HEALTH POLICY AND LAW (MS)

Degree Offered: MS
Program Leadership:
Janet Coffman, PhD, MPP, MA, Program Co-Director (UCSF)
Sarah Hooper, JD, Program Co-Director (UC Hastings)
Mallory Warner, JD, Associate Director (UC Hastings)

Admissions Inquiries:
Mallory Warner, Associate Director

Program Description
The joint UCSF/UC Hastings Master of Science in Health Policy and Law (HPL) is an online master’s degree program intended for students who wish to obtain interdisciplinary training in the fields of health science, law, and policy. The 24 semester-unit degree includes 24 units of core required coursework. The core relies on curriculum drawn from both UCSF and UC Hastings. UCSF and UC Hastings will jointly confer the degree.

Admission Requirements
Eligibility Requirements:
1. Applicants must have an introductory level understanding of the U.S. healthcare system, as evidenced by one or more of the following and documented in the applicant's resume, transcripts, CV or letters of recommendation:
   a. Job, professional, volunteer, or other experience related to health care, health law, or health policy; or
   b. Completion of an undergraduate-, graduate-level, or continuing education course that includes an introduction to the U.S. healthcare system.
2. Ideal candidates will be well-organized, capable of working independently, and proactive in engaging with faculty and fellow students.
3. If accepted, all candidates must ensure they have sufficient computer and internet access to complete the largely asynchronous online curriculum.

Application Requirements:
1. Completed HPL Application Form
2. Completed Supplemental Materials:
   a. Resume or curriculum vitae (CV)
   b. Official academic transcripts
   c. Statement of Purpose
   d. $75 non-refundable application fee
   e. Two letters of recommendation
   f. English Proficiency Exam (if applicable)

Learning Outcomes
1. Graduates will demonstrate practical understanding of social, political, economic, and legal dynamics of health policy in the United States.
2. Graduates will use evidence-based reasoning to critically assess legal, policy, and social challenges facing U.S. health care, and articulate advantages and downsides of different approaches for addressing those problems.
3. Graduates will demonstrate ability to communicate and collaborate with individuals of diverse disciplinary backgrounds to address health policy issues.
4. Graduates will develop effective strategies for oral and written communication with diverse policy stakeholder groups.

Degree Requirements
The HPL is a 24-unit online degree consisting of all required coursework. HPL students are required to propose and execute a capstone project as part of the degree program.

Core Courses
All HPL courses are on the UC Hastings academic schedule. Learn more about HPL student course plans (https://www.uchastings.edu/admissions/hpl/hplprogram/courseplans/).

Full-Time Academic Track
Fall 2022
HPL 060: HPL Research and Writing (3)
HPL 062: How to Evaluate Policy-Relevant Research (2)
HPL 064: Intro to U.S. Health Policymaking Process (2)
HPL 066: U.S. Health Care System and the Law (4)
HPL 068: Capstone Proposal (1)

Spring 2023
HPL 070: Health Economics (3)
HPL 072: Health Law: Institutions, Providers and Patients (4)
HPL 074: Health Care Leadership and Advocacy (2)
HPL 076: Capstone Execution (3)

Part-Time Academic Track
Fall 2022
HPL 060: HPL Research and Writing (3)
HPL 066: U.S. Health Care System and the Law (4)

Spring 2023
HPL 070: Health Economics (3)
HPL 072: Health Law: Institutions, Providers and Patients (4)

Fall 2023
HPL 062: How to Evaluate Policy-Relevant Research (2)
HPL 066: Intro to U.S. Health Policymaking Process (2)
HPL 068: Capstone Proposal (1)

Spring 2024
HPL 074: Health Care Leadership and Advocacy (2)
HPL 076: Capstone Execution (3)