LOYOLA UNIVERSITY
CITY COLLEGE --- DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
ONLINE COURSE SYLLABUS SPRING 2006
NURS 712: NURSING FINANCIAL RESOURCES I

FACULTY: Gordon Natal, Jr., MSN, MHA, RN, CNA, BC  
Office # -- 504-865-2509  
FAX # -- 504-865-3254  
Home # -- 504-457-2367  
Cell # -- 504-343-5905  
Trish delNero, Distance Learning Librarian # - 1-800-488-OCLP (Ext.: 7136)  
On Campus—504-864-7136

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the principles and practices of finance and the impact of reimbursement models and regulation in health care. Within this framework, content regarding finance and marketing, analysis of financial statements, strategic financial planning, cost/benefit analysis and capital project development is examined. Quantitative and qualitative approaches to decision making in the complex relationships among provider, payer, employer, and client are addressed.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

- Discuss the financial impact of evolving government regulations on the health care organization.
- Trace the historical development of reimbursement systems.
- Describe the impact of alternative reimbursement models on the financial viability of the health care organization.
- Examine current financial contracts within the organization.
- Understand the basic tenets of a program, capital, personnel and cash budgets.
- Understand the concepts of pre-certification, concurrent review and benefit limits in relation to the global financial picture of the organization.
- Develop cost projections for a variety of care management strategies based on the prominent reimbursement model of the organization.
- Demonstrate communication and negotiation skills necessary for resource acquisition.

III. EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Apply current database software (Excel) to develop a position control, personnel budget and zero-based budget.
- Integrate current financial terminology to develop and justify the purchase of capital equipment.
- Assess the financial viability of an organization and determine methods to improve fiscal viability.

IV. PREREQUISITES

NONE

IV. TIME ALLOCATION
3 Credit hours = 45 clock hours

V. TEACHING STRATEGIES

Video presentations, student discussion, seminars, student presentations

VI. EVALUATION METHODS

Article Abstracts--------------------------------------------------------------- 10%
Organizational Assessment ----------------------------------------------- 15%
Position Control--------------------------------------------------------------- 10%
Sample Budget(s)--------------------------------------------------------------- 15%
Posting Position Control and Budget on Blackboard and participation in
Threaded discussions---------------------------------------------------------- 10%
Capital Expenditure Request--------------------------------------------------- 10%
Final Exam-------------------------------------------------------------------- 20%
Participation------------------------------------------------------------------ 10%

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94 – 100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90 – 93</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>87 – 89</td>
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<td>83 – 86</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>80 – 82</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 – 80</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>&lt;70</td>
<td>F</td>
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VII. GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

A. Article Abstracts--------------------------------------------------------------- 10%

Each student will submit four article summaries related to health care finance. Two articles will be directly related to recent (within the last year) fiscal changes affecting health care reimbursement within the last year and two related to health care financial issues in general. Article summaries should be no longer than one page. Abstracts are written according to APA guidelines and submitted to faculty via groups page prior to the deadline.

B. Organizational Assessment------------------------------------------------------ 15%

Each student is required to meet with a financial executive of a health care organization. The best persons to meet with would be the controller or chief financial officer of an organization. The student will have completed the assigned readings for Module 3 and downloaded their assigned budget and a list of questions to ask the financial executive. Upon completion of the interview, the student will document the interview into APA format and attempt to draw some conclusions from the interview relative to the facilities financial viability.

C. Position Control--------------------------------------------------------------- 10%

As the director of your department, it is time for you to prepare the fiscal budget for the
upcoming year. The first step in this process is to prepare a departmental description describing how your department delivers care to its patients, including service type, types of care providers, average daily census (ADC), hours per stat or unit of measure, and FTE allocation. The position control is to be prepared on a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

D. **Sample Budget** ----------------------------------------------- 15%

Complete a sample budget (revenues, expenses, and capital) for a department/organization. This is to be prepared on a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and transmitted to faculty via e-mail.

E. **Posting Position Control and Budget on Blackboard and Participation in Threaded Discussions** ----------------------------------------------- 10%

Each student will post his or her position control and sample budget on Blackboard and participate in threaded discussions on posted spreadsheets.

F. **Capital Expenditure Request** ----------------------------------------------- 10%

Complete a capital expenditure request inclusive of a quote from a specific vendor, reason for the equipment (new service/new equipment/replacement of existing equipment) return on investment, and life expectancy of equipment. Utilize guidelines posted on blackboard.

G. **Final Exam** ----------------------------------------------- 20%

The final examination will be a comprehensive exam inclusive of multiple choice questions as well as essay questions. Essay questions will be situational questions allowing each student the opportunity to apply the theory and principles learned in class with a financial situation affecting nursing executives and managers.

H. **Participation** ----------------------------------------------- 10%

Each student is required to participate in discussion boards and module discussions.

VIII. **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**


IX. **COURSE POLICIES**

**City College Attendance Policy**
City College faculty considers interaction with students crucial to the teaching and learning process. All students are expected to participate in discussion board and interact with faculty and students.

**Assignments**

Late papers and assignments may be penalized by deduction of up to 10% of the total possible points on the paper. **APA STYLE IS REQUIRED.**

**Return of Student Work**
All students have the right to receive feedback on their graded work.

**X. TOPICAL OUTLINE**

**INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH CARE FINANCE**
1. Introduction and Overview
2. The Health Care Environment
3. The Role of Financial Management Within the Health Care Organization
4. Key Issues in Applied Economics

**THE HEALTH CARE FINANCE ENVIRONMENT**
1. The Role of Financial Management Within the Health Care Organization Environment
   2. Key Issues in Applied Economics
   3. General Principles of Accounting

**C. HEALTH CARE ECONOMICS AND HEALTH CARE COSTS**
1. Analyzing Financial Statements
   Cost management

**D. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND BUDGETS FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES**
1. Determining Health Care Costs and Prices
2. Costs and other Issues Related to Recruiting and Retaining Staff
   3. Budgeting Concepts
   4. Operating Budget

**E. CAPITAL AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**
1. Capital Project Analyses

**F. LEGAL AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT**
1. Legal and Regulatory Environment

**XI. COURSE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module I</th>
<th>01/07/06</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review of Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td>Introduction and Overview (Finkler &amp; Kovner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Health Care Environment (Finkler &amp; Kovner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module</td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2</td>
<td>THE HEALTH CARE FINANCE ENVIRONMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abstracts Due (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3 (2 Weeks)</td>
<td>HEALTH CARE ECONOMICS AND HEALTH CARE COSTS</td>
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<td>Organizational Assessment Due</td>
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<td>FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND BUDGETS FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES</td>
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<td>Position Control Due (Week 1)</td>
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<td>Sample Budget Due (Week 2)</td>
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<td>Module 5</td>
<td>CAPITAL AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS</td>
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<td>Capital Expenditure Request Due</td>
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<td>Module 6</td>
<td>LEGAL AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT</td>
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<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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