

## **Introduction to Healthcare Practice - Spring, 2010**

**Course given by:**

**Professor Alastair Connell, Clinical Professor of Kinesiology and Health Sciences.**

**Previously;**

**Dean. College of Medicine, University of Nebraska,**

**Vice President for Health Sciences, VCU**

**Director of the Office of Healthcare Inspections, Dept of Veteran's Affairs,  
Washington, DC.**

**Internist and Home Care Physician.**

**The course will be given Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.30-10.50 in Room 238, Morton Hall.**

**This course is open to premedical students who have successfully completed Human Physiology and/or students who are majoring in Kinesiology and Health Sciences.**

### **Objectives**

**The course addresses the basics of health care and its contemporary context. In the first section of the course students will be introduced to the fundamentals of all clinical practice. The second section of the course will discuss some current professional and economic issues affecting health care delivery. At the end of the course, students should have some understanding of;**

**The fundamental principles of clinical practice**

**Dramatic changes in the expressions of practice**

**Outstanding issues affecting contemporary US health care.**

**Students should also gain some insights into the health professions which will assist in making personal health care career decisions.**

**The meetings of the class will be sufficiently flexible to allow time for facilitated discussions of the topic for the day.**

**Students should bring the results of their own research or reflections to the class.**

**The value of the class will be enhanced to the extent that students reflect on the subject in advance of the meeting time.**

### **Evaluation and Grades.**

**There will be two tests, one in the week before spring break, and the other about two weeks before the end of the semester, the exact dates to be decided later. Testing will be in the form of multiple choice questions or of writing short notes on aspects of the material covered in the class to that point. Each test will account for thirty percent of the total points for the course. There will be no other exams. The remaining forty percent of the points will be awarded for a paper on a subject within the general syllabus for the class. This paper should be presented before May**

**1. Students should discuss the subject with Dr. Connell and possibly develop a preliminary outline of the paper before embarking on the definitive project.**

#### **Attendance.**

**Students are expected to attend all sessions. Exceptions will be made only for participation in official athletic events, formal religious observance, family crisis or illness. Illness should be validated by a note from a registered physician or the student health service. Students participating in athletics should notify Professor Connell before the event.**

#### **Honor Code**

**The requirements of the honor code will be respected. Alleged breaches of the Code will be referred to the Honor Council**

#### **Class Behavior**

**At times there may be differences of opinion in the class or between the teacher and the class about the subject material. Students are expected to approach all subjects reflectively and to be respectful of differing views of other persons in the class at all times. Opinions should be expressed, and received, calmly and courteously.**

**Cell phones should be off in class at all times. Lap tops can be carried if that is the preferred way to make notes or reference topics.**

#### **Recommended Reading**

**There is no one text which covers all the subjects of the course. Books on individual subjects, newspaper or current journal articles or comment, may be recommended during the course. Notes on each topic will be distributed by email before each class.**