Introduction

The Bi-College Health Studies Minor, a collaboration between Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges, brings together students and faculty to explore the intertwined areas of health, disease, and social justice. We offer unparalleled training for students interested in confronting complex real-world health problems. Multidisciplinary in approach and collaborative in spirit, our curriculum embraces the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities. Students learn how to think about health from a variety of disciplinary perspectives and with an appreciation of its many dimensions.

Our program welcomes students from every major. Their diverse perspectives come together to create an exceptionally rich learning experience. At the same time, we are committed to advancing each student’s particular academic goals, which may include medicine, public health, journalism, medical anthropology, health policy, among others.

Students may complete a Health Studies minor in conjunction with any major at Haverford, Bryn Mawr, or Swarthmore, pending approval of the student’s coursework plan by the home department and the home-campus Health Studies coordinator.

The Bi-Co Health Studies minor aims to:

- Create a coherent curricular structure in which students address issues of health and disease informed by multidisciplinary investigations, combining insights from the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.
- Develop a student’s ability to think and write with depth, precision, and sophistication about complex topics on health, disease, and social justice.
- Teach students how to collaborate with others, having varying skill sets and vocabularies, on issues pertaining to health and disease, so they can work in partnership with diverse stakeholders to contribute to the well-being of local communities and global populations.

Learning Goals

- Understand the interconnected physical, social, and humanistic dimensions of community health as described in the three core tracks below.
- Analyze the determinants of health and disease employing multidisciplinary perspectives.
Apply principles of public health and social justice to contemporary issues of disease and well-being.
Collaborate in interdisciplinary research and teamwork for improving community health.
(adapted from the Association of Schools of Public Health's Undergraduate Public Health Learning Outcomes)

Requirements for the Minor

The Health Studies Minor consists of six courses, which include:

- A required introductory course (HLTH 115)
- Three elective core course credits from a list approved by the faculty steering committee. Students must elect two of these courses from a department outside of the student's major, and at least two of these courses should be at the non-introductory level. Students must take one core course in each of three tracks:
  - M track: mechanisms of disease and the maintenance of the healthy body
  - S track: familial, social, civic and governmental systems that structure and respond to issues of health and disease.
  - R track: cultural, literary, visual and ethical representations of health and illness
- One additional course, outside the student's major. Students may choose either a core course or one selected from a list of approved affiliate courses that deal with health issues, but not necessarily as their primary focus.
- A senior seminar (HLTH 398) organized around a single theme, which varies each year.

Only one course that fulfills a student’s graduation requirement for their major can also fulfill a requirement for the Health Studies minor. For students who are concentrating or minoring in an additional program, only one course counted toward the Health Studies minor can also fulfill a requirement for the concentration or second minor.

Advising

Students are assigned an advisor in the Health Studies minor when they declare. This advisor is the Health Studies Director on the home campus. If there is a personnel change such that the position is passed to a different faculty member, advising responsibility is also transferred to the new director.

As an interdisciplinary program that brings together courses from more than a dozen departments across the Bi-Co, Health Studies has a large number of affiliate faculty. Students are encouraged to consult with any faculty member whose area of scholarship speaks to their
interests. They should, however, rely exclusively on conversations with the Health Studies Director on their home campus for guidance regarding fulfilling the requirements for the minor.

How to Declare the Minor

Students declare the minor on their home campus.

Students are encouraged to declare the minor in the spring of their sophomore year, although they may declare during the junior year. It is very important that the declaration process be completed before the senior year so that faculty have an accurate picture of how many seats will be needed in senior seminars.

Bryn Mawr declaration process

Bryn Mawr students interested in declaring the minor should attend a Health Studies Info Session (formerly known as an Academic Tea) and/or meet with a Health Studies Co-Director to discuss the minor and how it fits with their academic and professional goals.

Spring 2020 Bryn Mawr Health Studies Co-Directors
Prof. Susan White, swhite@brynmawr.edu
Prof. Ngalamulume, kngalamu@brynmawr.edu

Students then fill out the Bryn Mawr College Minor Work Plan. The form will be sent to the faculty advisor for approval.

Haverford declaration process

Step 1. Click here to book an advising appointment with Prof. Anna West (amwest@haverford.edu), Director of Health Studies at Haverford

Step 2. Open the minor declaration form on the Registrar’s website. Fill out the course plan as follows. Lists of courses approved for each track and for affiliate status can be found below.

- HLTH 115 Introduction to Health Studies, preferably in the first or second year.
- A core elective that has been approved to fulfill the R track.
- A core elective that has been approved to fulfill the M track
- A core elective that has been approved to fulfill the S track.
- An additional core course (in any track) or an affiliate course that has been approved as an elective for the minor.
- HLTH 398 Senior Seminar in Health Studies. This can only be taken in your Senior year.

Use the Course Title textbox to state which track requirement you will fulfill with each elective, as shown in this example:
R-track: [course title]
S-track: [course title]
M-track: [course title]

Students who plan to use two 0.5-credit courses to fulfill one credit of the Health Studies minor will need to use all seven lines of the form. This usually applies only to students who are counting upper-division Biology electives toward the minor. Everyone else should fill in just six course titles and ignore the 7th line.

On the next page, you will be prompted to provide the Department Representative Information. Enter Prof. West’s email address: amwest@haverford.edu. Please be very careful to include the middle initial M in the email address. If it is left out, your declaration form simply disappears into the ether and cannot be processed.

Step 3. Submit the form online.
Step 4. Download a PDF copy of your unofficial transcript and email it to: amwest@haverford.edu

Required Courses

All minors are required to take the introductory course and the senior seminar.

HLTH H115/B115. Introduction to Health Studies

The multidisciplinary foundation for the health studies minor. Students will be introduced to theories and methods from the life sciences, social sciences, and humanities and will learn to apply them to problems of health and illness. Topics include epidemiological, public health, and biomedical perspectives on health and disease; social, behavioral, and environmental determinants of health; globalization of health issues; cultural representations of illness; health inequalities, social justice, and the ethics of health as a human right.

Scheduling tips: H115/B115 is offered every semester (once per year on each campus). It is recommended that students take Intro to Health Studies in their first or second year. Students who develop an interest in the minor later during their undergraduate program may enroll as juniors. Introduction to Health Studies and the Senior Seminar may not be taken in the same semester. Waivers enabling students to take the Intro and Senior Seminar in the same semester are available under exceptional circumstances; students should not assume that one will be granted.

In Academic Year 2020-21, the introductory course will be offered as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2020</th>
<th>HLTH B115. Introduction to Health Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Profs. Adam Williamson and Patty Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday/Thursday 9:55AM-11:15AM at Bryn Mawr</td>
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</tbody>
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HLTH H398/B398. Senior Seminar in Health Studies

Required culminating seminar, which integrates the three tracks of the Health Studies minor. Students share and critically assess their own and fellow students’ ongoing work to communicate across disciplines and understand the value and interconnectedness of different disciplinary approaches. Students carry out semester-long collaborative projects. The theme is determined by the instructor and varies from one semester to the next. Recent themes have included epidemics, vaccines, cancer, migration, mindfulness, and the healing professions. Some but not all sections of the senior seminar include a community engagement component.

Scheduling tips: HLTH H398/B398 or an equivalent is offered every semester. Students should plan ahead carefully to avoid scheduling conflicts or credit overload.

In the 2020-21 academic year, the senior seminar options are as follows:

**Fall 2020**
HIST B337. Topics in African History: History of Global Health in Africa  
Prof. Kalala Ngalamulume  
Tuesdays 7:10-10:00PM at Bryn Mawr

**Spring 2021**
HLTH H398B. Senior Seminar in Health Studies

Section 1 theme: Parasites and People  
Prof. Anna West  
Tuesdays 1:30-4:00PM at Haverford

Section 2 theme: Health, Migration, and Public Policy  
Prof. Patty Kelly  
Mondays 1:30-4:00PM at Haverford

Core Electives

Students must complete three core electives. One course must be elected from each of the three tracks: Mechanisms, Systems, and Representation. At least two of the three courses must be taken at the non-introductory level (200 or above).

Some courses cover content that is relevant to multiple tracks (indicated, for example, as M/S or R/S in the lists below). A determination of which track the course should count toward will be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the emphasis of the student’s term paper or other relevant project. In such cases, students must consult with their assigned Health Studies advisor to determine which track the course will count toward.
**Prerequisites:** Most courses in the minor are at the 200 or 300-level, so interested students should consider taking introductory courses in anthropology, economics, history, natural sciences, political science, psychology, sociology, or statistics to gain the background necessary for the more advanced courses.

**Core Electives in the “M” Track**

**Mechanisms** of disease and the **Maintenance** of the healthy body

**Learning Goals for “M” Courses**
- Describe the biological mechanisms and risk factors of both infectious and chronic diseases.
- Understand how methods of epidemiology and surveillance are used to monitor population health and respond to disease outbreaks.
- Evaluate multiple sources of health information and assess health data; use this information to develop responses to individual and community health issues.
- Assess the influence that scientific research and technology have on individual and population health.

**Bryn Mawr**

ANTH B207. Becoming Human: Evolutionary Perspectives on Human Anatomy
ANTH B208. Human Biology
ANTH B317. Disease and Human Evolution
BIOL B201. Genetics
BIOL B210. Biology and Public Policy (M/S)
BIOL B216. Genomics
BIOL B255. Microbiology
BIOL B271. Developmental Biology
BIOL B303. Human Physiology
BIOL B352. Immunology
CHEM B242. Biological Chemistry
PSYC B231. Health Psychology (M/S)
PSYC B209. Abnormal Psychology
PSYC B314. Advanced Data Science: Regression and Multivariate Statistics
PSYC B316. Advanced Topics in Neuroscience: Drugs of Abuse
PSYC B331. Health Behavior and Context (M/S)
PSYC B351. Developmental Psychopathology
PSYC B395. Psychopharmacology

**Haverford**

BIOL H311. Advanced Genetic Analysis (0.5 credit)
BIOL H320. Molecular Microbiology (0.5 credit)
BIOL H325. Molecular Virology (0.5 credit)
BIOL H328. Immunology (0.5 credit)
BIOL H452. Advanced Topics in Immunology: Cellular Immunology (0.5 credit)
BIOL H352. Cellular Immunology (0.5 credit)
CHEM H222. Organic Biological Chemistry
HLTH H120. Introduction to Health Statistics
HLTH H228. Social Epidemiology (M/S)
Core Electives in the “S” Track

Familial, social, civic, and governmental Systems that structure and respond to issues of health and disease

Learning goals for “S” courses

- Investigate how social, political, legal, and economic structures and institutions influence responses to health and disease.
- Examine public health as social justice with a fundamental right to health and health services.
- Identify stakeholders who influence health programs and interventions.
- Recognize the impact of policies, laws, and legislation on both individual and population health.
- Understand roles and responsibilities of government, non-government agencies, and private organizations in promoting health.
- Understand how organizational structures, financing, and the delivery of health care and public health services impact population health.
- Recognize the role of community collaborations in promoting population health.

Bryn Mawr

ANTH B210. Medical Anthropology (R/S)
ANTH B312. Anthropology of Reproduction (R/S)
ANTH B301. Medical Anthropology Seminar: Critical Thinking for Critical Times (R/S)
ANTH B322. Anthropology of the Body (R/S)
BIOL B210. Biology and Public Policy (M/S)
ECON B217. Health Economics
FREN B275. Improving Mankind: Enlightened Hygiene and Eugenics (R/S)
HIST B209. An Introduction to the History of Medicine (R/S)
HIST B233. Health and Disability in the US (R/S)
HIST B337. Topics in African History: History of Global Health in Africa (R/S)
PSYC B231. Health Psychology (M/S)
PSYC B331. Health Behavior and Context (M/S)
SOCL B304. Sociology of Medicine
SOCL B326. Feminist Perspectives on Health
SOCL B342. Bodies in Social Life
SOCL B278. Gender, Race, and Health in Global Perspective (R/S)
SOWK B363. Global Public Health
SOWK B390. Social Work Practice with Immigrants and Refugees
SOWK B556. Caring for an Aging America

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ANTH H223. Old Age in the Modern Age (R/S)
ANTH H228. Reproductive Justice, Social Movements, and Civil Society (R/S)
ANTH H265. Medical Anthropology (R/S) (also HLTH H265)
ECON H250. Health Economics
HIST H310. Political Technologies of Race and the Body (R/S)
HLTH H233. Community Engagement and Social Responsibility
HLTH H228. Social Epidemiology (M/S)
HLTH H302. Bodies of Injustice: Care and Social Action Contexts of Inequality (R/S)
HLTH H304. Critical Disability Studies: Theory and Practice (R/S)
HLTH H305. The Logic and Politics of Global Health (R/S)
HLTH H314. Critical Data Literacy for Global Health (R/S)
PSYC H349. Anxiety Disorders and Their Treatment (M/S)

Core Electives in the “R” Track

Cultural, literary, and visual Representations of health and illness

Learning Goals for “R” Courses:

- Identify the role that humanistic inquiry plays in developing responses to pressing health issues
- Understand how literary and visual representations and cultural productions shape conceptions of health, illness, and the body.
- Explore the diversity of health beliefs and healing practices among individuals, communities, and cultures in local, national, and global contexts.
- Analyze ethical dilemmas in the field of public health, clinical medicine, and biomedical research.
- Understand how intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual discrimination shape health and disease, risk, and vulnerability.

Bryn Mawr

ANTH B210. Medical Anthropology (R/S)
ANTH B312. Anthropology of Reproduction (R/S)
ANTH B322. Anthropology of the Body (R/S)
FREN B275. Improving Mankind: Enlightened Hygiene and Eugenics (R/S)
HIST B209. An Introduction to the History of Medicine (R/S)
HIST B231. Medicine, Magic, and Miracles in the Middle Ages
HIST B233. Health and Disability in the US (R/S)
SOCL B278. Gender, Race, and Health in Global Perspective (R/S)
HIST B337. Topics in African History: History of Global Health (R/S)
ITAL B303. Boccaccio, the Plague, and Epidemic Illness: Literature and Medicine
SOCL B248. Sociology of Bioethics

Haverford

ANTH H223. Old Age in the Modern Age (R/S)
ANTH H228. Reproductive Justice, Social Movements, and Civil Society (R/S)
ANTH H265. Medical Anthropology (R/S) (also HLTH H265)
CSTS H217. Unruly Bodies: Narratives of Disability in Greece and Rome
ENGL H353. Victorian Poverty, Ecology, and Public Health
HLTH H208. Disability and Super-Ability on the Screen: From Bioethics to Social Justice
HLTH H214. Memoirs of Illness
HLTH H223. Mental Affliction: The Disease of Thought
HLTH H302. Bodies of Injustice: Care and Social Action in Contexts of Inequality (R/S)
Additional Elective

Students in the minor must complete one additional elective (beyond the three noted above). The fourth elective may be drawn from the list of courses approved for any of the tracks (M, S, or R) or from the following list of affiliate courses. Alternatively, the fourth elective may be drawn from the following list of approved “affiliate” courses.

**Affiliate courses** are distinct from core electives in that they have some health-related content but health is not their primary focus. In order to count an affiliate course toward the minor, students are expected to choose a health-related topic for the term paper or equivalent project. In addition, courses listed here which are offered by the Writing Program, irrespective of whether they are wholly or partially about health, may only count as affiliate courses and not as core electives. Affiliate courses are not assigned to a track (M, S, or R) because they cannot be used to meet the distribution requirement for the core electives.

**Approved Affiliate Courses**

Bryn Mawr

- BIOL B215. Experimental Design and Statistics
- ECON B214. Public Finance
- MATH B104. Basic Probability and Statistics
- POLS B310. Comparative Public Policy
- PSYC B260. The Psychology of Mindfulness
- PSYC B303. Portraits of Maladjustment in Classic Children’s Novels
- PSYC B327. Adolescent Development
- PSYC B375. Movies and Madness
- PSYC B420. Praxis Fieldwork Seminar: Community-Based Learning

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- ANTH H309. People, Place, & Collaborative Research in the Urban Environment
- BIOL H312. Development and Evolution (0.5 credit)
- ECON H203. Statistical Methods in Economics
- ECON H204. Economic Statistics with Calculus
- HIST H210. Issues in Comparative and Transnational History: Opioids: A Global History
- MATH H203. Statistical Methods and Applications (also STAT H203)
- PEAC H104. Health, Justice, Environment: An Inquiry into Planetary Health
- PEAC H201. Applied Ethics of Peace, Justice, and Human Rights
- PSYC H242. Cultural Psychology
- RELG H257. Yoga: Art, Text, and Practice
- SOCL H130. Introduction to Science and Technology Studies
Quaker Consortium

Bryn Mawr and Haverford students may take courses at Swarthmore and UPenn through the Quaker Consortium. Please note that your Health Studies advisor is not equipped to suggest specific courses, so it is up to you to explore the course offerings on your own. Bring a copy of the syllabus to your Health Studies advisor, who will determine which, if any, core elective track requirement the course may fulfill.

To locate health-related courses at Swarthmore, try keyword searches for “medicine” “medical” and “health” in the Swarthmore Catalog and/or consult specific departments that routinely offer relevant courses, including. Pay particular attention to course lists provided by the Special Major in Medical Anthropology housed in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

UPenn offers dozens of undergraduate courses that may be counted toward the Health Studies minor. Please consult the Registrar or your Dean for information on how to enroll. Departments at Penn which routinely offer health-related courses include: Anthropology, Health Care Management (Wharton), History and Sociology of Science, Sociology, and Medical Ethics and Health Policy.

Discontinued Courses

The courses listed below have been discontinued due to personnel changes or have not been offered for several years. Also included in this list are special topics courses that once offered a health focus but do not currently do so. You may count these toward the minor if you have taken them but please do not include them in course plans for future semesters.

ANTH H200. Viruses, Humans, Vital Politics: An Anthropology of HIV and AIDS (R/S)
ANTH H213. Bioethics and Social Justice (R/S) (also HLTH H213)
ANTH H224. Microbes-Animals-Humans: Ethnographic Adventures in Multispecies ®
ANTH B237. Environmental Health (S)
ANTH H260. Cultures of Health and Healing (R)
ANTH H306. Empires of Sex: Race/Gender/Sexuality/Imperialism(s) (R/S)
BIOL H121. Poisons, Plagues, Pollution and Progress (M)
BIOL H125. Perspectives: Genetic Roil and Royal Families (0.5 credits) (M)
BIOL H127. Perspectives in Human Biology: Human Genetic Diversity (0.5 credit) (M)
BIOL H128. Perspectives: How Do I Know Who I Am? (M)
BIOL H309. Molecular Neurobiology (0.5 credit) (M)
BIOL H360. Bacterial Pathogenesis (0.5 credits) (M)
BIOL B380. Topics in Cellular and Organismal Physiology (affiliate)
CHEM B315. Medicinal Chemistry (M)
CHEM H357. Topics in Bioorganic Chemistry (0.5 credits) (affiliate)
CHEM H358. Topics in Environmental Chemistry: Lead in Our Environment
CSTS H205. The History of Healing: Medicine and Disease in Classical Antiquity (R)
EDUC B225. Topics: Empowering Learners. Topic: Health Literacies in Context (S)
ENVS H205. Queer Ecologies: Occupying Space and Time in Disorderly Bodies
FREN B325. Topics: Etudes avancées. Topic: Lumières et Medicine (R)
Study Abroad/Study Away

Health Studies is distinguished by its investigation of how local conditions of health and disease are shaped by interconnected global forces and processes, such as (im)migration, traveling microbes, war and conflict, and international humanitarian projects.

Many students fulfill one or two of their elective requirements for the Health Studies minor while studying abroad. Examples of programs with curricula relevant to Health Studies include: AUSTRALIA--University of Melbourne; BARBADOS--University of West Indies; BOTSWANA--CIEE Gaborone; CHILE--Middlebury College; DENMARK--DIS Danish Institute for Study Abroad; ENGLAND--University College London.

The process for requesting that a course be counted toward the minor is separate from the process of transferring credit through the Registrar’s office. After the Registrar has approved the credit transfer, the student should provide the Health Studies Director on the home campus with a copy of the syllabus and, if requested, a copy of the final paper or term project. The Health Studies Director will make a determination as to whether the course should count toward the minor and, if appropriate, which core elective track requirement it may fulfill. The Director may consult with their colleagues before making a determination. Documentation of approval (typically in the form of an email) will be added to the student’s advising file.
The same process applies to requests to count courses completed at other colleges and universities in the United States.

**Internships**

While not a formal requirement for the minor, Health Studies encourages students to take advantage of the many opportunities for enriching their academic work through independent research and/or internships, in both domestic and international settings. Such opportunities will help students face the challenges of integrating data and theory into their hands-on work in medicine and public health, in both clinical and community settings. Health Studies students have taken advantage of a rich array of international internships, including programs in Mexico, Nicaragua, Uganda, South Africa, and Thailand.

Haverford students may seek support through Haverford’s Center for Peace and Global Citizenship (CPGC), the Center for Career and Professional Advising (CCPA), the John B. Huford ’60 Center for the Arts and Humanities (HCAH), the Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center (KINSC), and other interdisciplinary and co-curricular units on campus.

Bryn Mawr students interested in internships related to Health Studies may consult the Civic Engagement and Career and Professional Development (CPD) in LILAC (Leadership, Innovation, and Liberal Arts Center).

Students from either campus who wish to earn course credit toward the minor through completion of a health-related internship may choose to participate in the Praxis Independent Study courses offered at Bryn Mawr. Consult the Praxis website for more information about eligibility and requirements: [https://www.brynmawr.edu/node/4293](https://www.brynmawr.edu/node/4293).

**Affiliated Programs**

**4+1 Bioethics Program with the University of Pennsylvania**

This 4+1 partnership enables qualified Haverford undergraduates to gain early and expedited admission into a master’s degree offered by the Penn Department of Medical Ethics and HealthPolicy and to take up to three graduate bioethics courses while still enrolled at Haverford. Study for four years at Haverford, then one year at Penn, and receive a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science from Haverford and a Master’s in Bioethics (MBE) from Penn’s Bioethics Program in the Perelman School of Medicine. Students whose GPA is at least 3.5 can apply for this program after completing their sophomore year and before beginning their senior year.

Students who are interested in the program should consider enrolling in:

**BIOE 401/601. Introduction to Bioethics**

Instructor: Autumn Fiester  
Schedule: Fall 2020 Tuesdays OR Thursdays 4:30-7:00 p.m. at Penn  
Click here for the: syllabus or promotional flier

This course may be used to fulfill the R-track elective requirement for the Health Studies minor.
For more information, contact: Jodi Domsky, jdomsky@haverford.edu
Health Professions Advising Coordinator, Haverford