

Short Form Unit Details

Unit Title	Health and Health Care Policy
Level	3
Reference No. (<i>showing level</i>)	PSO – 3- 304
Credit Value	15 CAT points
Student Study Hours	Contact hours: 40 Student managed learning hours: 110
Pre-requisite learning	Completion of level 2 units
Co-requisites	None
Excluded combinations	None
Unit co-ordinator	Ruth Van Dyke
Faculty/Department	Arts and Human Sciences
Short Description	This unit deals with health and health care policy in a political, social and economic context.
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop students' understanding of key concepts in health and health care policy analysis. • To enhance students' knowledge of the political, economic and social factors that shape health care policy-making. • To provide students with a broad knowledge of contemporary debates in health policy and to examine the impact of health policies on social divisions. • To provide students with the opportunity to critically examine government health policy.
Learning Outcomes	<p>Knowledge and Understanding: On completion of the unit students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand and assess the way in which formal health care is organised in Britain, the aims of health policy and how health care outcomes are evaluated • identify the key health policy issues in contemporary Britain from the perspectives of different actors in the policy process. <p>Intellectual Skills: On completion of the unit students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critically evaluate major approaches to analysing health and health care policy • analyse the language, process, content and impact of health policies in terms of economic, political and cultural factors <p>Practical Skills: On completion of the unit, students will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shown the ability to present, in written and oral form, a sustained, analytical and coherent examination of issues related to health and health care policy, using appropriate vocabulary, evidence, footnotes and bibliography • shown the ability to communicate and sustain an informed argument and analysis on issues related to health and health care policy • working in small groups. <p>Transferable Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time management skills • Working and presenting in small groups • Working to set deadlines • Development of written and oral communication skills • Development of skills in research and information retrieval • Enhancement of information technology skills [for those who word-process coursework assignments]

Employability	<p>Graduates will have knowledge of key English health care policies and will be able to critically read and help implement government health care policy. Graduates should also be able to assess government policy and practice in relation to effectiveness, choice and tackling inequality. Students are encouraged and supported to develop their written and oral communication skills.</p>
Teaching and learning pattern	<p>The unit will be taught through a combination of lectures, workshops and seminars. There is strong emphasis on student participation. Students are expected to prepare in advance for the seminars so that they can participate in, and contribute to, discussions and workshops.</p>
Indicative content	<p>Understanding health and health care. Definitions of health and their implications for health policy and health care systems. Health care policy and delivery 1948 – 1996. New Labour's approach to health policy. Health inequalities, extent and nature of the problem, measures taken and what has been achieved. Primary care. Public health. Health promotion. Rationing and prioritising in healthcare. Current issues in healthcare planning: funding and public / private partnerships.</p>
Assessment <i>Elements & weightings</i>	<p>One mid-semester essay of 1,500 – 2,000 words worth % of the unit mark One 3 hour examination at the end of the unit, worth % of the unit mark.</p>
Indicative Sources (Reading lists)	<p>Malin, N., Wilmot, S., and Manthorpe, J., (2002) <i>Key Concepts and Debates in Health and Social Policy</i>, Open University Press DoH (2004) <i>The NHS Improvement Plan: Putting People at the heart of public services</i> Farrell, C., (2004) <i>The NHS Improvement Plan: Putting People at the heart of public services</i>, DoH Allsop, J., (1995) <i>Health Policy in the NHS: towards 2000</i>, 2nd ed., Longman Baggott, R., (1998) <i>Health and Health Care in Britain</i>, 2nd ed., Macmillan Barker, C., (1996) <i>The Health Care Policy Process</i>, Sage Klein, R., (2001) <i>The New Politics of the NHS</i>, 4th ed., Prentice Hall Peckham, S., (2003) <i>Primary Care in the UK</i>, Palgrave Watterson, A., (ed.) (2003) <i>Public Health in Practice</i>, Palgrave</p>