Kathleen P. Rubinstein, MPA

“As a working practitioner, I am indebted to the UH Master of Public Administration Program for the excellent education I received here. As an alum and long-time instructor, I am deeply optimistic about this program and its future.”

Biographical Summary

Working at the intersection of public policy and health law for most of my career, I’m a policy analyst with the BakerHostetler law firm. I work collaboratively with my firm’s legal and public policy professionals in developing and implementing strategies for achieving client policy goals and resolving their regulatory concerns. My professional focus centers on matters involving healthcare policy including regulation of the Medicare and Medicaid programs and implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

I write on healthcare issues and frequently collaborate with my law firm colleagues on articles and presentations of topical interest. I also serve as editor of the BakerHostetler Health Law Update and blog.

I’m alum of the UH MPA Program (Class of 1996) as well as an instructor. Students may follow me on Twitter @kprubinstein – where I curate and share information on topics and issues involving healthcare regulation and policy. I can be reached at krubinstein@bakerlaw.com.

PUBL 6395 - Healthcare Policy Seminar

Course introduction:
This course, offered in the Fall Semester, explores the role of government in organizing, financing and delivering healthcare in the U.S. and prepares students to apply policy analysis tools and approaches to contemporary health policy issues and problems.

Topics include:
• Overview of the U.S. healthcare system and the role of government in healthcare
• The breath and diversity of the policy environment including key policy actors and institutions
• The dynamics of the policy process within a federal system of government
• The evolution of the U.S. healthcare system and past attempts at healthcare reform
• Conflicting ideas and values associated with the distribution of healthcare resources
• Strengths and dysfunctions of a third party payment system for healthcare
• The insured, the uninsured and access to care issues
• National health expenditures: How much? What value? Why are healthcare prices impossible to know?
• Government health insurance programs – Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP
• The promise, politics, pitfalls and challenges of the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
• How the courts influence policymaking and implementation of the ACA
• Emerging policy topics and issues as determined by the class

Prerequisites:
None

This course will have:
Writing assignments
Group discussion assignments
Policy analysis paper (in lieu of a final exam)