This poster was prepared with financial support from the American Medical Association (AMA) as part of the Accelerating Change in Medical Education Initiative. The content reflects the views of the authors and does not necessarily represent the views of the AMA or other participants in this initiative.

**RATIONALE/NEED**

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) introduced significant changes in the health system. Health professions have new incentives, opportunities and challenges. In order to address them effectively, health professionals need to understand the ACA and the opportunities and challenges it provides. The goal of the course is to facilitate such an understanding. The course will examine the role of health professionals in policy formation and implementation.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The ACA is controversial with conflicting interpretations and predictions about its impact. The course will facilitate learners’ review and critical examination of:

a) the cyclical nature of policy formation and the role of health professionals in that process,

b) ACA provisions and initiatives and how they were formed;

c) ACA quality improvement initiatives, incentives, and challenges; and

d) ACA initiatives, opportunities, incentives, business models and challenges for healthcare provision.

**THEORY PHASE**

Lectures, team assignments and in-class discussions about the ACA, and the new challenges, incentives and opportunities for the health professions.

**EXPERIENTIAL PHASE**

1. Inter-professional teams will research and analyze a specific provisions of the law

2. In-class presentations of findings

3. Other activities based on findings (e.g. business plans to explore new incentives & opportunities)

**INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**

Self-teaching, experiential learning, teamwork, discussions, oral and written presentations and business planning

**POTENTIAL GROUP PROJECTS**

ACOs and other emerging healthcare organizations

Bundled payments; ACA and preventative care

ACA and shortage of primary care providers

ACA regulations of healthcare

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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**EVALUATION PLAN**

Instructor (formative)

The instructor will use feedback gathered through observation and listening to teams to improve the learning process.

Students (formative)

Students will self-assess and reflect on their learning processes and the effects of the learning on their views and feelings. They will also assess their peers and provide feedback during class discussions. At class conclusion, students will evaluate the instructional strategy and suggest methods of making it more effective.

Summative evaluation

This will include self-, peer-, and instructor evaluations of the inter-professional team projects and of the effectiveness of the class. The summative evaluation feedback will be useful for planning the next class.

**POTENTIAL IMPACT**

Life-long learners; Inter-professional teams with business plans; inter-professional participation and collaboration in policy formation and implementation; Critical thinking and policy assessment skills;

Greater awareness of the incentives, challenges of the ACA

Clarity about the role and responsibilities of care providers in health policy formation, implementation and reform.