

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 (BA or BS)) to which you are applying.

- Statement of Interest, 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 (summary and detail pages), not more than 30 days old.
- Successful completion of your first year at SMU.

Thank you for your interest in the Health and Society Major. Please note that stating your interest in this major is not a guarantee of future admittance. The selection process is highly competitive, and your grades, experience, career goals, and statement of interest are all considered carefully by an interdisciplinary admissions committee of Health and Society Program faculty.

For further information, please contact:

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

Form Revised 17 November 2021



Interest Form

The Health & Society Major

Southern Methodist University

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. Return completed Forms to: Dept. of Anthropology, tapowell@smu.edu. Keep informational pages for your own future reference.

Thank you for your interest in the Health and Society Major. Please note that stating your interest in this major is not a guarantee of future admittance. The selection process is highly competitive, and your grades, experience, career goals, and statement of interest are all considered carefully by an interdisciplinary admissions committee of Health and Society Program faculty.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Preferred gender pronouns: _____ Email: _____

Current Year/Class: _____

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

Check one:

TRACK 1 CORE COURSES:

- _____ MATH 1337 or STAT 2331
_____ PSYC 2332 Dev Psych

TRACK 2 CORE COURSES:

- _____ Methods (PSYC 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.

Health and Society Major

Name: _____ Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____ Total Academic Units: _____

Foundation & Capstone Courses: (15-16 hours)

SOC/BEHL SCI: PSYC 1300 or SOCI 1300 or ANTH 2301

LAB SCI: Track 1: BIOL 1301 (w/lab BIOL 1101) or CHEM 1303 (w/lab CHEM 1113)

Track 2: BIOL 1300 or BIOL 1301 (w/lab BIOL 1101) or CHEM 1301 or CHEM 1303
(w/lab CHEM 1113)

Ethics Course: ANTH/SOCI 3301 Health, Healing & Ethics
PHIL 3381 Neuroethics

PHIL 3376 Bioethics

RELI 3309 Bioethics from a Christian Perspective

ANTH 3306: Introduction to Medical Anthropology

Capstone Experience: Capstone instructors have the authority to

deny admittance to their specific class.

ANTH 4342 Resilience

ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture & Power

ANTH/APSM/MNO 4344 Pandemics!

ANTH 4348 Toxic Topics

ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355 Creating

ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Global & Public Health Impact

Others w/approval of Program Director &

Professor

Track 1: Physiological Emphasis

Track 1 is a B.S. Track only, 44-45 total credit hours.

Core Courses: (6 hours required)

MATH 1337 or STAT 2331

PSYC 2332 Developmental Psychology

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

ANTH 2415 Human Evolution

BIOL 1102 Biology II Lab

ANTH 3303 Self, Culture and Mind

BIOL 1302 Biology II

ANTH 3324 Rites of Passage

BIOL 3304 Genetics

ANTH 3350 Good Eats, Forbidden Flesh

BIOL 3350 Cellular Biology

ANTH 3351 Forensic Anthropology

BIOL 4106 Functional Anatomy & Histology Lab

ANTH 4307 Global and Public Health

BIOL 4306 Human Physiology

ANTH 4342 Resilience

CHEM 1114 General Chemistry II Lab

ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture and Power

CHEM 1304 General Chemistry II

ANTH/APSM/MNO 4344 Pandemics!

CHEM 3117 Organic Chemistry Lab

ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355 Creating Global
and Public Health Impact

CHEM 3371 Organic Chemistry

ANTH 4381 Internship

PSYC 2351 Abnormal Psychology

ANTH 4391 Independent Study

PSYC 3360 Health Psychology

ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspective

PSCY 4310 Cognition and the Brain

APSM 2441 Anatomy and Physiology I

PSYC 4320 Behavioral Neuroscience

APSM 2442 Anatomy and Physiology II

PSCY 4321 Behavioral Action of Drugs

APSM 4349 Health Policy

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 required)

Methods: ANTH 3345 or PSYC 3301 or SOCI 3311

APSM 2441 Anatomy and Physiology I

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

ANTH/SOCI 3301 Health, Healing and Ethics
ANTH 3303 Self, Culture and Mind
ANTH 3324 Rites of Passage
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 4342 Resilience
ANTH 4343 Biomedicine, Culture and Power
ANTH/APSM/MNO 4344 Pandemics!
ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355 Creating Global
and Public Health Impact
ANTH 4348 Toxic Topics

ANTH 4381 Internship
ANTH 4391 Independent Study
ANTH 5336 Health in Cross-Cultural Perspective
APSM 2442 Anatomy and Physiology II
APSM 4349 Health Policy
ENGL 3379 Disability – Gender, Care, Justice
ENGL 3384 Literature and Medicine
PHIL 3364 Philosophy of Biology
PHIL 3376 Bioethics
PSYC 3341 Social Psychology
PSYC 3360 Health Psychology
PSYC 4320 Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYC 4321 Behavioral Action of Drugs
STAT 2331 Introduction 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.

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Requirements Needed: _____

