

HEALTH AND SOCIETIES: BIOETHICS AND SOCIETY, BA

The Health and Societies (HSOC) major examines health and medicine in social context, equipping students with the critical faculties and multidisciplinary skills that will prepare them for careers in public health, health services, and a variety of other arenas. The program is built on the foundation of three core disciplines: anthropology, history, and sociology. Methods and courses from other disciplines and fields—including epidemiology, political science, business/economics, law, environmental studies, and bioethics—supplement the core disciplines and provide majors with the variety of skills necessary to grasp the forces that have shaped our contemporary health landscapes. The Health and Societies graduate is a "multilingual" scholar and citizen, fluent in the methods and perspectives of several social science disciplines— theoretically informed but practically minded, with a global outlook and local experience.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 34. Double majors may entail more course units.

For more information: <https://hss.sas.upenn.edu/undergraduate/health-societies-major> (<https://hss.sas.upenn.edu/undergraduate/health-societies-major/>)

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Foundation Requirement</i>		
HSOC 0480 or HSOC 0490	Health and Societies Comparative Medicine	1
<i>Quantitative Methods</i>		
HSOC 2002/ SOC 2000 or HSOC 2202/ SOCI 2220	Sociological Research Methods ² Health of Populations	1
<i>Core Discipline</i>		
HSOC 0400 or HSOC 1411 or HSOC 1401	Medicine in History American Health Policy The Peoples Health	1
HSOC 1382 or HSOC 1222	Introduction to Medical Anthropology Medical Sociology	1
<i>HSOC or STSC Electives</i>		
Select 3 HSOC or STSC Electives (Any courses with HSOC or STSC or Attribute AHSM)		3
<i>Bioethics & Society Concentration</i>		
Select 1 Core Discipline course (attribute AHSB)		1
Select 1 Core Course (Attribute AHSI)		1
Select 1 Philosophical & Religious Foundations course (Attribute AHSP)		1

Select 1 Social & Institutional Contexts course (Attribute AHSS)	1
Select 1 Technologies, Practices & Practitioners course (Attribute AHST)	1
Select 1 Law, Politics & Public Policy course (Attribute AHSL)	1
<i>Capstone Research Requirement</i>	
Select 1 4000-level HSOC or STSC Research Seminar	1
Total Course Units	34

¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<http://www.college.upenn.edu/sectors-policy/>).

² HSOC 2002 Sociological Research Methods is cross listed with SOCI 2000 Sociological Research Methods and HSOC 2202 Health of Populations is cross listed with SOCI 2220 Health of Populations.

Honors

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.6 in the major and 3.3 overall. Students should complete their capstone paper in the spring of their Junior year or Fall of their senior year and must obtain the support of a faculty advisor before applying for an Independent Study (HSOC 4980) to complete the Honors thesis.

Code	Title	Course Units
	Honors Thesis (non-course requirement QST)	

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2024 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.