

# Health & Society Major

Southern Methodist University

## Information Sheet

The Health & Society Major at SMU is an interdisciplinary 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 interdisciplinarity, 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 email one copy of the following materials to Tiffany Powell, program admin ([tapowell@smu.edu](mailto: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. Ann Horsburgh,  
Director, Health and Society Major  
[horsburgh@smu.edu](mailto:horsburgh@smu.edu)

Form Revised 13 March 2023

**SMU**

**Department of Anthropology**

# Interest Form

## The Health & Society Major

Southern Methodist University

Applicants to the Health & Society Major are required to: submit 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- and their first year at SMU. 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](mailto:tapowell@smu.edu). Keep informational pages for your own future reference.

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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:

- BA  BS   
\_\_\_\_\_ 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

## Foundation & Capstone Courses: (15-16 hours)

<u>SOC/BEHL SCI:</u>	PSYC 1300 or SOCI 1300 or ANTH 2301	
<u>LAB SCI:</u>	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)	
<u>Ethics Course:</u>	ANTH/SOCI 3301	PHIL 3376
	PHIL 3381	RELI 3309
<u>ANTH 3306:</u>	Introduction to Medical Anthropology	
<u>Capstone Experience:</u>	Capstone instructors have the authority to	deny admittance to their specific class.
	ANTH 4318	ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355
	ANTH 4342	ANTH 4348
	ANTH 4343	Others courses with advance approval of
	ANTH/APSM/MNO 4344	Program Director & Instructor

### 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 **AND** PSYC 2332

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

ANTH 2415	ANTH 3303	ANTH 3324	ANTH 3350	ANTH 3351
ANTH 4307	ANTH 4318	ANTH 4342	ANTH 4343	ANTH/APSM/MNO 4344
ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355	ANTH 4381	ANTH 4391	APSM 2441	APSM 2442
APSM 4349	BIOL 1102	BIOL 1302	BIOL 3304	BIOL 3350
BIOL 4106	BIOL 4306	CHEM 1114	CHEM 1304	CHEM 3117
CHEM 3371	PSYC 2351	PSYC 3360	PSYC 4310	PSYC 4320
PSYC 4321	WGST 3380			

### 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 **AND** APSM 2441

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	ANTH 3303	ANTH 3324	ANTH 3328	ANTH 3345
ANTH 3348	ANTH 3350	ANTH 4303	ANTH 4307	ANTH 4318
ANTH 4342	ANTH 4343	ANTH/APSM/ MNO 4344	ANTH/MNO 4345/APSM 4355	ANTH 4348
ANTH 4381	ANTH 4391	APSM 2442	APSM 4349	ENGL 3379
ENGL 3384	PHIL 3364	PHIL 3376	PSYC 3341	PSYC 3360
PSYC 4320	PSYC 4321	STAT 2331	WGST 3310	WGST 3380

- Students on either track may take one elective from the other track.

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