HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES

This major integrates all of the necessary science, social science, humanities, and critical thinking concepts, as well as field experience, needed in order to educate a broadly thinking and prepared medical student. Students in this major will understand how psychological, cultural, social, economic, ethical and biological factors influence our lives and, most importantly, our health.

Opportunities for Students

- **Medical Internship Requirement:** All students must participate in a medical internship during their time at USC to better understand how health issues relate to different fields.

- **Study Abroad:** Understand how health affects people around the globe by spending a semester in countries including Brazil, Chile, South Africa, or Ireland. You can also participate in our shorter summer Problems Without Passports courses in England or Guatemala.

- **Shape Your Study:** Students can tailor coursework to their interests with focuses on Health, Gender, and Ethnicity; Health and the Mind; International Health; Sociology of Health, Health and Aging; or Biology of Health.

- **Ethnographics Lab:** The Ethnographics Laboratory is a part of the Center for Visual Anthropology which provides archival and computer facilities for students and faculty who work with nonlinear editing systems and interactive media in anthropology.

Notable Courses

- **HBIO 405: Evolutionary Medicine** — Evolutionary, cultural, and environmental factors in the emergence and existence of diseases; a Darwinian examination of illness in the human species.

- **REL 319: Religious and Ethical Issues in Death and Dying** — Analysis of religious and ethical approaches to death and dying, including refusal of treatment for competent and incompetent patients, voluntary and involuntary euthanasia, and resuscitation.

- **SOCI 475: Medical Sociology** — Social and cultural factors in causation of disease, healthcare utilization, and healthcare delivery.

- **SWMS 336: Health, Gender, and Ethnicity** — Cross-cultural notions of the body, health, and healing; historic and cultural variability of ideas of reproduction, birth, sexuality, mental illness, and disability.
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Lower Division Core Requirements
- BISC 220: General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology
- CHEM 105: General Chemistry
- MATH 208: Elementary Probability and Statistics
- PSYC 240: Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning
- SOCI 242: Sociology, Human Behavior and Health

Select one module among the six below (four courses within each module, see course catalogue for specific module requirements)*
- Health, Gender, and Ethnicity
- Health and the Mind
- International Health
- Sociology of Health
- Health and Aging
- Biology of Health

Experiential Learning Course (select one)**
- AMST 365: Leadership in the Community
- GERO 495: Practicum in Geriatric Care
- POSC 395: Director Governmental and Political leadership Internship
- SOCI 450: Non-Governmental Organization/Non-profits Field Practicum

Upper Division Elective Courses (select two from the list below, or one from this list and one upper-division course from a module not yet chosen)**
- CHEM 499: Molecular Principle of Biochemistry
- HIST 330: Drugs, Diseases and Medicine in History
- HBIO 405: Evolutionary Medicine
- MDA 320: Global Ethics: Poverty, Health, and the Human Condition

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or https://dornsife.usc.edu/health-and-human-sciences/. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.