

PADM 590 Behavior Health Need & Policy

Spring Semester, 2016

Adjunct Faculty: Fredrick Sandoval, MPA

Classroom: Dane Smith Hall Room 134

Class hours: Monday, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

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Student consultations available: Monday, 5:00 pm - 7pm or by appointment

Course Description

This course will examine many of the critical issues currently facing behavioral health administrators, decision and policy makers in New Mexico and the U.S. Key areas of discussion for this course will be: local, state and federal government roles and responsibilities in behavioral health; consumer, family and advocate perspectives, Affordable Care Act & Mental Health and Addictions Parity Act; and other public policy decisions, systems and dynamics impact on behavioral health populations in New Mexico. Most of the material covered in the course draws from recent public policy decisions, state statutes, federal law and state agency plans, funding & appropriations for behavioral health services, local government resolutions and ordinances as well as journal articles or research studies in behavioral health policy, medicine, public health, and management. The course will involve lectures, brief topic papers, final research paper, readings, guest speakers, student presentations & facilitation, and classroom discussion. Videos will be used in relevant classes to stimulate discussion.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Develop a solid understanding of the primary characteristics of the New Mexico behavioral health care system and its relationship to other environments.
2. Understand the complex behavioral health challenges and needs faced by providers, consumers, families, policy makers and advocates and different policy options to address those challenges.
3. Understand the how rural, frontier, border and medically underserved populations are affected by the five health care dimensions of the behavioral health systems.
4. Understand how health disparities disproportionately affect minority and rural populations and how to identify data to help generate policy recommendations based on sound analysis.
5. Understand the complex health system changes that result from the ongoing implementation of the Affordable Care Act and behavioral health parity.
6. Coordinate, plan, facilitate and organize class presentations and facilitate Q/A with fellow students and invited outside behavioral health speakers.
7. Demonstrate and engage in an active leadership role in class and interact with behavioral health constituents and decision makers.

Assignments and Grading

There are several mechanisms for determining student performance to include the following:

1. Weekly Brief Papers

First, you will be required to write and submit ten (11) hard copy brief papers (3-5 pages, double spaced using 12 pitch type and one-inch margins) at the beginning of each class for which one is due. For verification purposes, email your brief paper to the instructor on the day of the class to UNM Learn. These papers will be short “policy critiques,” focusing on the topic area for that week drawing from the following sources, but not limited to the professional literature including: journals; academic article or publication; government documents (e.g., state statutes, municipal ordinances, county laws and/or resolutions, public meeting minutes; state approved plans, legislation); research or public reports pertinent to topic of that week. Your brief paper must cite and use at minimum three major sources. You will need to include the last name of the author(s)/Source and date published follows: (Cervantes, al., 1998; or New Mexico Human Services State Medicaid Plan, 2010; Department of Justice, 2014). You must be concise and precise in writing your brief papers, so focus on being clear and to the point. Be sure to spell check and proof read your paper.

Identify the behavioral health public policy issue(s) most significant to the topic area, entity, agency, unit of government, constituency group or stakeholder pertinent to that week's topic area. You can include one page that includes your own insights and critical analysis, the remainder of the brief paper must explicitly draw on and reference the public policy (-ies) specific to behavioral health. Your grade will be based on your capacity to critique and integrate the content, policy, practices and impact on behavioral health and to put forth your own critical thinking on the topic areas for that week. Identify the strengths and weaknesses in your brief paper of the policy position of that stakeholder, constituent group, agency or unit of government and what impact it has on the community, consumers, families and the providers serving patients.

You can also summarize points expressed in an article, report, plan document, statute, or policy position and state “ I do or do not agree with the authors’ point because...” or “ There are things that the article, plan or policy that fails to account for. For example, ...” Include a statement on the policy points and consider what the policy means for New Mexico behavioral health system, administrators, and/or policymakers.

There will be 11 sessions for which a short paper will be turned in (noted on the schedule of assignments). You must turn in hard copies of all 11 of these papers, include the session date, your full name, course # and title, faculty and the weekly topic area. Again, your brief paper is due on the class session covering that topic area. You will also be better prepared to contribute to class discussions resulting from your brief papers and to include clarifying and probing questions during the Q&A period with guest speakers and the group discussions.

2. Guest Speaker Coordination and Class Facilitation

The second assignment is assigned to or selected by the student, however, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that this assignment is completed in a timely and effective manner.

You will select or be assigned to one weekly session and to identify, select, plan and coordinate a guest speaker to present on that topic area. For example, if you select city government you will identify, select and confirm a municipal policy maker (city councilor), a department or division administrator, a municipal committee chair, OR a municipal expert on behavioral health to present at the class session. The student will plan, coordinate and manage the logistics for the guest speaker's

30 minute presentation, arrival and the student will facilitate an in class a 30 minute Question and Answer 30 period. The goal of the session is to have the Guest Speaker discuss their agency or group's policy position on behavioral health, highlight their key behavioral health policies, responsibilities and roles as a municipal government. The student will facilitate a 30 minute Q&A period between the students and the guest presenter. The student facilitator shall also be prepared to ask three of their own questions as needed, but start with your cohort's questions first. Introduce your speaker to the class briefly, name, title, background and role pertinent to behavioral health.

If the Guest Speaker fails to attend the session or is late, the student will make the presentation to the class on the topic. Student's will want to work closely with your guest speaker to make sure they are prepared and that you can fill in due to extenuating or unanticipated no show, cancellation or late arrival. The Guest Speaker oral presentation must focus on the unique behavioral health policy specific to that unit of government, role and responsibilities of that stakeholder's organization or agency, perspective of that constituent group or their role within the behavioral health system in New Mexico. If the Guest Speaker fails to attend session, the instructor will facilitate the Q&A session between the student and the rest of the class.

3. **Final Paper**

A ten (10) page, double spaced using 12 pitch type and one-inch margins, paper is due on May 4, 2016 at the beginning of class and submitted on UNM Learn along with a hard copy to the instructor at the start of the class. The student selects the specific area of behavioral health policy related to New Mexico and should be supplementary to the weekly themes of the class. If you need to consult with the instructor about selecting a behavioral health policy area please reach him at his email or cell phone. The final research paper must include title/cover page with your name, table of contents, introduction, problem statement specific to a behavioral health policy problem/situation, background on the policy area, your analysis of the behavioral health policy, provide your recommendations to change, improve or eliminate such a behavioral health policy including other feasible options; and costs/risks associated with your recommendations. References and source citations are not included as part of the ten pages.

As usual, you must integrate your research, data, behavioral health outcomes or indicators, and the diversity of public policy positions (including political, legal, financial, agency or advocacy) that may be at play. You can draw upon new data or research to build support for your analysis. You are required to cite at least seven other outside articles in your analysis. Five should be a scholarly source published in or after 2005 in leading healthcare journals. You can build upon the references or citations from your brief papers to expand on your problem statement, background, data, analysis and recommendations.

It is important that you do not simply speculate about the future, but instead, ground your thinking in what you have learned from the course and what are the unique circumstances, barriers, and conditions found in New Mexico and the U.S behavioral health care systems.

4. **Class Participation**

Participation of students in class discussions is strongly encouraged, and will count toward 15% of the final grade. Thoughtful comments based on the readings assigned for that day are especially welcome. Since so much of the course is based on the lectures and discussion, all students are expected to attend class regularly. Attendance will be taken and the final course grade will be lowered in proportion to classes missed (2 points off your participation grade per missed class, starting with the second missed class).

Your class participation grade will be based on my observations and opinion of the quality, insight and quantity of your participation in class discussions concerning the lecture, material, the readings, and guest speakers topics. Attendance obviously matters in this regard (if you aren't here, you certainly can't participate), but mere attendance does not substitute for lack of participation in discussions. I will keep a dated attendance sheet for your signature and time of arrival.

5. Final paper presentation

Each student shall plan on conducting a 15-20 minute presentation (using a power point) on their final research paper. Organize the presentation to correspond to the table of contents in your final research paper. Only one but not more than two short 3-5 minute videos or clips can be used in your presentation, but the weight of the presentation on is on content of the final research paper. Be prepared and have a flash drive with your saved power point ready to present. The clarity, delivery, organization, preparation and contents of your power point highlighting your final research paper will be factored in your final paper presentation score.

Grading Summary

1. Short 3-5 page "policy critique" papers (10 papers)	35%
2. Assigned Guest Speaker Session and Q&A Facilitation	20%
3. Final Paper on topic areas of your choice	20%
4. Class participation	15%
5. Final Paper presentation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

All main campus students should turn in hard copies of their course assignments in class. Send an email copy of your brief paper to my attention at triozia1@aol.com. Distance site students will turn in electronic copies of their course assignments before class to UNM Learn.

I will assign grades for points earned during the class according to the following scale:

- A+ 97 and above A 93-96 A- 90-92
- B+ 87-89, B 83-86, B- 80-82
- C+ 77-79, C 73-76, C- 70-72
- D+ 67-69, D 63-66, D- 60-62
- F 59 points and below

Non-Discrimination and Services for Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation for individual learning needs. UNM will make every attempt to accommodate all qualified students with disabilities. For further information, contact Accessibility Services at (505) 277-3506.

Academic Honesty and Conduct

I will follow University of New Mexico policy for academic misconduct. Both intentional and unintentional plagiarism is prohibited. University policy states that each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments as well as claiming credit for work not done or done by others. When a violation of the regulation

occurs in connection with a course, the faculty member is authorized to take whatever action is deemed appropriate, but no penalty in excess of an "F" in the course and the involuntary withdrawal of the student from the class may be imposed. Whenever this penalty is imposed; the instructor may report the case in full detail in writing to the Dean of Students, who may impose additional sanctions or refer the matter to the Student Conduct Committee for a determination of whether additional sanctions are warranted.