

# BHS in Health Science

## Degree Program Description

A Health Science major is for students who are interested in health careers and for those interested in graduate or professional health science programs. Health career options include medical case management, corporate wellness, human services, medical sales, pharmaceutical manufacturing and distribution, and more. Graduates holding the BHS in Health Sciences may also be qualified to enter either graduate or professional health science programs, such as physical therapy, public health, chiropractic medicine, health informatics and hospital administration.

On-campus Health Science majors choose one of four emphases. These emphases include:

- Rehabilitation Sciences, for students pursuing physical therapy, chiropractic, orthotics/prosthetics, and similar degrees
- Pre-Professional, for students who are pre-medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physician assistant studies, optometry and related graduate/professional programs that require an undergraduate degree
- Leadership and Policy, for students who are interested in pursuing administrative pathways after graduation, through graduate programs in health administration or working in areas such as health informatics, sales, program coordination and support areas in healthcare
- Health and Wellness Services, for students who wish to pursue health promotion, occupational therapy, wellness programming, non-profit work, applied behavioral analysis, as well as students who wish to pursue accelerated nursing after graduation with the health science degree

The health sciences curriculum includes courses in health systems, health literacy, healthcare leadership and management, healthcare policy and funding, and clinical ethics. The capstone course sequence includes a required internship experience appropriate for the chosen emphasis. Students may choose a health sciences study abroad experience approved by the Office of Experiential Learning to meet the internship requirement.

## Major Program Requirements

- All required core coursework for the BHS in Health Science program, as well as emphasis, program, and approved Health Science elective courses, must be completed with a grade of C- or higher.
- Students must complete all university requirements, including general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), and departmental requirements (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofhealthsciences/healthscience/>), in addition the degree requirements below.

## Capstone Requirement

The BHS in Health Science capstone is comprised of two courses: HLTH\_SCI 4975 and HLTH\_SCI 4985. HLTH\_SCI 4975 is an internship that is approved by the Department of Health Sciences' Office of Experiential Learning. Students may find their own internship

experience or work with the course instructor/internship advisor to identify an appropriate placement given interests and goals.

Students may choose from:

- an internship at an agency, company, or corporation of their choice. For an internship to be approved as a capstone experience, it must help students solidify and explore areas of concentration. Internships must have prior approval from the Health Sciences Internship advisor;
- service learning project which allows a student to serve approximately 50 clock hours in an organization. This can be arranged with the Internship advisor or through the Office of Service Learning on campus, and
- an approved internship abroad program

## Core Requirements of Health Science Major

The BHS in Health Science, whether completed online (no emphasis) or on-campus (students must select from one of the 4 available emphasis areas), includes a set of Core requirements that all Health Science students must complete. Each on-campus emphasis area has additional specific requirements which can be found on their respective emphasis pages. The Core requirements below are required for all Health Science students. A grade of C- or higher is required in each of the following courses.

### Health Science Core Requirements

HLTH_SCI 1000	Introduction to the Health Professions	3
HLTH_SCI 2400	Contemporary Health Issues	3
or P_HLTH 2200	Introduction to Public Health and Health Promotion	
HLTH_SCI 3000	Health Sciences Seminar	1
HLTH_SCI 3700	Health Care in the United States	3
HLTH_SCI 4200W	Introduction to The Research Process and Evidence Base - Writing Intensive	3
or CDS 3100W	Introduction to Research - Writing Intensive	
HLTH_SCI 4480	Clinical Ethics	3
HLTH_SCI 4975	Internship in Health Sciences (Capstone)	1, 3 or 6
HLTH_SCI 4985	Healthcare Organization and Leadership (Capstone)	3

### Additional Requirements for Online Degree (No Emphasis)

ENGLISH 1000	Writing and Rhetoric	3
Biological Science course		3
Physical Science course		3
Behavioral Science course		3
STAT 1200	Introductory Statistical Reasoning	3
or STAT 1300	Elementary Statistics	
or STAT 2500	Introduction to Probability and Statistics I	
or ESC_PS 4170	Introduction to Applied Statistics	

<b>Approved Person-Centered Care Course</b>	<b>*This requirement may double-dip with the Health Science Electives requirement</b>	<b>3</b>
HLTH_SCI 2310	Perspectives on Disability	3
HLTH_SCI 2850	Inclusion and Equity in Health Care	3
HLTH_SCI 2900	Health Care In Missouri	3
HLTH_SCI 4400	Culture and Health Literacy for the Health Professions	3
HLTH_SCI 4410	Humanism and Health Literacy	3
P_HLTH 2050	Gender and Public Health	3

P_HLTH 4610	Race, Ethnicity, and Health: An Intersectional Examination of Health Inequalities	3
SOC_WK 4390	Helping Strategies With Children and Adolescents	3
SOC_WK 4395	Death, Grief and Loss	3
SOC_WK 4480	Direct Practice with Older Adults	3
<b>Health Science Electives: Students must complete 18 hours of approved elective coursework.*</b>		<b>18</b>

Students must complete coursework in at least two out of the following three thematic areas: Social/Behavioral; Medical/Biological; Administrative/Leadership.

At least 9 credit hours must be taken as 3000/4000 level courses.

Transfer courses taken at the freshman-sophomore level and accepted as equivalent to a 3000/4000 level course at the University may not count towards the 9 hour upper-level Health Science Elective requirement for the Health Science degree.

\* See Health Science Electives (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/electives/health-science/>) for a course list of electives that count towards this requirement.

## Accelerated BHS to OTD in Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapists are skilled health professionals who provide services to individuals across the lifespan to maximize their independence in meaningful everyday activities. Occupational therapists use research, scientific evidence, and a holistic perspective to incorporate an individual's valued occupations into the intervention process.

BHS in Health Science students have the option to apply and enter the OTD program after their junior year (90 credits of undergraduate coursework) and meet the requirements for completion of the BHS in Health Science degree through the first year of coursework in the OTD. This program will allow students to complete both degrees in six years.

- Students considering this option will apply during the summer/fall after their sophomore year (after 60 credit hours completed); selected students being coursework the summer after completion of their junior year.
- First year of OTD professional coursework also counts toward the BHS in Health Science degree. Students must have at least 90 credits, all OT prerequisites, and all BHS in Health Science degree requirements except the capstone requirement and at least 9 hours of Health Science Electives completed before beginning the OTD program. Students will then graduate with their BHS in Health Science in May after successfully completing the first year of OTD coursework. The first year of OTD coursework includes a fieldwork experience and practicum experience which combined will meet the capstone requirement for the BHS degree.
- Students applying for the accelerated option (3+3) will be considered in the same pool as all other applicants. There are no reserved spots for 3+3 applicants, nor is there a limit on the number of 3+3 applicants will accept.
- The more prerequisites you have completed at the time of application, the more strongly your application will be considered.
- Professional tuition begins at the start of the OTD coursework.
- MU Health Science students applying for the 3+3 option must work very closely with their undergraduate advisors before, during, and

after application to ensure that they have completed all Health Science degree program requirements and all OT prerequisites before beginning the OTD program.

## Accelerated BHS to MHA in Health Administration

The Accelerated Master of Health Administration (MHA) program offers Bachelor of Health Science (BHS) in Health Science students the opportunity to earn both their undergraduate and graduate degrees in a streamlined five-year timeframe. By working closely with their undergraduate advisor, students are encouraged to consider applying as early as their junior year. The program allows a maximum of 15 credit hours to be applied towards both the BHS in Health Science and MHA degrees, providing an efficient pathway to advanced education and career preparation.

HLTH_ADM 7410	Introduction to the US Health Care System	3
or HLTH_ADM 4410	Introduction to the US Health Care System	
HLTH_ADM 7430	Health Informatics for Leaders	3
or HLTH_ADM 4430	Health Informatics for Leaders	
HLTH_ADM 7471	Introduction to Accounting and Finance in Health Care	3
or HLTH_ADM 4471	Introduction to Accounting and Finance in Health Care	
HLTH_ADM 7544	Managerial Epidemiology: Population Health Management	3
or HLTH_ADM 4544	Managerial Epidemiology: Population Health Management	
HLTH_ADM 8453	Executive Management Studies	3
HLTH_ADM 8460	Administration of Health Care Organizations	3
HLTH_ADM 8461	Managing Human Resources in Health Care Organizations	3
or HLTH_ADM 4461	Managing Human Resources in Health Care Organizations	
HLTH_ADM 8470	Strategic Planning and Marketing for Health Care Organizations	3
HLTH_ADM 8524	Health Economics	3
or HLTH_ADM 4524	Health Economics	
HLTH_ADM 8472	Financial Management for Health Care Organizations	3
HLTH_ADM 8571	Decision Support Systems for Health Administration	3
HLTH_ADM 8573	Decision Making for Health Care Organizations	3
HLTH_ADM 8574	Health Care Law	3
HLTH_ADM 8575	Health Policy and Politics	3
HLTH_ADM 8689	Field Experience in Health Administration	3
Student must complete nine credit hours of professional electives		9
Student must satisfy a pre-requisite in microeconomics		

## Semester Plan

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester, for online Health Science students (no emphasis). A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
HLTH_SCI 1000		3 HLTH_SCI 2400	3
ENGLSH 1000		3 HIST 1100, 1200, or POL_SC 1100	3
Behavioral Science course		3 Biological Science course	3
Humanities course		3 Humanities course	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
STAT 1200		3 Writing Intensive course	3
HLTH_SCI 3700		3 2000-level Health Science Elective	3
Elective		3 2000+ level Humanities course	3
Elective		3 Physical Science course	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
HLTH_SCI 3000		1 HLTH_SCI 4200W	3
HLTH_SCI 4480		3 3000/4000-level Health Science Elective	3
Person-Centered Care course		3 Elective	3
2000-level Health Science Elective		3 Elective	3
Bio/Phys/Math Science Course with lab		3 Elective	3
Elective		3	
		<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>

Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
3000/4000-level Health Science Elective		3 HLTH_SCI 4975	1
3000/4000-level Health Science Elective		3 HLTH_SCI 4985	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
Elective		2 Elective	3
		Elective	2
		<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total Credits: 120**