

Writing in the Health Care Management and Policy Major: HCMP Integrated Writing Plan

The core courses in the Health Care Management and Policy major focus on broadening and deepening students' writing. Beginning in their first course in the major, Health Care in America (HESY 010) students learn to develop well researched academic essays in which they explore complex ideas and present written arguments supporting their position on an issue in contemporary health care. In their Health Services Research course (HESY 180) students learn to summarize information from various data sources, critique published research findings, and present complex scientific material for a lay audience. They deepen their analytical writing in Health Care Economics (HESY 170) where they are guided through a methodology for a comparative analysis essay in which they compare and contrast two or more ideas, further developing their skills in making succinct and cogent written arguments. Students learn to write policy briefs, annotated bibliographies, case analyses, and executive memos in their subsequent coursework. Finally, students conduct extensive literature reviews and complete a formal research paper in their final internship courses. Students in the Honors Program also write and defend a senior thesis.

Virtually all of the required HCMP courses have significant writing assignments, designed to hone their writing skills and to provide them with the opportunity to develop skill in various types of writing, ranging from one-page policy briefs and executive memos, to extensive reviews of the literature and research papers.