

Health & Society Major

Southern Methodist University

Information Sheet

The Health & Society Major at SMU is an inter-disciplinary program for students interested in the practice and study of health in global and cultural contexts. Through this plan of study, students engage in broad and diverse ways with the problems of illness and health care in human societies. With its major emphasis on inter-disciplinarity, the major fosters graduates who are well prepared to perform and collaborate in health care occupations by viewing health as part of dynamic systems with symbolic, material, ethical, and historical factors. The program will help students meet a greater variety of post-baccalaureate goals, including employment or graduate admission to schools and programs of medicine, dentistry, public health, nursing, health care administration, psychology, medical anthropology, medical sociology, law, and others.

In the core course work, students will develop a foundation for the interdisciplinary study of human health in social context. Next they will complete training in the theory, research methods, and case studies from one of two programmatic tracks: a bench science track oriented to students pursuing graduate study in medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and other clinical fields; and a behavioral and social science track, oriented to students pursuing applied work, research, and graduate study in the allied health professions including public health, health care administration, psychology, and medical anthropology or sociology. Students reunite in a senior capstone course through which they prepare a paper or project reflective of their multi-disciplinary approach to human health problems.

To apply for the H&S Major, please send one copy of the following materials to Dr. Carolyn Smith-Morris, SMU Anthropology, Campus Box 0336, Heroy Building Room 415. Deadlines for applications are every September 15 and February 15.

- Cover letter, not to exceed two, single-spaced pages, explaining your interest in the Program, your GPA, relevant personal experience, and your related goals both at SMU and post-baccalaureate. Please also state the Track (1: Physiological or 2: Social and Cultural) to which you are applying.
- Complete Interest Form (attached), detailing coursework in the Major already completed.
- Degree Progress Report, not more than 30 days old.
- Essay, not to exceed two, single-spaced, typed pages, responding to the following application prompt: **Do all human beings have the right to full access to opportunities that enable healthy lives? Make sure to discuss what a “healthy life” entails.** Applicants are encouraged to draw upon literature (scholarly, popular, or news media), citing properly. Bibliography will not be counted in the two-page limit.

For further information, please contact:

Prof. Carolyn Smith-Morris, Director
smithmor@smu.edu, 214.768.2878

Form Revised: March 2015 (v10)



Health & Society Major

Applicants to the Health & Society Major are required to submit a completed Interest Form and application materials, have a 2.0 GPA and 24 credit hours, and have completed the Lab Science course requirement with a minimum grade of C-. The number of students who can declare this Major is capped. Applications are reviewed twice annually, September 15 and February 15.

Foundation & Capstone Courses: (15-16 hours)

1. SOC/BEHL SCI: PSYC 1300 or SOC 1300 or ANTH 2301
2. LAB SCI: for Track 1: BIOL 1401 or CHEM 1303 (with lab CHEM 1113)
for Track 2: BIOL 1303 or 1401, or CHEM 1303 (with lab CHEM 1113) or 1301
3. ANTH 3306 Intro. to Medical Anthropology
4. Ethics Course – choose one: SOC/ANTH 3301 Health, Healing & Ethics
PHIL 3376 Bioethics
RELI 3309 Bioethics from a Christian Perspective
5. Capstone Course – must be taken after all other Foundation & Core Courses are completed
– choose one: ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture and Power
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspective
Others with approval of Dept. Chair/Professor

Track 1: Physiological Emphasis

Track 1 is a B.S. Track only, 44 total credit hours; there is no B.A. option in this Track.

Core Courses: (6 hours required)

MATH 1337 or STAT 2331
PSYC 3332 Developmental Psychology

Electives: (22 hours; no more than 12 from any dept; at least 15 at 3000-level or higher)

ANTH 2315 Human Evolution
ANTH 3350 Good Eats, Forbidden Flesh
ANTH 3351 Forensic Anthropology
ANTH 4307 Global and Public Health
ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture & Power
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Persp.
ANTH 5310 Human Osteology
APSM 2441 Anatomy and Physiology I
APSM 2442 Anatomy and Physiology II
APSM 4349 Health Policy
BIOL 1402 Biology II
BIOL 3304 Genetics
BIOL 3350 Cellular Biology
CHEM 1304 General Chemistry II
CHEM 1114 General Chemistry II Lab
CHEM 3371 Organic Chemistry
CHEM 3117 Organic Chemistry Lab
PSYC 2351 Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 3360 Health Psychology
PSYC 4321 Behavioral Action of Drugs
PSYC 4320 Biological Psychology
WGST 3380 Human Sexuality

Track 2: Social and Cultural Emphasis

The second track may be taken for the B.A. (35-36 credits) or the B.S. (43-44 credits).

Core Courses: (7 hours)

Methods (ANTH 3345, PSYC 2301, or SOC 3311)
APSM 2441 Anatomy and Physiology I

Electives (13 hrs for the B.A., 21 hrs for the B.S.; no more than 12 from any dept; at least 9 at 3000-level or higher)

ANTH 3328 Gender Violence
ANTH 3345 Ethnographic Methods
ANTH 3348 Health as a Human Right
ANTH 3350 Good Eats, Forbidden Flesh
ANTH 4303 Political Economy of Health
ANTH 4307 Global and Public Health
ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture & Power
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Persp.
APSM 2442 Anatomy and Physiology II
APSM 4349 Health Policy
ENGL 3379 Disability – Gender, Care, Justice
PHIL 3376 Bioethics
PHIL 3364 Philosophy of Biology
PSYC 3341 Social Psychology
PSYC 3360 Health Psychology
PSYC 4320 Biological Psychology
PSYC 4321 Behavioral Action of Drugs
SOC/ANTH 3301 Health, Healing and Ethics
STAT 2331 Intro. to Statistical Methods
WGST 3310 Gender and Human Rights
WGST 3380 Human Sexuality
WGST 3382 Women's Body Politic

This program of study does not satisfy requirements for the MCAT or medical school applications. Students preparing for admission to health-related graduate school must consult with the Pre-Health Professions Advisor.

Interest Form

The Health & Society Major

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This Interest Form may be submitted prior to, or along with, application materials, and will ensure students are placed on the Program Mailing List. Applicants must submit (or have on file) a completed Interest Form and application materials, have a 2.0 GPA and 24 credit hours, and have completed the Lab Science course requirement with a minimum grade of C-. The number of students who can declare this Major is capped. Applications are reviewed twice annually, September 15 and February 15. Return completed Forms to: Dept. of Anthropology, Campus Box 0336.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Current Year/Class: _____ Email: _____

Current Major(s)/Minor(s): _____

Post-Graduation Goals: (If graduate school, please specify which discipline/s.)

Indicate courses that you have already completed or are currently taking:

FOUNDATION COURSES:

- _____ PSYC 1300 or SOC 1300 or ANTH 2301 (circle one)
- _____ BIO/CHEM course/lab (please indicate which course/lab _____)
- _____ ANTH 3306 Intro. to Medical Anthropology
- _____ Ethics course (please indicate which course _____)
- _____ Capstone courses: ANTH 4343 or ANTH 5336 or other (please indicate _____)

TRACK 1 CORE COURSES:

- _____ MATH 1337 or STAT 2331
- _____ PSYC 2314/3332 Devel. Psych

TRACK 2 CORE COURSES:

- _____ Methods (PSYC 2301;SOC 3311;ANTH3345)
- _____ APSM 2441 Anat and Phys I

ELECTIVES: (Please list. See attached Major description for Electives in the H&S Major.)

Comments or questions on the Health & Society Major:

This program of study does not satisfy requirements for the MCAT or medical school applications. Students preparing for admission to health-related graduate school must consult with the Pre-Health Professions Advisor.