state-policy-choices-about-medicaid-home-and-community-based-services-issue-brief/>
- GAO. Medicare and Medicaid: COVID-19 Program Flexibilities and Considerations for Their Continuation <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-21-575t.pdf>
- KFF. Medicaid Emergency Authority Tracker: Approved State Actions to Address COVID-19 <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/medicaid-emergency-authority-tracker-approved-state-actions-to-address-covid-19/>



Material from Week 1 for Continued Review and Discussion

- Patton, C., Sawicki, D., Clark, J. 2016. The Policy Analysis Process. Chapter 2.4 [pp 40-58].
- Collins, T. Health Policy Analysis: A Simple Tool for Policy Makers  
<https://residency-scal-kaiserpermanente.org/healthpolicyelective/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2018/05/GW-Health-Policy-Analysis-Framework.pdf>

**Supplemental Readings**

- GAO. Medicaid Demonstrations: Approval Criteria and Documentation Need to Show How Spending Furthers Medicaid Objectives <https://www.gao.gov/assets/670/669582.pdf>

**Additional Resources**

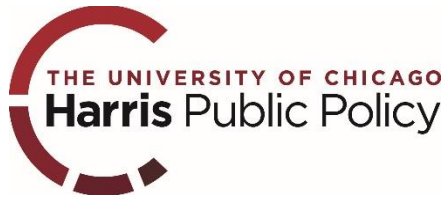
- KFF. Medicaid Waiver Tracker.  
<https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaid-waiver-tracker-approved-and-pending-section-1115-waivers-by-state/>
- Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC) Medicaid and CHIP Data Tracker - MACStats  
<https://www.macpac.gov/macstats/>

**Week 7: Managed Care and Measuring Health Outcomes for the Medicaid Population**

**Feb. 14, 2024**

**Required Readings:**

- <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-works-millions-benefit-from-medicoids-effective-efficient-coverage>
- <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/pdf/10.1377/hlthaff.2017.0331>
- <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/How-Can-We-Tell-Whether-Medicaid-MCOs-are-Doing-a-Good-Job-for-Kids.pdf>
- <https://innovation.cms.gov/Files/reports/fai-il-firstevalrpt.pdf> Executive Summary, Chapters 1, 9, and 11
- <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20180430.387981/full/>
- <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20180430.510086/full/>
- <https://www.rwjf.org/content/dam/farm/reports/reports/2012/rwjf401106>



**Week 8: Home and Community-Based Services and Long-term Care**

**Feb. 21, 2024**

**Required Readings:**

- Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services: Selected States' Program Structures and Challenges Providing Services <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-18-628>
- <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/key-questions-about-medicaid-home-and-community-based-services-waiver-waiting-lists/>

**POLICY ANALYSIS PAPERS DUE ON FRIDAY, FEB. 23<sup>rd</sup> BY 11:59 PM**

**Week 9: Mock Testimony Presentations**

**Feb 28, 2024**

**Panel Topics**

- Medicaid and Maternal Health
- Home and Community Based Services & Long-term Care
- 1115 Waivers & Renewals
- Managed Care & Health Care Outcomes