Health and Society

Department Website: https://voices.uchicago.edu/healthandsocietyminor/

Program of Study

The Health and Society minor explores the social, political, and economic processes that shape individual and population health. Disability, experiences of illness, categories of disorder, ideals of well-being, and models of medical intervention can all vary between cultural settings and across history. Rapid changes in medicine and biotechnology create new understandings and expectations about illness, health, and well-being. At the same time, inequalities in access to care and in health outcomes across populations, in the United States and globally, have become important to conversations in policy and practice alike. At the individual level, how and where one lives may influence a range of conditions and outcomes including mental health, the onset of diabetes, and the length of life. Health is also influenced—in both positive and negative ways—by our relationships and social networks. Finally, people's life chances and health trajectories form within frameworks of health care policy and systems of provision and exposure to environments that reflect historical legacies, economic activity, and political choices. To understand health in its broader contexts, this minor encompasses a range of disciplines and methods in the social sciences, and differential emphases on theory, practice, and policy implications.

A minor in Health and Society will provide a background for medical school, the allied health professions, public health, health policy, health advocacy, the study of law with an emphasis on health, and doctoral work in a range of social science disciplines.

Application to the Health and Society Minor

College students in any field of study may complete a minor in Health and Society. The flexibility of this minor complements majors in any of the disciplines. Students who elect the minor program in Health and Society must contact the program administrator before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. The program administrator must submit approval on the form provided by the College for the minor to a student's College adviser by the Spring Quarter of a student's third year.

Summary of Minor Requirements

The Health and Society minor requires a total of five courses, including HLTH 17000 Introduction to Health and Society, which provides exposure to a range of approaches and perspectives in the social sciences, and four approved courses designated as counting toward the Health and Society minor. Please see the Approved Courses list below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 17000</td>
<td>Introduction to Health and Society</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four electives</td>
<td>chosen from the list of Approved Courses*</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
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*Students may only include one of the following methods courses toward the minor: ANTH 21420 Ethnographic Methods, CHDV 20100 Human Development Research Design, CHDV 20101 Applied Statistics in Human Development Research, ECON 21010 Statistical Methods in Economics, SOCI 20001 Sociological Methods, or SOCI 20004 Statistical Methods of Research.

Approved Courses

These courses may be used to satisfy the minor course requirements. Additional approved courses will be updated annually. Please check the Health and Society website (https://voices.uchicago.edu/healthandsocietyminor) for complete listings and for information about current course offerings.

Up to one of the following:

- ANTH 21420 Ethnographic Methods
- CHDV 20100 Human Development Research Design
- CHDV 20101 Applied Statistics in Human Development Research
- ECON 21010 Statistical Methods in Economics
- SOCI 20001 Sociological Methods
- SOCI 20004 Statistical Methods of Research

Any of the following:

- ANTH 20405 Anthropology of Disability
- ANTH 21333 The Lived Body: Anthropology, Materiality, Meaningful Practice
- ANTH 23906 Magic, Science, and Religion
- ANTH 24302 Disability in Local and Global Contexts
- ANTH 24307 Lab, Field, and Clinic: History and Anthropology of Medicine and the Life Sciences
- ANTH 24309 Reproductive Worlds
- ANTH 24312 Body & Soul: The Anthropology of Religion, Health, & Healing
- ANTH 25100 Anthropology of the Body
CHDV 20000  Introduction to Human Development
CHDV 20440  Inequality, Health and the Life Course
CHDV 21500  Darwinian Health
CHDV 23204  Medical Anthropology
CHDV 23301  Culture, Mental Health, and Psychiatry
CHDV 23440  Health, Medicine, and Human Rights
CHDV 27860  History of Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences
CHDV 28301  Disability and Design
ECON 24450  Inequality and the Social Safety Net: Theory, Empirics, and Policies
ECON 24720  Inequality: Origins, Dimensions, and Policy
ECON 27720  Economics and Regulation of Health Care Markets: Theory and Empirics
HIPS 21911  Medical Ethics: Who Decides and on What Basis?
HIPS 22001  Introduction to Science Studies
HIPS 22800  Experiencing Madness: Empathic Methods in Cultural Psychiatry
HIPS 29629  Tutorial: Romantic Bodies: Theater in the History of Science and Medicine
HIST 17300  Science, Culture, and Society in Western Civilization I
HIST 17402  Science, Culture, and Society in Western Civilization II: History of Medicine I
HIST 17403  Science, Culture, and Society in Western Civilization II: Early Modern Period
HIST 17501  Science, Culture, and Society in Western Civilization III
HIST 20111  History of Death
HIST 25314  History of Medicine
HIST 29678  History Colloquium: Medicine and Society
HLTH 17000  Introduction to Health and Society
PBPL 21425  Health in a Changing America: Social Context and Human Rights
PBPL 26690  The Politics of Health Care
PBPL 27905  Global Health Metrics
PBPL 28300  Health Economics and Public Policy
PBPL 28310  Healthcare and Healthcare Reform
PSYC 21750  Biological Clocks and Behavior
PSYC 22350  Social Neuroscience
PSYC 22580  Child Development in the Classroom
PSYC 23800  Introduction to Learning and Memory
SOCI 20107  Sociology of Human Sexuality
SOCI 20215  Urban Health
SOCI 20275  Sociology of Health and Aging
SOCI 28080  Sociology of Medicine
SOSC 18100  Topics in Behavioral and Social Sciences Relevant to Medicine
SSAD 46622  Key Issues in Healthcare: An Interdisciplinary Case Studies Approach
SSAD 49032  Health and Aging Policy
SSAD 60100  Drugs: Culture and Context

Advising and Grading

Students who elect the minor program in Health and Society must meet with the program director before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. The director's approval for the minor program should be submitted to a student's College adviser by the Spring Quarter of a student’s third year.

Courses in the minor may not be double counted with the student's major(s), other minors, or general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.
Health and Society Courses

HLTH 12103. Treating Trans-: Practices of Medicine, Practices of Theory. 100 Units.
Medical disciplines from psychiatry to surgery have all attempted to identify and to treat gendered misalignment, while queer theory and feminisms have simultaneously tried to understand if and how trans- theories should be integrated into their respective intellectual projects. This course looks at the logics of the medical treatment of transgender (and trans- more broadly) in order to consider the mutual entanglement of clinical processes with theoretical ones. Over the quarter we will read ethnographic accounts and theoretical essays, listen to oral histories, discuss the intersections of race and ability with gender, and interrogate concepts like “material bodies” and “objective science”. Primary course questions include: 1. Instructor(s): Paula Martin Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course counts as a Foundations Course for GNSE majors
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 12103, ANTH 25212, HIPS 12103, GNSE 12103

HLTH 17000. Introduction to Health and Society. 100 Units.
Disability, experiences of illness, categories of disorder, ideals of well-being, and models of medical intervention can all vary between cultural settings and across history. Rapid changes in medicine and biotechnology create new understandings and expectations about illness, health, and well-being. At the same time, inequalities in access to care and in health outcomes across populations, in the United States and globally, have become important to conversations in policy and practice alike. This course introduces students introduces students to the social, political, and economic processes that shape individual and population health, as well as to a range of concepts and methods which social scientists use to study these processes. A requirement for students undertaking the “Health and Society” minor, the class will also serve as an introduction to the faculty researching and teaching on issues of health and society in the Social Sciences Division and beyond. Instructor(s): Raikhel, Eugene Terms Offered: Autumn

HLTH 21609. Medical Ethics: Central Topics. 100 Units.
Decisions about medical treatment, medical research, and medical policy often have profound moral implications. Taught by a philosopher, two physicians, and a medical lawyer, this course will examine such issues as paternalism, autonomy, assisted suicide, kidney markets, abortion, and research ethics. (A) Instructor(s): D. Brudney; Staff Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Third or fourth year standing. This course does not meet requirements for the Biological Sciences major.
Note(s): Philosophy majors: this course fulfills the practical philosophy (A) requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 31609, PHIL 21609, BIOS 29314, BPRO 22612, HIPS 21609

HLTH 21750. Biological Clocks and Behavior. 100 Units.
This course will address physiological and molecular biological aspects of circadian and seasonal rhythms in biology and behavior. The course will primarily emphasize biological and molecular mechanisms of CNS function, and will be taught at a molecular level of analysis from the beginning of the quarter. Those students without a strong biology background are unlikely to resonate with the course material. Instructor(s): B. Prendergast Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): A quality grade in PSYC 20300 Introduction to Biological Psychology. Additional biology courses are desirable. Completion of Core biology will not suffice as a prerequisite.
Equivalent Course(s): BIOS 24248, NSCI 21400, PSYC 21750

HLTH 22350. Social Neuroscience. 100 Units.
Social species, by definition, create emergent organizations beyond the individual - structures ranging from dyads and families to groups and cultures. Social neuroscience is the interdisciplinary field devoted to the study of neural, hormonal, cellular, and genetic mechanisms, and to the study of the associations and influences between social and biological levels of organization. The course provides a valuable interdisciplinary framework for students in psychology, neuroscience, behavioral economics, and comparative human development. Many aspects of social cognition will be examined, including but not limited to attachment, attraction, altruism, contagion, cooperation, competition, dominance, empathy, isolation, morality, and social decision-making. Instructor(s): J. Decety Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 21830, NSCI 21000, CHDV 22350, BIOS 24137, PSYC 22350

HLTH 22580. Child Development in the Classroom. 100 Units.
This discussion-based, advanced seminar is designed to investigate how preschool and elementary students think, act, and learn, as well as examine developmentally appropriate practices and culturally responsive teaching in the classroom. This course emphasizes the application of theory and research from the field of psychology to the realm of teaching and learning in contemporary classrooms. Course concepts will be grounded in empirical research and activities geared towards understanding the nuances and complexities of topics such as cognitive development (memory, attention, language), early assessment systems, standardized testing, "mindset", "grit", exercise/nutrition, emotion regulation, and more. Instructor(s): Kate O’Doherty Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): PSYC 22580, CHDV 22580
HLTH 23800. Introduction to Learning and Memory. 100 Units.
This course examines basic questions in learning and memory. We discuss the historical separation and division of these two areas as well as the paradigmatic differences in studying learning and memory. We also discuss basic research methods for investigating learning and memory and survey established and recent research findings, as well as consider several different kinds of models and theories of learning and memory. Topics include skill acquisition, perceptual learning, statistical learning, working memory, implicit memory, semantic vs. episodic memory, and memory disorders.
Instructor(s): D. Gallo Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): PSYC 23800

HLTH 29635. Tutorial: Power and Medicine. 100 Units.
The marvel of modern medicine has been lauded as a great leveler of the human condition. From sanitary regimes, to the discovery of antibiotics, to anaesthesia and the development of successful surgery and lifestyle intervention, medicine has improved the lives of all humankind. However, research shows that this improvement is not uniform - that some benefit more from medicine than others. This disparity, which public health scientists and medical researchers have followed for decades, is borne of a complex set of societal factors - including socioeconomic status, race, genetic background, environment, and lifestyle. These studies show us a key feature of medicine: it does not exist in a vacuum, and one's lifespan and quality of life are as tethered to social factors as they are to scientific innovation. This class will explore the effects of uneven power systems on health and human medicine in modern history. We will explore how different peoples - of diverse racial, socioeconomic and historical backgrounds - experienced medical and sanitary regimes, and how they navigated disparities in access. Every week we will examine a particular theme in the history of medicine and explore its effects first on a regional scale in the U.S., and the following meeting in the global context. The goal in this structure is to demonstrate the diversity of experience and the complex systems that influence medical regimes.
Instructor(s): William Nickell; Brian Callender; Elizabeth Murphy Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): This course is one of three offered in The Experimental Capstone (XCAP) in the 2019-20 academic year. Enrollment in this course is restricted to 3rd and 4th year undergraduates in the College. For more information about XCAP, visit https://sifk.uchicago.edu/courses/xcap/
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20014, ANTH 24360, BIOS 29209, HIPS 28350, KNOW 29901

HLTH 29991. XCAP: The Experimental Capstone - The Art of Healing: Medical Aesthetics in Russia and the U.S. 100 Units.
What makes a medical treatment look like it will work? What makes us feel that we are receiving good care, or that we can be cured? Why does the color of a pill influence its effectiveness, and how do placebos sometimes achieve what less inert medication cannot? In this course we will consider these problems from the vantage points of a physician and a cultural historian. Our methodology will combine techniques of aesthetic analysis with those of medical anthropology, history and practice. We will consider the narratology of medicine as we examine the way that patients tell their stories and the way that doctors, nurses, buildings, wards, and machines enter those narratives. The latter agents derive their meaning from medical outcomes, but are also embedded in a field of aesthetic values that shape their apperception. We will look closely at a realm of medical experience that continues to evade the grasp of instruments: how the aesthetic experience shapes the phenomenon of medical treatment.
Instructor(s): William Nickell; Brian Callender; Elizabeth Murphy Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): This course is one of three offered in The Experimental Capstone (XCAP) in the 2019-20 academic year. Enrollment in this course is restricted to 3rd and 4th year undergraduates in the College. For more information about XCAP, visit https://sifk.uchicago.edu/courses/xcap/
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 25020, KNOW 28002, HIPS 28350, KNOW 29901

HLTH 29985. XCAP: The Experimental Capstone - Power and Medicine. 100 Units.
What does it mean for a practice to be understood as an intervention in the domain of mental health? Interventions in mental health can be carried out with tools ranging from chemicals and electrical impulses, to words, affects, and social relationships, to organizations. They can involve acting on a range of distinct targets -- from brains and bodies to psyches and emotional conflicts to housing and employment. This course will use a focus on mental health interventions to introduce students to a range of conceptual and practical issues surrounding mental health and illness, as well as to raise a set of broader questions about the relationships between knowledge formation, practice, ethics, and politics. The questions we will ask throughout the course will include: What does it mean for an intervention to be successful? How is effectiveness understood and measured? Are mental health interventions ethically-neutral or do they contain embedded within them assumptions about the normal, the pathological, and the good life? We will think through these questions vis-a-vis readings drawn from psychiatry, psychology, and the social sciences -- but more importantly, through weekly practical and experiential activities. Each week will focus on one kind of mental health intervention, and will involve a particular kind of practical learning activity.
Instructor(s): Michael Marcangelo and Eugene Raikhel Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course is one of three offered in The Experimental Capstone (XCAP) in the 2019-20 academic year. Enrollment in this course is restricted to 3rd and 4th year undergraduates in the College. For more information about XCAP, visit https://sifk.uchicago.edu/courses/xcap/
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 20971, KNOW 29971
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

- Times was used instead of Trajan.
- Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.