School of Interdisciplinary Studies

Healthcare Studies (BS)

Overview

The Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Studies is designed for pre-health students who want to pursue careers in healthcare fields such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, optometry, physical therapy, health care administration, occupational therapy, physician assisting, and podiatry.

The School of Interdisciplinary Studies offers the degree, which provides the academic foundation for pre-health students to prepare for advanced study as well as the essential knowledge components in healthcare studies.

Science foundation areas within the degree include biology, chemistry, and physics. Healthcare studies areas include pre-health professional development, a healthcare internship, medical terminology, psychological aspects of health and illness, understanding of the U.S. healthcare system, patient education, and prevention.

Bachelor of Sciences in Healthcare Studies

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)\(^1\)

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

**Professors:** George W. Fair, Karen J. Prager, Lawrence J. Redlinger, Erin A. Smith

**Associate Professors of Instruction:** Kathleen Byrnes, Angela McNulty

**Senior Lecturers:** Jillian Duquaine-Watson, Patricia A. Leek, Syed Naqvi, Neall Pogue, Azadeh Stark, Larissa Werhnyak, Tonja Wissinger

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours\(^2\)

**Communication:** 6 semester credit hours

- [COMM 1311](#) Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
- [RHET 1302](#) Rhetoric

**Mathematics:** 3 semester credit hours
Choose one course from the following:

**MATH 1325** Applied Calculus \(\text{3}\) 
**MATH 2413** Differential Calculus \(\text{3}\)

**Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours**

**CHEM 1311** General Chemistry \(\text{3}\) 
**CHEM 1312** General Chemistry II \(\text{3}\)

**Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours**

**HUMA 1301** Exploration of the Humanities

or select any 3 semester credit hours from **Language, Philosophy and Culture Core** courses

**Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours**

Choose one course from the following:

**ARTS 1301** Exploration of the Arts

or select any 3 semester credit hours from **Creative Arts Core** courses

**American History: 6 semester credit hours**

Choose two courses from the following:

**HIST 1301** U.S. History Survey to Civil War 
**HIST 1302** U.S. History Survey from Civil War 
**HIST 2301** History of Texas

**Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours**

**GOVT 2305** American National Government 
**GOVT 2306** State and Local Government

**Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours**

**PSY 2301** Introduction to Psychology

**Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours**

**BIOL 2311** Introduction to Modern Biology \(\text{3}\) 
**STAT 2332** Introductory Statistics for Life Sciences \(\text{3}\)

or **STAT 1342** Statistical Decision Making
II. Major Requirements: 44 or 52 semester credit hours

Foundation I: Scientific Foundation Studies: 15 or 23 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum (depending upon career track)\(^4\)

All the following:

- **BIOL 2311** Introduction to Modern Biology I\(^3\)
- **BIOL 2111** Introduction to Modern Biology Workshop I
- **BIOL 2312** Introduction to Modern Biology II
- **BIOL 2112** Introduction to Modern Biology Workshop II
- **CHEM 1311** General Chemistry I\(^3\)
- **CHEM 1111** General Chemistry Laboratory I
- **CHEM 1312** General Chemistry II\(^3\)
- **CHEM 1112** General Chemistry Laboratory II
- **MATH 1325** Applied Calculus I\(^3\)
  
or **MATH 2413** Differential Calculus\(^3\)

And either 8 or 16 semester credit hours of the following courses:

8 semester credit hours of the following (depending on career track):\(^4\)

- **CHEM 2323** Introductory Organic Chemistry I
- **CHEM 2123** Introductory Organic Chemistry Laboratory I
- **CHEM 2325** Introductory Organic Chemistry II
- **CHEM 2125** Introductory Organic Chemistry Laboratory II
  
or
- **PHYS 1301** College Physics I
- **PHYS 2125** Physics Laboratory I
- **PHYS 1302** College Physics II
- **PHYS 2126** Physics Laboratory II

16 semester credit hours of the following (depending on career track):\(^4\)

- **CHEM 2323** Introductory Organic Chemistry I
- **CHEM 2123** Introductory Organic Chemistry Laboratory I
- **CHEM 2325** Introductory Organic Chemistry II
- **CHEM 2125** Introductory Organic Chemistry Laboratory II
PHYS 1301 College Physics I
   or PHYS 2325 Mechanics
PHYS 2125 Physics Laboratory I
PHYS 1302 College Physics II
   or PHYS 2326 Electromagnetism and Waves
PHYS 2126 Physics Laboratory II

Foundation II: Healthcare Foundation Studies: 14 semester credit hours

HLTH 1100 Career Explorations for the Health Professions
HLTH 3101 Medical Terminology
HLTH 3300 Pre-Health Professional Development
HLTH 3305 The U.S. Healthcare System
HLTH 3315 Issues in Patient Education
HLTH 4304 Health Professions Internship

Foundation III: Multidisciplinary Healthcare Studies: 15 semester credit hours

Required (3 semester credit hours):
   BIS 3320 The Nature of Intellectual Inquiry
Required (3 semester credit hours from the following):
   HLTH 3301 Issues in Geriatric Healthcare
   HLTH 4305 Public Health
   HLTH 4380 Special Topics in Healthcare
Required (3 semester credit hours from the following):
   PSY 4328 Health Psychology
   PSY 4343 Abnormal Psychology
And choose 6 semester credit hours from among the following courses:
   ECON 3330 Economics of Health
   GEOG 3357 Spatial Dimensions of Health and Disease
   HLTH 3310 Health Care Issues: Global Perspectives
   HMGT 3301 Introduction to Healthcare Management
   HLTH 3306 Gender in Healthcare
   PHIL 3328 History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine
III. Guided Elective Requirements: 26 or 34 semester credit hours

**Required for all freshmen: 1 semester credit hour**

- **UNIV 1010** Freshman Seminar
- **BIS 1100** Interdisciplinary Studies Freshman Seminar

**Guided Electives: 25 or 33 semester credit hours**

Students interested in pursuing entrance into health professional fields (such as medical, dental, pharmacy, physician assistant, physical therapy, optometry, etc.) should seek advising on additional courses required for entrance into the particular professional school of their interest. A subset of the following courses should be considered essential and should be taken as part of their elective credits.

- **BIOL 2281** Introductory Biology Laboratory
- **BIOL 3301** Classical and Molecular Genetics
- **BIOL 3101** Classical and Molecular Genetics Workshop
- **BIOL 3302** Eukaryotic Molecular and Cell Biology
- **BIOL 3102** Eukaryotic Molecular and Cell Biology Workshop
- **BIOL 3361** or **CHEM 3361** Biochemistry I
- **BIOL 3161** Biochemistry Workshop I
- **BIOL 3362** or **CHEM 3362** Biochemistry II
- **BIOL 3162** Biochemistry Workshop II
- **BIOL 3455** Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab I
- **BIOL 3456** Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab II
- **BIOL 3520** General Microbiology with Lab
- **BIOL 3370** Exercise Physiology
- **BIOL 4310** Cellular Microbiology
- **BIOL 4345** Immunobiology
Students must complete a total of 51 semester credit hours of upper-division coursework to graduate. A minimum of 45 semester credit hours must be taken at UT Dallas. All the coursework in the final semester must be taken at UT Dallas.

1. Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of UNIV 1010 and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.

2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.

3. A required major course that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours are counted in the Core Curriculum.

4. Students may take either 8 semester credit hours of Organic Chemistry or 8 semester credit hours of Physics or 16 semester credit hours of Organic Chemistry and Physics. Please consult your advisor for additional information.

IS Policy on Healthcare Studies Change of Major

All students wishing to change majors to IS Healthcare Studies after enrollment should carefully consider the consequences of excessive hours and time to degree completion.

Change of Major Application Minimum requirements:
All of the following requirements must be met:

- Applicant must have a cumulative UT Dallas GPA of 2.5.
- Applicant must have no grade lower than a C- in a science course.