

MINOR IN MEDICAL HUMANITIES

Program Learning Outcomes for the Minor in Medical Humanities

Upon completing the minor in Medical Humanities, students will be able to:

1. Describe the historical, literary, artistic, and ethical domains of medicine.
2. Analyze and evaluate complex texts relating to the social and cultural aspects of medicine through close reading and critical interpretation of arguments, metaphors, and images.
3. Explain the history of racism and anti-racism in health and medicine.
4. Explain how disability shapes the healthcare experience for patients.
5. Conduct independent research and communicate their own arguments about medical humanities in research papers, class presentations, and discussions.

Requirements for the Minor in Medical Humanities

Students pursuing the minor in Medical Humanities must complete:

- A minimum of 6-7 courses (18-21 credit hours), depending on course selection, to satisfy minor requirements.
- A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.
- A maximum of 2 courses (6 credit hours) from study abroad or transfer credit. For additional program guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the [Policies](#) (p. 3) tab.

The courses used in the Medical Humanities program examine the social, cultural, ethical, and aesthetic dimensions of medicine in contemporary and historical contexts, and are open to all undergraduate students at Rice from all backgrounds.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this minor. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the minor's academic advisor, or where applicable, the Program Director. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the minor's [Official Certifier](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/) (<https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/>)). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the Minor in Medical Humanities		18-21

Minor Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirement		
MDHM 201	INTRODUCTION TO MEDICAL HUMANITIES ¹	3
Elective Requirements		
<i>Select 4 courses from the Electives list below</i>		12
Practicum¹		
<i>Select 1 from the following:</i>		3-6
ENGL 386 / FILM 381	MEDICAL MEDIA ARTS LAB ²	
MDHM 402 & MDHM 403	HEALTH, HUMANISM AND SOCIETY SCHOLARS MEDICAL HUMANITIES PRACTICUM 1 (1 YR SEQUENCE) and HEALTH, HUMANISM AND SOCIETY SCHOLARS MEDICAL HUMANITIES PRACTICUM 2 (1 YR SEQUENCE)	
MDHM 430	HEALTH, HUMANISM AND SOCIETY SCHOLARS MEDICAL HUMANITIES PRACTICUM (ONE SEMESTER)	
SPAN 323	SPANISH PROFESSIONAL PRACTICUM I ³	
Total Credit Hours		18-21

Footnotes and Additional Information

- ¹ Students must complete the core course before they complete the practicum. The core course and the practicum may not be taken concurrently.
- ² Students may take ENGL 386/FILM 381 as either an elective or the practicum, but it will not count toward both requirements.
- ³ Students may take SPAN 323 as either an elective or the practicum, but it will not count toward both requirements.

Elective Requirements

To fulfill the elective requirements for the Medical Humanities minor, students must complete a total of 4 courses (12 credit hours) from the following Rice departmental course offerings. Students must fulfill the elective requirements by completing coursework from at least 2 different subject codes (i.e., ANTH, ENGL, etc.), and must take a minimum of 2 courses (6 credit hours) at the 300-level or above.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Elective Requirements		
<i>Select 4 courses from the following:</i>		12
Anthropology		
ANTH 321	SOCIAL LIFE OF DNA	
ANTH 342	ETHNOGRAPHIES OF CARE	
ANTH 344	CITY/CULTURE	
ANTH 354 / SWGS 353	ILLNESS, DISABILITY, AND THE GENDERED BODY	
ANTH 380	GLOBAL HEALTH JUSTICE: HEALTHCARE INEQUALITIES IN CONFLICTS	
ANTH 381	MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY	
ANTH 382	BODY, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENHANCEMENT	
ANTH 399	ANTHROPOLOGY OF REPRODUCTION	

ANTH 419	BLACK FEMINIST SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY STUDIES	HIST 430	HISTORIES OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ASIA
ANTH 443	ANTHROPOLOGY OF RACE, ETHNICITY AND HEALTH	HIST 480	HISTORY OF MEDICINE: FROM ART TO SCIENCE
ANTH 444	ANTHROPOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY, AND MADNESS	Humanities	
ANTH 477	SPECIAL TOPICS ¹	HUMA 131	WHAT IS AN (AB)NORMAL BODY?
Asian Studies		Latin American and Latinx Studies	
ASIA 356	GENOMIC GOVERNANCE IN ASIA	LALX 332	WRITING TO HEAL: U.S. LATINE NARRATIVES ON MENTAL HEALTH
Biosciences		Medical Humanities	
BIOS 368	CONCEIVING AND MISCONCEIVING THE MONSTROUS IN FICTION AND IN ART, IN MEDICINE AND IN BIOSCIENCE	MDHM 238	SPECIAL TOPICS ¹
BIOS 447	EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY AND THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE	MDHM 250	INTRODUCTION TO DISABILITY STUDIES
English		MDHM 300	IMMUNITY IN MEDIA, SCIENCE, AND CULTURE
ENGL 203	TOPICS IN CREATIVE WRITING ¹	MDHM 325	ETHICAL DEBATES IN MEDICINE: DIGNITY AND WELFARE
ENGL 245 / HURC 245	INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES	MDHM 359	RESPONSIBLE AI FOR HEALTH
ENGL 272	LITERATURE AND MEDICINE	Philosophy	
ENGL 273 / SWGS 273	MEDICINE AND MEDIA	PHIL 166	ETHICS IN PANDEMICS
ENGL 386 / FILM 381	MEDICAL MEDIA ARTS LAB ²	PHIL 265	DEATH AND DYING: METAPHYSICS AND ETHICS
ENGL 395	TRANSLATIONAL HUMANITIES METHODS: MEDICINE, ENVIRONMENT, RACE, TECHNOLOGY	PHIL 266	MEDICAL ETHICS
Environmental Studies		PHIL 267	PHILOSOPHY OF SEX AND LOVE
ENST 311	TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	PHIL 354	THE PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE
ENST 312	JUSTICE IN THE FOOD SYSTEM	PHIL 460	ADVANCED TOPICS IN ETHICS
ENST 314	CULTURES AND MEDIA OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	Religion	
ENST 315	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	RELI 142	THE COLORS OF LIFE AND THE END OF LIFE
First-Year Writing Intensive Seminar		RELI 333	KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND: BUDDHIST ARTS OF CONTEMPLATION AND ANALYSIS
FWIS 149	GRAPHIC MEDICINE	RELI 335	MEDICINE AND THE MUSEUM: CLINICAL AESTHETICS AND THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON
FWIS 171	THE DEVIL AND THE WORLD: THE IMAGE OF THE DEVIL IN WESTERN CULTURE	RELI 344	SEMINAR ON THE END OF LIFE
German Studies		RELI 350 / MDEM 350	DEMONS, MENTAL ILLNESS AND MEDICINE
GERM 335	GERMAN FILM (IN ENGLISH)	RELI 361 / HURC 361	THE HUMANITIES OF CARE & END OF LIFE
GERM 352	POLITICS OF THE FLESH IN GERMAN LITERATURE, THOUGHT AND FILM	RELI 362	RELIGION AND SCIENCE
Health Sciences		Sociology	
HEAL 212	CONSUMER HEALTH AND THE MEDIA	SOCI 344	SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL HEALTH
HEAL 360	VIOLENCE IN AMERICA: A PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE	SOCI 345	MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY
HEAL 380	DISPARITIES IN HEALTH IN AMERICA	SOCI 377	HEALTH DISPARITIES IN THE UNITED STATES
History		SOCI 422	SOCIAL AUTOPSIES: HOW SOCIETY KILLS US
HIST 208	RACE AND MEDICINE IN AMERICAN HISTORY	SOCI 465 / SWGS 465	GENDER AND HEALTH
HIST 310	THE BODY IN GLOBAL HISTORIES OF MEDICINE	Spanish	
HIST 312	ENVIRONMENT, MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN LATIN AMERICA	SPAN 322	SPECIAL TOPICS: ADVANCED SPANISH II ¹
HIST 353	HISTORY OF SENSATION	SPAN 323	SPANISH PROFESSIONAL PRACTICUM I ³
HIST 426	DISABILITY AND U.S. LAW	SPAN 333	CURRENT HEALTHCARE ISSUES IN LATINE COMMUNITIES

SPAN 370 DISABLED BODIES: ILLNESS AND
LITERATURE IN LATIN AMERICA

Footnotes and Additional Information

- ¹ ANTH 477, ENGL 203, MDHM 238, and SPAN 322 are special topics courses, and not all sections are eligible to be applied towards the minor requirements as an Elective course. Please see a minor advisor for more information.
- ² Students may take ENGL 386/FILM 381 as either an elective or the practicum, but it will not count toward both requirements.
- ³ Students may take SPAN 323 as either an elective or the practicum, but it will not count toward both requirements.

Policies for the Minor in Medical Humanities

Program Restrictions and Exclusions

Students pursuing the minor in Medical Humanities should be aware of the following program restriction:

- As noted in [Majors, Minors, and Certificates](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/), i.) students may declare their intent to pursue a minor only after they have first declared a major, and ii.) students may not major and minor in the same subject.

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of [transfer credit advisors](https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/) (https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/) on their website: <https://oaa.rice.edu>. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Program Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the minor in Medical Humanities should be aware of the following program-specific transfer credit guidelines:

- No more than 2 courses (6 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing may apply towards the minor.
- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.
- Transfer credit received via the articulation of approved exam credit, such as advanced placement (AP) credit, international baccalaureate (IB) credit, or A-level credit will not be considered towards minor requirements.

Distribution Credit Information

The determination of distribution credit eligibility is done initially as part of the [new course creation process](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/) (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/). Additionally, as part of an [annual roll call](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/) (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution credit eligibility is routinely reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-credit-eligible meet the criteria as set in the [General Announcements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text). Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet [graduation requirements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) by completing coursework designated as distribution-credit-eligible at the time of course registration.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Medical Humanities website: <https://medicalhumanities.rice.edu/>

Opportunities for the Minor in Medical Humanities

Academic Honors

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see [Latin Honors](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *cum laude*) and [Distinction in Research and Creative Work](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

Distinction in Research and Creative Work

Students completing the minor in Medical Humanities are eligible to apply for the university honor [Distinction in Research and Creative Work](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/). If awarded, Distinction will be noted on the student's transcript upon graduation and on commencement materials. All applications for Distinction will be judged by a committee of faculty affiliated with the program in Medical Humanities. Work deemed to be "above and beyond" expectation will be considered for Distinction.

- Applications for Distinction must be submitted to the Director of Medical Humanities on or before the last day of classes in the spring semester by 5:00 pm.
- As part of the application for Distinction, students must submit a single-authored research or creative work, created for a Medical Humanities class, that represents the substantive output of a semester's work (length will vary by discipline).
- The student's project does not have to be completed nor in its final format to apply for Distinction. All final research and creative work materials will be due on the last day of final examinations.
- Applications must include a 1-page letter of support from a sponsoring faculty advisor.
- Applications are available on the Medical Humanities website at: <https://medicalhumanities.rice.edu/distinction-research-and-creative-work/>

Annual Best Essay Competition

Students who take any approved Medical Humanities core course or elective course may submit an entry to the annual Best Essay competition. For details, see: <https://medicalhumanities.rice.edu/annual-essay-competition/>

Experiential Learning

Advanced students in the Medical Humanities minor have the opportunity to conduct experiential learning and research in our practica, enroll in internships at Houston-area hospitals, archives, and community partner institutions, and take a multi-institution seminar, co-taught by researchers and clinicians in the Texas Medical Center, University of Houston, University of Texas School of Public Health, and Rice.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Medical Humanities website: <https://medicalhumanities.rice.edu/>

See <https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life> (<https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life/>) for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this minor.