HEALTH STUDIES

Director: Jerusha Detweiler-Bedell
Administrative Coordinator: TBA

Drawing upon Lewis & Clark's strong culture of interdisciplinary learning, the Health Studies minor recognizes the growing interest students have in public health and the value of a liberal-arts approach to solving the world's current and future public health challenges. The minor is multidisciplinary, bringing together coursework, internship experiences, and scholarly activity across the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. The minor provides the statistical and scientific foundation necessary for students interested in fields such as public health, healthcare administration, and healthcare policy alongside the narrative, psychological, and cultural contexts that supplement the coursework of those interested in medicine, physical therapy, and other clinical careers. Leveraging our renowned overseas and off-campus programs, students may apply up to 12 credits toward the minor from an approved overseas study program focused on public health. All students will have a health-related internship in Portland or overseas as part of their capstone experience.

Minor Requirements
A minimum of 24 semester credits distributed as follows:

Core Courses (12 credits)
- Four credits from each of the Core categories below:

Electives (12 credits)
- Four credits from each of the Electives categories below; at least one elective must be at the 300 or 400 level.

Students may apply up to 12 credits from an approved Lewis & Clark College overseas program focused on public health. All students will have a health-related internship in Portland or overseas as part of their capstone experience.

Core Categories
Statistics (4 credits)
- ECON 103 Statistics
- MATH 123 Calculus & Statistics for Modeling the Life Sciences
- MATH 255 Statistical Concepts and Methods
- PSY 200 Statistics I

Foundational Approaches to Health Studies (4 credits)
- HEAL 210 Public Health
- PSY 375 Health Psychology

Internship Capstone (4 credits)
- HEAL 300 Health Studies Internship
- HEAL 345 Health Studies Practicum: Special Topic (minimum of 4 credits)
- PSY 345 Overseas Internship (with prior approval; in a health-related setting)
- PSY 445 Psychology Internship (with prior approval; in a health-related setting)

Elective Categories
Mechanisms of Wellness/Disease (4 credits)
- BIO 252 Introduction to Neuroscience
- BIO 370 Disease Ecology

Biological/Narrative Representations of Wellness/Disease (4 credits)
- ENG 100 Introductory Topics in Literature (when health-focused)
- ENG 210 Writing and Illness
- HEAL 151 Renaissance Medicine
- PSY 370 Clinical Psychology
- PSY 375 Health Psychology
- PSY 395 Contemporary Issues in Psychiatric Health: The Complex Patient in a Complex System
- PSY 435 Advanced Applied Developmental Psychology
- PSY 440 Social Construction of Madness
- RHMS 320 Health Narratives

Global/Cultural Approaches to Wellness/Disease (4 credits)
- CLAS 266 Health and Healing in the Ancient World
- ECON 312 Global Health Economics
- HEAL 260 Global Health
- RELS 106 Religion, Spirituality, and Medicine
- SOAN 255 Medicine, Healing, and Culture
- SOAN 334 Anthropology of Suffering
- SOAN 359 Topics in Medical Anthropology (when health-focused)
- SOAN 395 Anthropology of the Body

At least 12 semester credits must be exclusive to the minor (may not be used in any other set of major or minor requirements).

Faculty


Julio C. de Paula. Professor of chemistry. Physical chemistry, biophysical chemistry, nanotechnology. PhD 1987 Yale University. BA 1982 Rutgers University.


Carolyn Zook. Associate Director for the Center for Community and Global Health. PhD University of Pittsburgh. MS Portland State University. BA Lake Forest College.

Courses

HEAL 151 Renaissance Medicine
Content: Examination of the confluence of politics, domesticity, and medicine in the Renaissance. Looking at topics from across Europe and considering how the Plague affected the development of culture, how the Inquisition informed who might become a doctor, and how fears about witchcraft slowed the progress of science. Focus on narrative accounts and dramatic representations of illness; understanding historical ways of knowing to promote both a sense of the depth of human understanding and a spirit of humility in the face of past science’s many missteps. Prerequisites: None. Usually offered: Annually, spring semester. Semester credits: 4.

HEAL 210 Public Health
Content: The course provides a basic overview of current local, national, and global trends in both communicable and noncommunicable disease; the behavioral, social, and environmental determinants of population health, with a focus on causes of disparities in population health status; the organization of public health activities and their relation to other health-related activities (e.g., clinical care, emergency preparedness); analytical methods and the science of public health; the ethical challenges facing public health action; and emerging challenges for the field of public health. The course uses a mix of didactic material, case studies, and assignments to help students understand the role of public health and the wide array of public health career opportunities as well as public health’s relation to human science fields. Prerequisites: ECON 103, MATH 105, MATH 123, MATH 255, or PSY 200. Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester. Semester credits: 4.

HEAL 260 Global Health
Content: Introduction to essential concepts from public health disciplines that are the foundations of global health practice; designed to prepare students to critically examine public health issues from a global perspective. Students will apply concepts through class exercises and discussions on current global health challenges. Global health experts will share their experiences and lessons learned from implementing global health research and programs. Students will gain experience in applying frameworks in addressing diverse global health needs and examine the human rights and ethical dimensions of global public health, including conflicts between individuals, communities, and nations. Prerequisites: None. Usually offered: Annually, fall semester. Semester credits: 4.

HEAL 299 Health Studies Independent Study
Content: Independent or directed study of topics not covered in depth in other courses, and/or faculty-supervised research projects. Details determined by the student in conference with the supervising faculty member. Prerequisites: None. Restrictions: Sophomore standing required. Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester. Semester credits: 1-4.
HEAL 300 Health Studies Internship
Content: Applied field learning experience and exposure to health-oriented occupations and/or research settings. Becoming acquainted with important health-related institutions and their social impact. Theoretical, research-based, and practical frameworks for intervention.
Prerequisites: HEAL 210 or PSY 375. ECON 103, MATH 105, MATH 123, MATH 255, or PSY 200.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

HEAL 340 Epidemiology
Content: Epidemiology is the study of the distribution and determinants of health and disease in different human populations and the application of methods to improve disease outcomes. As such, epidemiology is the basic science of public health. In this course, students will learn and apply basic concepts of epidemiology to multiple domains of public health. We will illustrate and practice using epidemiology to better understand, characterize, and promote health at a population level. The class will engage the students in active and collaborative learning through team activities, individual projects, case studies, group discussion, and individual projects.
Prerequisites: ECON 103, MATH 105, MATH 123, MATH 255, or PSY 200.
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

HEAL 345 Health Studies Practicum: Special Topic
Content: Organized practicum in a health-related field, with strong academic, experiential, and pre-professional components. Anticipated special topics include peer counseling, narrative medicine, and health care administration.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 1-4.