Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences
Course Descriptions

IHS 6240 Scientific Inquiry in Health and Human Services
This seminar orients students in the Ph.D. program in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences to historical factors and milestones in the development of current methods of scientific inquiry in health and human services, leading to current interdisciplinary research practices. Students will learn to analyze critically the assumptions of current theories and models used in research across health and human services disciplines. Format of sessions will include lecture and seminar features of student-led discussion and presentations. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. 1 hour

IHS 6250 Health and Human Service Organization and Delivery Systems
Provides a systematic approach to understanding the origin, evolution, and utilization of health and human services in the United States, including comparisons with the provision of services in other countries. Concepts and perspectives concerning the influence of economics and politics on current service provision are also explored. The course examines the institutional and individual providers, alternative delivery models, the dynamics of health and human service markets, and the impact of changing service environment on service organizations and delivery strategies. Topics such as managed care including Medicaid Managed Care, community health care, and the development of services responsive to the needs of special populations, multicultural societies, and underserved communities will be discussed. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

IHS 6260 Qualitative Research Concepts in HHS
Provides students with the ability to design, conduct, and analyze research findings using various qualitative research methods. These methods include comparative, historical, case study, content analysis and other types of observation and interview strategies for data collection. Students will learn to determine the strengths and limitations of qualitative research methods for expanding the knowledge base in health and human services. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

IHS 6270 Health and Human Services Policy and Politics
Develops a systematic and analytical framework for understanding policy-making processes in health and human services, including identification of need and the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of policy. The political processes by which decisions are made and resources allocated and the ethics, laws, institutions, and forces, which affect these processes at local, state, and federal levels, are also considered. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours
IHS 6280 Quantitative Research Concepts in Health and Human Services
Provides an overview of the statistical concepts and methods often used in HHS research. Course content will include concepts of probability, hypothesis testing, measures of central tendency and dispersion, and sampling. Students will learn to conduct bivariate and multivariate statistical tests common in HHS research, and to interpret the results. Students will be introduced to basic concepts in parametric and non-parametric statistical analyses. Examples will be drawn from current research in health and human services, and students will acquire skills in critiquing research designs and statistical approaches. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

IHS 6290 College Instruction and Assessment
Examines current theories on learning, intelligence, memory, and learning styles and individual capabilities, and their application to curriculum design, instruction, and methods of assessment. The effects of class, gender, and culture on learning and teaching are analyzed, as well as curricular issues related to accreditation of programs and to professional licensure and certification. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 2 hours

IHS 6300 Designing and Conducting Health and Human Services Research
Provides students who are beginning to plan their dissertation research an opportunity to learn about formulating and focusing research questions, collecting and managing data, and analyzing and evaluating data. Topics included in this course include commonly used research designs, threats to internal and external validity of research results, and scaling of data. Ethical issues in designing, conducting and reporting of research findings will also be discussed, along with issues of multiculturalism in research design. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

IHS 6310 Proposal Development and Management
Provides students with skills needed to compete successfully for funding in various health and human services venues. This course provides an overview of grant writing, including identifying sources of research and program development support and developing successful proposals, including drafting budgets, preparing evaluation plans, and developing collaborative relationships to strengthen grant proposals. Principles of project management will also be discussed. These include ensuring fiscal and ethical accountability, supervision of staff, and documenting progress toward project goals. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours
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**IHS 6320 Innovative Pedagogy and Instructional Design**
Examines models of teaching and related research and the inclusion of innovative pedagogy, including teaching through technology, problem-based learning, collaborative learning, and distance learning. Techniques for instructional design and assessment are discussed. Issues relating the shift from teacher-centered to learner-centered instruction are explored. Learners will be expected to apply one or more innovative pedagogies in an applied area. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

**IHS 6330 Ethics and Law in Health and Human Services Professions and Scientific Research**
Applies principles of ethics to health and human service decision-making, policy formulation, and to clinical and research situations. Current issues and research in biomedical and social ethics are examined, together with the legal and ethical concerns which affect interdisciplinary collaborative practice. Laws are discussed which influence the provision and delivery of care and services at local, state, and federal levels. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

**IHS 6350 Evidence-Based Interdisciplinary Practice in Health and Human Services**
Uses a seminar format for student-led discussions of interdisciplinary research and service delivery issues. Course topics include theory and historical foundations, management structures and economic factors, team dynamics and communication, collaborative decision-making and conflict resolution, case management and client-centered care, and outcome measurement and program evaluation. Students will apply the lens of evidence-based practice within and across disciplines to develop an interdisciplinary vision for addressing critical current issues in health and human services. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

**IHS 6360 Advanced Statistics in Health and Human Services**
Examines theory and practice using advanced concepts of quantitative statistics with application to complex problems in interdisciplinary health and human services. Addresses topics such as ANOVA and linear and logistic regression. The course is restricted to students admitted to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or Interdisciplinary Health Studies. Prerequisite: Admission to program or instructor approval. 3 hours

**IHS 6970 IHS Pre-Dissertation Seminar**
This course facilitates the transition from course work to dissertation research. Beginning the fall of their 3rd year, students must be registered continuously in the pre-dissertation seminar with their academic advisors to maintain their residency in the Ph.D. program while completing their four comprehensive examination products and a dissertation concept paper. Graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. May be repeated for credit. Open to Graduate students only. Prerequisite: Completion of course work in Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and departmental approval. 1 to 6 hours
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IHS 7100 Independent Research
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and instructor approval. 2 to 6 hours

IHS 7130 Practicum in Teaching in the Discipline
Students will apply the theory and techniques learned in the pedagogical module and develop instructional skills through participation in a supervised teaching practicum. The student will teach an entire semester-length, three-credit course. This mentored teaching experience will provide the student with a wide range of instructional experiences, including course preparation, instruction, and assessment of students. The student must use innovative instructional techniques. Prerequisite: Admission to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or permission of director. 3 hours

IHS 7300 Doctoral Dissertation 1 to 12 hours

IHS 7350 Research Practicum
The research practicum will provide students with an introduction to interdisciplinary research and to working collaboratively in teams under the guidance and supervision of a faculty member. Students will begin this longitudinal interdisciplinary group research practicum during the second semester of the program and complete it by the end of Summer I session of the following year. The research will form the basis for the paper that must be submitted for publication as a requirement of the comprehensive examination. Course should be taken in two three-credit hour blocks. Prerequisite: Admission to the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences or director approval. Total 6 hours