



POIX825

Health Policy

S3 OUA 2016

Dept of Modern History, Politics & International Relations

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer

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By appointment

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Prerequisites

Admission to GradDipPASR or MPASR

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines the politics of health policy, introducing the institutions and actors engaged in global and domestic health governance, and examining the impact of power and inequality on health policy formulation and health outcomes. It explores a range of current issues in health policy, including the securitisation of health, the prevention, treatment and management of chronic and communicable diseases, the social determinants of health, and public health intervention. The unit provides a comparative understanding of health issues using case studies from Australia and around the world.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.open.edu.au/student-admin-and-support/key-dates/>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Explain and critically analyse the way in which power and politics impact on health policy making and health outcomes, including the impact of inequality, wealth, gender, and the social determinants of health

Identify, explain and critically evaluate the role of the key actors and institutions involved in health governance and policy making in the Australian context, and the global context

Identify, critically analyse and discuss the major debates and controversies involved in

this subject, including debate around inequality; the social determinants of health; gender and health; prevention, treatment and management of communicable diseases; the securitisation of health; knowledge politics; the impact of domestic and global governance and institutional structures on health policy formulation and implementation; participation and marginalisation of interests in health policy making

Develop the ability to identify research problems or gaps in extant knowledge about health policy context and the policy-making process, and to identify and use the most appropriate strategies to conduct research that will solve these research problems

Synthesise research findings into a simple, logical and coherent argument to be presented using a variety of techniques (written, spoken, visual) and technologically-supported media

Using material from this course, demonstrate an enhanced awareness of local, national, global affairs and issues of political, social, and economic justice, particularly with regard to issues of inequality, gender, social determinants of health, and inclusion or exclusion from the policy process

Evaluate and apply scholarly analysis of the policy process around health to real-world situations

General Assessment Information

Assessment submission

Each assessment task needs to be submitted differently, so please read the following instructions carefully.

Assessment 1: Online weekly activities need to be posted on the appropriate weekly topic discussion forum on iLearn.

Assessments 2 and 3: You will need to upload your written research proposal and your essay as Word documents using the Turnitin Assignments facility on the iLearn website. This facility includes software which scans the uploaded assignments for plagiarism. Follow the instructions on the screen carefully. Your assessment should be uploaded before midnight on the due date. The Powerpoint slideshow for the Research Proposal will need to be uploaded to the specially marked folder on the iLearn site.

In all cases, you should ensure that you keep a copy of the assignment.

Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, and will require documentary evidence such as a medical certificate to support the request for an extension. You should contact the convenor as early as possible if you think you may need an extension.

Penalties for late submission: Assignments which are submitted after the due date, without

having an extension granted by the convenor, will be penalised, by 3 marks a day for each day after the due date. Any paper submitted more than 3 weeks after the due date will not be marked, and the student will be failed for the assignment

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Weekly online activity	30%	Sunday of each week
Research proposal	30%	8 January
Research essay	40%	17 February

Weekly online activity

Due: **Sunday of each week**

Weighting: **30%**

Students are required to provide a response of approximately 250 words to the weekly online activity. Details of the online activities and questions are posted under each weekly topic on iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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- Identify, explain and critically evaluate the role of the key actors and institutions involved in health governance and policy making in the Australian context, and the global context
- Identify, critically analyse and discuss the major debates and controversies involved in this subject, including debate around inequality; the social determinants of health; gender and health; prevention, treatment and management of communicable diseases; the securitisation of health; knowledge politics; the impact of domestic and global governance and institutional structures on health policy formulation and implementation; participation and marginalisation of interests in health policy making
- Using material from this course, demonstrate an enhanced awareness of local, national, global affairs and issues of political, social, and economic justice, particularly with regard to issues of inequality, gender, social determinants of health, and inclusion or exclusion from the policy process
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Research proposal

Due: **8 January**

Weighting: **30%**

This assessment task will help you to design and prepare your Research Essay, which is the final assessment task for the unit. Further information on the Research Essay is given on the iLearn site.

Students will present their Research Proposal in a 1000 word written report, and a Powerpoint slideshow of a maximum of 6 slides (accompanying audio optional). The written report will be marked out of 20, and the Powerpoint slideshow will be marked out of 10, giving a total mark out of 30.

This Research Proposal will include the following elements:

- the specific research question
- explanation of the context and justification of the research question
- brief literature review
- brief plan of action for completion of the research project, including identifying any problems you might face and how you will address them.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and critically analyse the way in which power and politics impact on health policy making and health outcomes, including the impact of inequality, wealth, gender, and the social determinants of health
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- Develop the ability to identify research problems or gaps in extant knowledge about health policy context and the policy-making process, and to identify and use the most appropriate strategies to conduct research that will solve these research problems
- Synthesise research findings into a simple, logical and coherent argument to be presented using a variety of techniques (written, spoken, visual) and technologically-supported media
- Evaluate and apply scholarly analysis of the policy process around health to real-world situations

Research essay

Due: **17 February**

Weighting: **40%**

The final assessment requires students to identify a research problem and conduct extensive independent research which will be presented in essay form. The research problem will relate to one of the broad themes provided on iLearn. Having identified a research problem related to one of these themes, you must illustrate the issue using a current Australian case study of your choice. Your analysis will be expected to concentrate on the policy implications for governments, and your conclusion should include at least three policy recommendations for the relevant policy makers.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and critically analyse the way in which power and politics impact on health policy making and health outcomes, including the impact of inequality, wealth, gender, and the social determinants of health
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Delivery and Resources

Resources

This unit has an unit webpage which is accessible only to currently enrolled students. Online units can be accessed at: <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

Required readings will be provided via e-Reserve on the library database. Links to the readings are posted on iLearn.

There is no set text book for this unit.

Policies and Procedures

Late Submission - applies unless otherwise stated

elsewhere in the unit guide

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Extension Request

Special Consideration Policy and Procedure (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>)

The University recognises that students may experience events or conditions that adversely affect their academic performance. If you experience serious and unavoidable difficulties at exam time or when assessment tasks are due, you can consider applying for Special Consideration.

You need to show that the circumstances:

1. were serious, unexpected and unavoidable
2. were beyond your control
3. caused substantial disruption to your academic work
4. substantially interfered with your otherwise satisfactory fulfilment of the unit requirements
5. lasted at least three consecutive days or a total of 5 days within the teaching period and prevented completion of an assessment task scheduled for a specific date.

If you feel that your studies have been impacted submit an application as follows:

1. Visit [Ask MQ](#) and use your OneID to log in
2. Fill in your relevant details
3. Attach supporting documents by clicking 'Add a reply', click 'Browse' and navigating to the files you want to attach, then click 'Submit Form' to send your notification and supporting documents
4. Please keep copies of your original documents, as they may be requested in the future as part of the assessment process

Outcome

Once your submission is assessed, an appropriate outcome will be organised.

OUA Specific Policies and Procedures

Withdrawal from a unit after the census date

You can withdraw from your subjects prior to [the census date](#) (last day to withdraw). If you successfully withdraw before the census date, you won't need to apply for Special Circumstances. If you find yourself unable to withdraw from your subjects before the census date - you might be able to [apply for Special Circumstances](#). If you're eligible, we can refund your fees and overturn your fail grade.

If you're studying Single Subjects using FEE-HELP or paying up front, you can [apply online](#).

If you're studying a degree using HECS-HELP, you'll need to [apply directly to Macquarie University](#).

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html. For more information visit http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your

student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop the ability to identify research problems or gaps in extant knowledge about health policy context and the policy-making process, and to identify and use the most appropriate strategies to conduct research that will solve these research problems

- Using material from this course, demonstrate an enhanced awareness of local, national, global affairs and issues of political, social, and economic justice, particularly with regard to issues of inequality, gender, social determinants of health, and inclusion or exclusion from the policy process
- Evaluate and apply scholarly analysis of the policy process around health to real-world situations

Assessment tasks

- Weekly online activity
- Research proposal
- Research essay

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain and critically analyse the way in which power and politics impact on health policy making and health outcomes, including the impact of inequality, wealth, gender, and the social determinants of health
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- Evaluate and apply scholarly analysis of the policy process around health to real-world situations

Assessment tasks

- Weekly online activity
- Research proposal
- Research essay

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain and critically analyse the way in which power and politics impact on health policy making and health outcomes, including the impact of inequality, wealth, gender, and the social determinants of health
- Identify, explain and critically evaluate the role of the key actors and institutions involved in health governance and policy making in the Australian context, and the global context
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PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify, critically analyse and discuss the major debates and controversies involved in this subject, including debate around inequality; the social determinants of health; gender and health; prevention, treatment and management of communicable diseases; the securitisation of health; knowledge politics; the impact of domestic and global governance and institutional structures on health policy formulation and implementation; participation and marginalisation of interests in health policy making
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- Research proposal
- Research essay

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify, critically analyse and discuss the major debates and controversies involved in this subject, including debate around inequality; the social determinants of health; gender and health; prevention, treatment and management of communicable diseases; the securitisation of health; knowledge politics; the impact of domestic and global governance and institutional structures on health policy formulation and implementation; participation and marginalisation of interests in health policy making
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Assessment tasks

- Weekly online activity
- Research proposal
- Research essay

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Using material from this course, demonstrate an enhanced awareness of local, national, global affairs and issues of political, social, and economic justice, particularly with regard to issues of inequality, gender, social determinants of health, and inclusion or exclusion from the policy process
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