This seminar approach course will highlight several areas of importance and current concern in the American health care system. Topics will be introduced through guest speakers and reading materials distributed during the class sessions. The students will be required to work in groups and make presentations to the class on various assigned topics. A final written paper will be required on a major topic that will be discussed early in the term. It is hoped that this class will expose the students to a broad picture of the complexities in managing today’s health care organization and allow the development of a more critical thinking process relative to issues that challenge the American health care system.

Text

There is no required text, but several reading materials will be handed out during the class. Reference to certain texts or articles will be made in advance of the class when they will be discussed. A supplemental text, “The Bleeding Edge” will be handed out during class to each student for reference while developing the class presentation topics.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the critical current issues and challenges in the health care system.
- Identify past and current strategic initiatives in health care to address these challenges.
- Be able to articulate the factors contributing to the success or failure of employed strategies.

Requirements to Complete this Course

- Read assigned materials
- Work in groups to research and present assigned topics
- Participate in class discussions and debates
- Prepare, in writing, and on time, a final paper on a specific topic to be assigned
Class Presentations

Work with one or more classmates to read, research and present on a specific assigned topic. The presentation will include visual aids (power point) a formal 30 minute oral presentation and a handout followed by a question and answer session.

Grading

Class presentation 50%
Final paper 30%
Attendance at class 20%

Course Schedule and Topics

10/05/05  Introductions
          Health Care System Overview
          Handout of reading materials

10/12/05  Risk Assumption
          Consumerism

10/19/05  Consolidation
          Integration

10/26/05  Industrialization

11/02/05  The Un Hospital
          MD / MBA

11/09/05  Panaceas RU’s
          Supply Chain Group

11/16/05  What Was HMO?

11/23/05  Thanksgiving (No Class)

11/30/05  Wrap up of class discussions
          Final paper preparation discussion

12/07/05  Tour of UCDHS Technology Simulation Center

12/14/05  Final Paper Due