

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, policy 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 physiological 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 e-mail one copy of the following materials to both Dr. Nia Parson, SMU Anthropology (nparson@smu.edu) and Tiffany Powell, program admin (tapowell@smu.edu). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and reviewed every September 15 and February 15 for admission. Please also state the Track (1: Physiological or 2: Social/Cultural) to which you are applying.

- 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. Also include a brief discussion of why you think an interdisciplinary perspective on health and healing is of value.
- Completed Interest Form (attached), detailing coursework in the Major already completed.
- Degree Progress Report, not more than 30 days old.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. Nia Parson,
Co-Director, Health and Society Major
nparson@smu.edu

Form Revised: 12 June 2018



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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)

SOC/BEHL SCI: PSYC 1300 or SOC 1300 or ANTH 2301
LAB SCI: for Track 1: BIOL 1301 (with lab BIOL 1101) or CHEM 1303 (with lab CHEM 1113)
for Track 2: BIOL 1300 or 1301 (with lab BIOL 1101), or CHEM 1303 (with lab CHEM 1113) or 1301
Ethics Course – choose one: SOCI/ANTH 3301 Health, Healing & Ethics
PHIL 3376 Bioethics
PHIL 3381 Neuroethics
RELI 3309 Bioethics from a Christian Perspective

ANTH 3306 Intro. to Medical Anthropology

Capstone Experience – must be taken after all other Foundation & Core Courses are completed – choose one:

ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture and Power ANTH 4348 Toxic Topics
ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355 Creating Global and Public Health Impact
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspective Others with approval of Program Director/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 2332 Developmental Psychology

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

ANTH 2415 Human Evolution
ANTH 3303 Self, Culture and Mind
ANTH 3307 Intro to Biological Anthropology
ANTH 3350 Good Eats, Forbidden Flesh
ANTH 3351 Forensic Anthropology
ANTH 4307 Global and Public Health
ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture & Power
ANTH/MNO 4345/ APSM 4355 Creating Global & Public Health Impact
ANTH 4381 Internship
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspectives
ANTH 5310 Human Osteology
APSM 2441 Anatomy and Physiology I
APSM 2442 Anatomy and Physiology II
APSM 4349 Health Policy
BIOL 1302 Biology II
BIOL 1102 Biology II Lab
BIOL 3304 Genetics
BIOL 3350 Cellular Biology
BIOL 4106 Functional Anatomy and Histology Laboratory
BIOL 4306 Human Physiology
CHEM 1304 General Chemistry II
CHEM 1114 General Chemistry II Lab
CHEM 3371 Organic Chemistry
CHEM 3117 Organic Chemistry Lab
KNW 2303 Under the Influence
PSYC 2351 Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 3360 Health Psychology
PSYC 4310 Cognition and the Brain
PSYC 4320 Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYC 4321 Behavioral Action of Drugs
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 3301, 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 3303 Self, Culture and Mind
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/MNO 4345/APSM 4355 Creating Global & Public Health Impact
ANTH 4348 Toxic Topics
ANTH 4381 Internship
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspectives.
APSM 2442 Anatomy and Physiology II
APSM 4349 Health Policy
ENGL 3379 Disability – Gender, Care, Justice
ENGL 3384 Literature and Medicine
KNW 2303 Under the Influence
PHIL 3376 Bioethics
PHIL 3364 Philosophy of Biology
PSYC 3341 Social Psychology
PSYC 3360 Health Psychology
PSYC 4320 Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYC 4321 Behavioral Action of Drugs
SOCI/ANTH 3301 Health, Healing and Ethics
STAT 2331 Intro. to Statistical Methods
WGST 3310 Gender and Human Rights
WGST 3380 Human Sexuality

- students on either track may take one elective from the other track.

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

Check one:

TRACK 1 CORE COURSES:

- _____ MATH 1337 or STAT 2331
- _____ PSYC 2332/3332 Devel. Psych

TRACK 2 CORE COURSES:

- _____ Methods (PSYC 2301/3301;SOC 3311;ANTH 3345)
- _____ 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.