

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT IN HEALTH CARE  
PADM 7620 & MGT 7620  
Spring 2008

Instructor: Katharine C. Rathbun, MD, MPH

Messages: Call Jeannie at 578-6743 and she will contact Dr. Rathbun.

Email: rathbun@lsu.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Text: Managing Health Services Organizations and Systems, fourth edition; Longest, Rachich & Darr; Health Professions Press, Baltimore.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) Students will understand the basic structure and function of health care institutions in Louisiana and the US.
- 2) Students will be able to integrate ideas from various functional areas in the special setting of health services institutions.

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

**Class participation:** Classes will be held from 6pm to 9pm on Mondays. Much of the learning will be from lectures, class discussion, and group activities so attendance is essential. Participation will be reflected as part of the final grade.

**Midterm Writing Assignment:** There will be a short writing assignment near the beginning of classes instead of a midterm exam.

**Final Paper:** There will be a second short writing assignment instead of a final exam.

**Final Grade:** The two writing assignments will each be 40% of the grade. Class participation will be 20%. Grading will not be done on a curve; all students have the opportunity to earn an A in the course.

**Course Policies:** This course is designed to help prepare students for a professional career. Cheating of any kind will be dealt with harshly. Both the writing assignments are to be completely independent work unless otherwise instructed. Research on the internet or at local institutions is encouraged. Copying of policies or memos from these sources is cheating.

## ASSIGNMENTS

**Readings in the Text:** During each class we will discuss the material in one or two chapters of the text. Students are expected to read the assigned sections before coming to class and be prepared to discuss the material. Students are encouraged to read critically and discuss areas where they disagree with the text or the lectures.

**Writing Assignments:** Specific information about the assignments will be given out in class. The writing assignments will be in the format of standard documents within a healthcare organization. They will be based on critical thinking and knowledge acquired in this and other classes. Minimal research will be needed to complete the assignments. The assignments will be due at the beginning of the designated classes. Students should be prepared to defend their work in class discussion.

**Late Assignments:** In the event of personal problems that interfere with meeting these deadlines, you must speak with Dr. Rathbun and make arrangements before the assignments are due. Late assignments will only be accepted in extraordinary circumstances.

## SPEAKER

Professor Edward P. Richards of LSU Law School will present two of the classes. He has a Master of Public Health degree in Disease Control and did biomedical research in addition to his law training. He is the director of the LSU medical and biotechnology law program.

## CLASS NOTES

Class materials will be posted on Dr. Rathbun's web site, [www.dr-kate.com](http://www.dr-kate.com)

<http://www.dr-kate.dr-kate.com/courses/mpa/2008s/index.htm>