

**Quality Measurement and Outcomes Analysis in Health Care**  
**Thursday - 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
**September 11, 2008 - December 4, 2008**  
**Room 218 Curtis Building (1015 Walnut Street), Thomas Jefferson University**

**Course Number**

GC 515 Thomas Jefferson University, College of Graduate Studies  
HP 715 University of the Sciences in Philadelphia

**Course Instructor:** Neil Goldfarb, Vice Chair for Research  
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Jefferson Medical College  
Director, Ambulatory Care Performance Improvement, Jefferson University  
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**Hours per Week:** Three hours in class, plus supplemental study assignments

**Credit:** Three semester hours credit

**Prerequisites:** Basic understanding of the US healthcare system

**Text:** Nash DB, Goldfarb NI, editors. The Quality Solution: The Stakeholder's Guide to Improving Health Care. Jones & Bartlett Publishers, 2006. (available at the TJU Bookstore, 10<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut)  
Additional readings will be distributed in class.

<b>Grading:</b>	Midterm exam (take home)	30%
	Student project presentation	25%
	Final exam (take home)	35%
	Class participation and attendance	10%

<b>Grading Scale:</b>	90 or above	A	77-79	B-
	87-89	A-	74-76	C+
	84-86	B+	70-73	C
	80-83	B	<=69	F

## Learning Objectives

This course has been designed to provide students with understanding of the conceptual principles of health care quality definition and measurement, and of the practical issues involved in applying these principles in a variety of health care settings.

Through classroom presentations and discussions, readings, and work applying classroom learning to a quality measurement project, students will be able to:

1. Identify conceptual frameworks which have been developed to measure and improve quality in health care
2. Locate and critique existing measures of quality as applied to a particular clinical area, demographically-defined population, and or delivery setting
3. Identify how the organization, financing and delivery of services in the US impacts on quality of care
4. Apply learning to development of quality measurement and improvement plans in a variety of care delivery and public health settings
5. Interpret data on quality and design action plans for improvement and remeasurement
6. Understand how policy decisions can improve or impede quality and safety in health care, including populational health outcomes, within a systems framework

## **Weekly Syllabus:**

### **September 11**

#### Session 1: Introduction

5:00 Course Introduction and Administration

5:30 Current State of Quality and Safety in the United States

### **September 18**

#### Session 2: Conceptual Framework for Measurement and Improvement

5:00 Quality Conceptualization and Measurement

6:15 Quality Improvement Processes

7:15 Group Project Organization

Readings: Text Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 7 and Bulk pack

### **September 25**

#### Session 3: Analyzing Clinical Quality Data

5:00 Data Sources and Measurement Properties

6:20 Improving Quality in the Hospital Setting (Patricia Middaugh, MS, RD, LDN, Quality Manager, Lankenau Hospital)

Readings: Text Chapters 5, 6, and 13 and Bulk pack

### **October 2**

#### Session 4: Quality Improvement in Inpatient Settings

6:20 Severity of Illness and Case Mix Adjustment (Daniel Z. Louis, Managing Director, JMC Center for Research in Medical Education and Health Care)

6:20 Statistical Approaches to Quality Data

Readings: Bulk pack

### **October 9**

No Class (Yom Kippur) – student groups are expected to meet at some point this week to discuss projects and develop project descriptions

### **October 16**

#### Session 5: Quality Improvement in Managed Care

5:00 NCOA Accreditation and HEDIS

6:20 Case Study: Developing a Quality Measurement Set for Migraine (Brian Leas, Project Manager, JMC Department of Health Policy)

7:00 Disease Management as a Quality Improvement Strategy

Readings: Text Chapter 11 and Bulk pack

*Group Project 1-page Descriptions Due*

**October 23**

Session 6: Improving Quality at the Provider Level (David Nash, MD, MBA, Chair,  
JMC Department of Health Policy)

5:00 Evidence-based medicine, provider profiling and public reporting of data

6:20 The consumer's role in improving quality

Readings: Text Chapters 8 and 10 and Bulk pack

*Midterm Exam Distributed*

**October 30**

Session 7: Quality Improvement for Public Insurance Programs

5:00 Overview of Quality Issues for the Medicare and Medicaid Populations

6:20 Role of the Quality Improvement Organization (Don Wilson, MD, Medical Director, Quality Insights, Invited)

Readings: Text Chapter 12 and Bulk pack

*Midterm Exam Due*

**November 6**

Session 8: Managing and Improving Ambulatory Care

5:00 Overview of Ambulatory Care Performance Measurement

Case Studies Presented by the Jefferson University Physicians Performance Improvement:

5:15 Pay for Performance (Richard Jacoby, MD)

5:45 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) (Bettina Berman, RN)

6:20 Improving Attention to Smoking Cessation Counseling and Referral (Valerie Pracilio)

6:45 Measuring Patient Safety Using the PPPSA Tool (Bettina Berman, RN)

Readings: Text Chapter 14 and Bulk pack

**November 13**

Session 9: Achieving Value in Health Care

5:00 Value-based Purchasing of Health Benefits: Measuring Quality at the Purchaser Level

6:20 Quality Measurement in Pharmaceutical Care (Dave Domann, MS, RPh, Senior Director,  
Healthcare Quality Management, Ortho-McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs)

Readings: Text Chapter 9 and Bulk pack

**November 20**

Session 10: Measuring and Improving Patient Safety

5:00 Surveillance Systems for Improving Patient Safety (Stanton Smullens, MD, Chief Medical  
Officer, Jefferson Health System)

6:20 Improving Patient Safety within the Hospital

Readings: Text Chapter 15 and Bulk pack

*Final Exam Distributed*

**November 27**  
NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)

**December 4**  
Session 11: Student Project Presentations and Discussion  
Readings: Text Chapter 16  
*Final Exam Due*

(rev. 7/17/08)