

**Child Health Policy**  
**(LMC: CCM439/539, SU: LAW890, Upstate: CCFM1416, CCFM416, CCFM6416)**  
**Wednesdays, September 2-December 16, 4:30-7:30pm**  
**Room 275, Syracuse University College of Law**  
**Fall 2009**

**Faculty:**

Amy T. Campbell, JD, MBE

Assistant Professor, Center for Bioethics & Humanities, SUNY Upstate Medical University *and* Syracuse University College of Law (by courtesy appointment)

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**Collaborating Faculty:** Sarah Ramsey, JD, LLM, Syracuse University College of Law; Steve Blatt, MD, Pediatrics, SUNY Upstate Medical University; Suzette Melendez, JD, Syracuse University College of Law

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Office Hours:** No set hours. Contact Prof. Campbell or other faculty member to arrange a time to meet.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Course Description:**

Child Health Policy is a 3-credit, interdisciplinary course that will address how policy affects child health and influences parental decision-making over their children's health, as well as how policy influences, and is influenced by, child-serving systems (e.g., public health, education, juvenile justice). The course will cover how child health policy is developed, implemented, evaluated, and influenced – as well as the myriad of ways health policy may impact seemingly unrelated policy discussions and decisions.

As an interdisciplinary course, students will study how law and medicine (specifically, “child health”) intersect, hearing from a variety of perspectives on this intersection from experts, as broadly defined (lawyers, advocates, case workers, health professionals, academics, and families themselves). Further, with the expectation that lecturers will discuss the interrelation between law, medicine, and advocacy in their respective fields, so too will it be expected that students reflect on at least two of these (law, medicine, advocacy) in their work (i.e., discussion, journals, presentations, papers). The course's multi-disciplinary approach, and student enrollment, will contribute to a fuller view of child health policy: students gain the perspective of varied disciplines and how expertise from these disciplines might be joined to enhance effectiveness of health policy.

Covered class topics are identified in the Course Schedule, below.

### Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

- Recognize policy issues in child health
- Appreciate how child health is impacted by child serving systems policy
- Discuss pros and cons of various approaches to the making and influencing of child health policy
- Understand how various disciplinary views of child health policy intersect
- Work across disciplines to reflect on more effective policy-making in child health

### Required Readings:

On Course Blackboard site at: <http://blackboard.syr.edu>. (See also “Child Health Policy – Readings List” document.)

### Suggested Readings:

On Course Blackboard site at: <http://blackboard.syr.edu>. (See “Child Health Policy – Readings List” document.)

### Course Requirements:

**Class Participation:** Students are expected to do readings in advance of class so they can actively engage in discussion each meeting. Each student will be assigned to lead at least one case-based discussion.

**Journals:** Students will be expected to complete five journal entries. Journals will involve post-class reflection of that week’s topic. Specifically, students should reflect on: (1) what the speaker discussed; (2) an academic paper a student has read recently that is relevant to the topic; (3) a recent news story relating to the topic; or (4) some personal experience that relates to the topic (e.g., a nurse who has been involved in a suspected child abuse case for the social services week). All entries should include discussion of at least two of the three core areas of the course (law, medicine, advocacy). Extensive outside research is not expected; however, reflections that evidence critical thinking by placing the topic in a larger context will be reviewed favorably.

There are 7 journal assignment dates listed; students are to select 4 of those weeks to do a journal entry. Entries should be @ 1-2 pages each (double-spaced, 12 point font, 1” margins top/bottom; 1.25” margins left/right). Journal entries should be sent by e-mail to Prof. Campbell (campbela@upstate.edu) and deposited through the course Blackboard site (Journals section) by 9AM the Friday after the relevant class session.

*Family Court Visit + Journal Entry:* The 5<sup>th</sup> required journal entry will require reflection on a visit to the Family Court, which students will arrange on their own time. This journal entry should reflect on: (1) perceptions of the organization of the Family Court; (2) the case proceedings visited; and (3) role of the parties (e.g., judge,

lawyers, client(s)), in the system/decision-making. Students should read the assigned reading relating to the Family Court visit in advance of visit (identified on Reading List under “Family Court Visit”). Additional information on the visit (planning) may be found on the “Family Court Visit Details” document.

Family Court visits must be completed by December 2, 2009, and after scheduling a visit, plans of who/when the visit will take place should be sent by e-mail to Prof. Campbell ([campbela@upstate.edu](mailto:campbela@upstate.edu)). Family Court journal entries should be sent by e-mail to Prof. Campbell ([campbela@upstate.edu](mailto:campbela@upstate.edu)) and deposited through the course Blackboard site (Journals section) by 9AM on the Friday after the Family Court visit, or the following Friday after the visit if it takes place on a Friday.

In sum, students will be expected to complete and will be graded on 5 journal entries, 4 from class sessions and one from the Family Court visit.

**Presentation:** Students will be paired (ideally with someone from a different discipline, depending on course enrollment) for a presentation to be given in class on a topic of their mutual interest. Students will be given potential topics up front for their consideration, but other topics may be selected in consultation with the faculty. All final topic selections will require faculty approval. Student presentations will be 30 minutes (~20 minutes to present and at least 10 minutes for discussion). Students will be expected to have handouts for the class, and can use PowerPoint but should not simply read slides as their presentation.

**Paper:** Each student will be required to complete a final paper of 15-20 pages (upper limit for graduate level students). The paper will cover a child health policy topic from a potential list of topics, or one of the student’s own choosing/interest. Topics will require final faculty approval. Students will discuss their pick with other students in Week 4 of the class for any feedback/suggestions. Students will be expected to meet with one of the faculty members after topics are chosen to discuss their issue, approach, and research strategy and receive guidance. Students should submit a draft of the paper to Prof. Campbell by Week 12 of the course to ensure students are on-track.

Law Students / Writing Requirement: Law students who want to use the paper to meet the writing requirement need faculty permission, and must make the election before the end of the ADD/DROP period. Students who wish to use the paper to meet this requirement will be expected to complete a 25-30-page paper (double-spaced, 12 point font, normal margins). The paper should offer an in-depth analysis of the policy topic. Students will be assigned a College of Law faculty member who will supervise the writing. Students will discuss with the class their chosen topic on Week 2 of the class for feedback/suggestions. Students will be expected to complete and discuss with the advisor a detailed draft by Week 5 of the course, and then complete and discuss with the advisor a substantial draft by Week 11 of the term.

Final drafts of all student papers should be e-mailed to Prof. Campbell (campbela@upstate.edu) and also deposited through the course Blackboard site (in Assignments – final papers area) by Wednesday, December 16 at 5PM (i.e., the week after the final class).

### **Course Evaluation:**

Participation:	20%
Journals:	15%
Presentation:	30%
Final Paper:	35%

Participation will be evaluated based on not just quantity but also quality (e.g., adding new insight to discussion). Journals will be evaluated based on completing the assignment on time, covering the general points outlined above, and writing clearly. Presentations will be evaluated based on the quality of research, ability to engage the class in discussion, and the team's ability to work collaboratively to cover the topic. Final papers will be graded based on the analysis of the issue, the reasoning skills employed, the quality of the research, and basic writing skills (e.g., clarity of writing, references). If any upper-level undergraduate students are admitted into the course, the paper requirements may be modified in terms of expectations for length (~10-15 pages) and depth of research.

For Law Students: This course is exempt from the upper-level grading curve. For law students who take this course as a writing requirement, additional final paper evaluation requirements will apply (i.e., evidence of in-depth analysis, reflection, revision based on feedback). The specific requirements will be discussed with the student by the paper's law faculty advisor, and also are governed by the Academic Rules of the College of Law.

### **Student Policies:**

**Course Attendance and Participation:** All students are expected to attend class, participate in discussions, help lead discussion when assigned, and complete readings and assignments. If a student must miss a class, advance notice must be given to Prof. Campbell (unless it is an emergency). Two or more unexcused absences will result in a lowering of your grade. Make-up assignments to avoid grade lowering may be given at the discretion of the faculty. However a pattern of absences may result in removal from the course.

**Late Assignments:** If a student realizes he or she cannot meet the paper deadline, this should be discussed with Prof. Campbell before the due date to discuss any necessary extensions. The presentation deadline cannot change. As students select which 4 of 7 journal entries to do (and select the timing of Family Court visits – relating to that journal entry's due date), late entries will not be accepted.

**Code of Conduct:** Each student is judged according to the Code of Conduct for his or her own institution.

**Plagiarism and other violations:** Students should be very careful to avoid plagiarism or other offenses under rules relating to student conduct and academic integrity of their home institutions. Sanctions for misconduct will be governed by the relevant policy and procedures of the student's home institution. Students should be aware that sanctions for violations can be severe, and may include expulsion, depending on the offense.

**Students with Special Needs:** Students who have any disability that may affect their course work are encouraged to discuss this with Prof. Campbell at the beginning of the course to ensure appropriate accommodations are made. Law students should contact the Office of Student Life, Suite 444, (315) 443-1146.

**Academic Courtesy:** Students are allowed to tape class discussions with faculty (and guest lecturer, when applicable) permission. However, all cell phones, pagers, and similar devices should be turned off during the class meeting. Computers are fine, but should not be used to e-mail, for instant messaging, or for unrelated Internet searches during class time. Students should be respectful of one another – given the varied perspectives expected in the class – and also of lecturers and other guests.

### Course Schedule:

Weeks 1-3: Background, Cross-cutting information

Weeks 4-14: Policy topics (Weeks 4-6 = Health; Weeks 8-14 = Other)

Weeks 15: Student Presentations

Week	Topic + Presenter	Assignments
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Sep. 2</b>	Introduction, Course Requirements Explained, Paper and Presentation Topics given, Overview [By: Ramsey, Melendez, Blatt]	
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Sep. 9</b>	Health Policy 101 Health Care Financing [By: Campbell]	<b>Paper Topic Due (for law students if electing to meet writing requirement; present topics to class)</b> <b>Assign Presentation teams</b>
<b>Week 3</b> <b>Sep. 16</b>	Child Health Advocacy / Media Strategies [By: Campbell; Daniel Hurley, Director of Government and Community Relations, SUNY Upstate; Kathryn Lee, MS, Public Relations, Syracuse University – SI Newhouse School of Public Communications]	<b>Presentation Topic Due</b>
<b>Week 4</b> <b>Sep. 23</b>	Public Health / Environment [By: Shannon R. Magari, ScD, MS, MPH, Principal + Vice President,	<b>Journal 1 (Due by 9AM Friday)</b> <b>Paper Topic Due (for all students, other than writing requirement, if any;</b>

	Health Sciences, Colden Corporation and Visiting Scientist, Harvard School of Public Health]	<b>present topics to class)</b>
<b>Week 5 Sep. 30</b>	Health Care System [By: Blatt]	<b>Journal 2 (Due by 9AM Friday)</b>
<b>Week 6 Oct. 7</b>	Mental Health [By: Campbell; Kathryn A. Strodel, Esq., Mental Hygiene Legal Service]	<b>Journal 3 (Due by 9AM Friday) Draft Outline Due/Discussion</b>
<b>Week 7 Oct. 14</b>	No Class (Mid-term break)	n/a
<b>Week 8 Oct. 21</b>	Poverty / Social Services 101 [By: TBD]	<b>Journal 4 (Due by 9AM Friday)</b>
<b>Week 9 Oct. 28</b>	Family Court / Child Custody, Mediation [By: Ramsey; Hon. Michael Hanuszczak, Family Court Judge; Karen Docter, Esq.; Patricia P. Ramsdell, Esq.]	<b>Journal 5 (Due by 9AM Friday)</b>
<b>Week 10 Nov. 4</b>	Violence – DV, Child Abuse [By: Melendez; Lynn Levey, Esq, Legal Writing Professor, SU College of Law; Asst D.A. Rick Trunfio, Onondaga County Office of the District Attorney]	<b>Journal 6 (Due by 9AM Friday)</b>
<b>Week 11 Nov. 11 *Shorter class (430-630) due to site visit</b>	Juvenile Justice SITE VISIT to Hillbrook Detention Center, 4949 Velasko Road, Town of Onondaga [By: Ramsey; Jackie DeNero, Director, Onondaga County Juvenile Justice/Detention Services]	<b>Law Students meeting Writing Requirement: Draft due to Prof. Ramsey or Prof. Melendez</b>
<b>Week 12 Nov. 18</b>	Education / Special education [By: Melissa Luke, PhD, LMHC, Asst. Prof. + Coordinator of the School Counseling Program, SU Counseling and Human Services Dept.; Sue Young, Esq. and Crystal M. Doody, Esq., Legal Services of Central NY]	<b>Journal 7 (Due by 9AM Friday) All students (except those meeting writing requirement, if any): Draft due to Prof. Campbell</b>
<b>Week 13 Nov. 25*</b>	No Class (class time met by Family Court visit on own + journal entry)	n/a
<b>Week 14 Dec. 2</b>	Medical Legal Partnerships – FAP [By: Ramsey, Blatt, Melendez]	
<b>Week 15 Dec. 9</b>	Student Presentations	n/a

**Journal entries (select 4 of the 7) are due to Prof. Campbell by e-mail ([campbela@upstate.edu](mailto:campbela@upstate.edu)) and through Blackboard (Journal button) by Friday at 9AM**

**after the relevant session** (e.g., for Journal #1 due in Week 4, class is Sep. 23 and journal entry is due Fri Sep 25 at 9AM).

**Family Court journal entry due (required as 5<sup>th</sup> graded journal entry) to Prof. Campbell by e-mail ([campbela@upstate.edu](mailto:campbela@upstate.edu)) and through Blackboard (Journal button) by Friday at 9AM the week on which the Family Court visit happens, or the following Friday at 9AM if the visit is on a Friday.**

**Final paper is due Wednesday December 16 by 5PM (e-mail to Prof. Campbell at [campbela@upstate.edu](mailto:campbela@upstate.edu) and place in Blackboard (Assignment section – final papers)).**