

MHA Course Descriptions

COM 668: Healthcare Leadership and Interprofessional Communication

Effective leadership in healthcare relies on the ability to communicate clearly, collaborate across disciplines, and navigate the complexity of modern care environments. This course provides students interested in the health professions with an in-depth exploration of the communication competencies essential for leading diverse clinical and administrative teams. Through case studies, guided discussions, applied exercises, and simulated interprofessional scenarios, students will examine how communication practices influence team performance, organizational culture, and patient outcomes. Prerequisite: None. Credit: 3.

MHA 500: Essentials of Healthcare Delivery: Organization and Leadership

Explore the dynamic, complex world of healthcare delivery by analyzing, evaluating, and challenging the structures, financing, and leadership models that shape care delivery. You will actively investigate the issues of access, cost, equity, and quality through a health system analysis to critically evaluate operations and outcomes of the health system. Healthcare workers are a critical component of the care delivery system and students will examine career opportunities and professional growth. Prerequisite: None. Credit: 3.

MHA 540: Healthcare Operations Management

Develop knowledge and skills with a comprehensive introduction to healthcare management and operations with a strong emphasis on the financial foundations that drive organizational performance. Students will develop practical skills in managing financial processes integral to revenue cycle management, gaining insight into how healthcare organizations capture, manage, and optimize revenue to support high-quality care delivery. Through applied exercises, data analysis, and case studies—students will evaluate real world operational scenarios and use information to inform sound business decisions. A significant focus is placed on solving operational and financial problems commonly faced by healthcare managers. Emphasis is placed on the use of Microsoft Excel to calculate, manage, and analyze data. Prerequisite: None. Credit: 3.

MHA 600: Fundamentals of Financial Management for Healthcare

This foundational course serves as the first of a two-course sequence and introduces the accounting and financial management principles essential to healthcare and health service organizations. Emphasis is placed on increasing financial literacy and developing the analytical skills required to understand and evaluate an organization's financial position using financial statement and the relationships between the financial statements. Students examine foundational financial concepts, including budgeting, cost determination, revenue and expense structures, and reimbursement methodologies used across the healthcare industry. Through applied exercises using Microsoft Excel software, case studies, and financial analysis activities, students explore key business practices and learn how financial data informs operational and strategic decision making in healthcare settings. Prerequisite: None. Credits: 3.

MHA 610: Financial Analysis for Healthcare

Building on the finance fundamentals, this course extends the competencies attained and equips students to evaluate financial performance. With a goal of analysis of financial performance for healthcare organizations- students will develop, use, analyze, and interpret health care organization's financial statements by performing a financial condition analysis. Emphasis is placed on synthesizing in-depth financial information to benchmark, forecast, and evaluate healthcare organizations. Prerequisite: MHA 600. Credits: 3.

MHA 620: Human Resources Management in Healthcare

This course focuses on understanding human resource management and its impact on organizational decision making. This course explains the theory, law, and practice of human resource management in both public and nonprofit agency sectors as they relate to healthcare and health services delivery personnel. Students will discuss and differentiate the theoretical and practical issues that leaders, managers, and human resources managers utilize in daily operations. Students will explain the interface between human capital, human capital management, and operational functions as they deal with individuals, work teams, and the goals of organizations, communities, and society. Students will describe the human resource trend of moving from a "custodial" function focused on compliance, to moving towards incorporating strategic functions and processes that contribute to achievement of an agency's mission, goals, and objectives through employee selection, retentions, engagement, and leadership. Prerequisite: None. Credit: 3.

MHA 625: Quality Management for Healthcare Organizations

High quality and patient safety are central tenets of healthcare delivery. To reach these goals we examine the quality-of-care delivery, patient safety, and patient experience in the US. Effective healthcare leaders understand the importance of approaches through quality management, quality assurance, and quality improvement. These topics are examined from a strategic viewpoint with the goal of providing healthcare administrators with the skills and knowledge to be effective drivers of quality, safety, and patient experience improvement. Using quality improvement (QI) techniques such as performance measurement, rapid cycle testing, and collaboration students will develop an improvement initiative. Prerequisite: MHA 500. Credits: 3.

MHA 630: Managerial Epidemiology for Population Health

The principles and applications of managerial epidemiology serve as a foundation for effective population health management. The course emphasizes techniques for calculating, interpreting, and evaluating measures of disease frequency, association, and risk. Students will apply these methods to real world datasets to assess population health needs, identify disparities, evaluate performance, and support organizational strategy. Students will develop data driven insights and use data visualization to clearly present results to stakeholders. Through hands on assignments and case-based analysis, students learn to communicate evidence-based recommendations that guide decisions related to quality improvement, resource allocation, service planning, population health management, and value-based care. Prerequisite: MHA Students - MHA 540. Credit: 3.

MHA 640: Healthcare Economics and Policy

Understanding health policy and economics is crucial for healthcare managers and leaders to analyze policy challenges and contribute meaningfully to policy discussions and decision making. Grounded in core economic theory, the course examines how providers, payers, and consumers behave within healthcare markets and how incentives, market structures, pricing, and supply and demand dynamics shape system performance. Students apply these concepts to real world issues such as government regulation, provider payment models, insurance coverage, cost growth, and market consolidation. Throughout the course critical evaluation, analysis, and communication of health policy is considered through debate-style discussion and evidence-informed policy recommendations considering a range of stakeholder perspectives, potential impacts, and unintended consequences. Pre-requisite: None. Credit: 3.

MHA 645: Healthcare Law and Ethics

This course explores the legal, political, social, and ethical issues encountered by healthcare professionals and organizations. Topics include government regulation of healthcare providers, patient consent, human reproduction, privacy, confidentiality, tax-exemption, antitrust, inurement, fraud, abuse, abortion, terminal care, mental health, health information management, and individual vs. society benefit. Students will analyze legal and ethical healthcare resources by engaging in interactive discussions and informative research. Pre-requisite: None. Credit: 3.

MHA 650: Healthcare Informatics and Innovation

This course introduces the fundamental concepts, applications, and emerging trends in health information technology and healthcare informatics such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. Students examine how information systems support strategic decision making, project management, population health, and patient care. Emphasis is placed on real world case studies involving clinical decision support, surveillance systems, imaging, simulation, and patient safety technologies. The course also incorporates healthcare innovation principles, exploring how digital health tools, analytics, and technology driven solutions transform care delivery and organizational performance. Legal and ethical considerations, including security, confidentiality, governance, and informed consent—are addressed, along with methods for evaluating and reporting on system effectiveness. Prerequisite: MHA 640. Credit: 3.

MHA 680: MHA Capstone and Strategic Planning

Interpreting complex organizational, financial, and community level insights are essential for high quality, efficient healthcare delivery. Serving as the culminating experience of the graduate program, this capstone course guides students through the development of a comprehensive strategic plan that synthesizes and integrates the full range of knowledge and skills gained throughout their studies. A core component of the project includes conducting a financial condition analysis to assess organizational stability, identify risks, and guide long term strategic direction. Emphasis is placed on integrating leadership, business skills, healthcare knowledge, and data driven decision making into an actionable strategic plan. Students participate in a team project that allows students to integrate program competencies to develop and communicate a professional business presentation for the healthcare industry. Prerequisite: MHA 650. Credit: 3.