

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN HEALTH SCIENCES

Program Learning Outcomes for the BA Degree with a Major in Health Sciences

Upon completing the BA degree with a major in Health Sciences, students will be able to:

1. Understand the functions of health promotion, health education, and public health on human health and disease prevention. They will demonstrate fundamental knowledge of epidemiology, statistics, and theories and models of health behavior.
2. Explain the role of socioeconomic, behavioral, biological, environmental, and other factors on human health, including personal health and public and community health.
3. Read, select, and interpret important information from health sciences literature. They will be able to identify and understand appropriate methodologies in public health research studies.
4. Collaborate with other professionals, staff, and communities in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of health promotion programs. They will be able to administer and manage health promotion programs, serve as a health education resource person, and communicate and advocate for health and health education.
5. Promote public health education and promotion within the framework of legal, ethical, moral, and professional standards.
6. Demonstrate an ability to work in a collaborative environment and deliver public health information effectively through written, oral, and media-based formats.

Requirements for the BA Degree with a Major in Health Sciences

For general university requirements, see [Graduation Requirements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/). Students pursuing the BA degree with a major in Health Sciences must complete:

- A minimum of 14 courses (42 credit hours) to satisfy major requirements.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 5 courses (15 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this major. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the major's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the major's Official Certifier (<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 Major in Health Sciences		42
Total Credit Hours Required for the BA Degree with a Major in Health Sciences		120

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirements ¹		
HEAL 222	PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HEALTH	3
HEAL 313	FOUNDATIONS OF HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION	3
HEAL 407	EPIDEMIOLOGY	3
HEAL 422	THEORIES AND MODELS OF HEALTH BEHAVIOR	3
HEAL 460	PLANNING AND EVALUATION OF HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION	3
KINE 319	STATISTICS FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL	3
Elective Requirements		
Select 8 elective courses (see course list below)		24
Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Health Sciences		42
Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements *		47
University Graduation Requirements (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) *		31
Total Credit Hours		120

Footnotes and Additional Information

* **Note:** [University Graduation Requirements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) include 31 credit hours, comprised of Distribution Requirements (Groups I, II, and III), FWIS, and LPAP coursework. In some instances, courses satisfying FWIS or distribution requirements may additionally meet other requirements, such as the Analyzing Diversity (AD) requirement, or some of the student's declared major, minor, or certificate requirements. [Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) include general electives, coursework completed as upper-level, residency (hours taken at Rice), and/or any other additional academic program requirements.

¹ Core Requirements include an introductory course designed to acquaint students with the fundamental concepts of personal health and models of health promotion, understanding and assessing community health needs, methods of understanding the disease process, a course that introduces statistics, a professional preparation course that introduces students to the profession, theories and models commonly used in health promotion research and practice, and an application course in which students plan a health promotion program.

Course List to Satisfy Requirements

Elective Requirements

To fulfill the elective requirements for the Major in Health Sciences, students must complete a total of 8 elective courses (minimum of 24 credit hours) from the course list below. This list of electives is drawn from course offerings that are both within the Department of Kinesiology

and, at present, more than 20 courses from other academic departments at Rice. In keeping with the university's interest in an interdisciplinary approach to undergraduate education, this allows students to choose health-related courses from within the schools of natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Elective Requirements		
<i>Select 8 courses from the following:</i>		24
ANTH 381	MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY	
ANTH 386	MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY OF FOOD AND HEALTH	
ANTH 446	ADVANCED TOPICS IN BIOMEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY	
BIOE 360 / GLHT 360	APPROPRIATE DESIGN FOR GLOBAL HEALTH	
BIOS 201	INTRODUCTORY BIOLOGY I	
ECON 481	HEALTH ECONOMICS	
ENGL 272	LITERATURE AND MEDICINE	
ENGL 273 / SWGS 273	MEDICINE AND MEDIA	
ENST 315	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
GLHT 201	INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL HEALTH	
HEAL 103	NUTRITION	
HEAL 119	INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND WELLNESS	
HEAL 132	MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY	
HEAL 208	CHEMICAL ALTERATIONS OF BEHAVIOR	
HEAL 212	CONSUMER HEALTH AND THE MEDIA	
HEAL 306 / SWGS 306	HUMAN SEXUALITY	
HEAL 350	UNDERSTANDING CANCER	
HEAL 360	VIOLENCE IN AMERICA: A PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE	
HEAL 375	THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH	
HEAL 379	INTERNSHIP IN HEALTH SCIENCES	
HEAL 380	DISPARITIES IN HEALTH IN AMERICA	
HEAL 412	HEALTH CARE DELIVERY & POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES	
HEAL 495	INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IN HEALTH SCIENCES	
HEAL 498	SPECIAL TOPICS IN HEALTH SCIENCES	
KINE 300	HUMAN ANATOMY WITH LAB	
KINE 301	HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY	
KINE 326	PHYSICAL ACTIVITY EPIDEMIOLOGY	
KINE 440	RESEARCH METHODS	
MDHM 201	INTRODUCTION TO MEDICAL HUMANITIES	
PHIL 266	MEDICAL ETHICS	
PHIL 354	THE PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE	
POLI 329	HEALTH POLICY	
PSYC 345	HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 346	STRESS AND HEALTH ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	
SOCI 313	DEMOGRAPHY	

SOCI 345	MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY
SOCI 465 / SWGS 465	GENDER AND HEALTH
SOSC 330	HEALTH CARE REFORM IN THE 50 STATES

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.

Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the major in Health Sciences should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

- 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.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Department of Kinesiology website: <https://kinesiology.rice.edu/>

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 \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/work/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/work/). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

Unique Programs

Rice-UTSPH Public Health Scholars

Rice undergraduate students interested in pursuing a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth School of Public Health (UTSPH)) may apply to the Rice-UT Public Health Scholars Program. This unique coordinated program enables accepted Rice students to earn credit towards their Rice undergraduate degree (BA or BS with any major), and to accelerate in the completion of their UTSPH Master of Public Health degree to within one year after completing their Rice undergraduate degree. For more information on the Rice-UTSPH Public Health Scholars Program, please see the *Rice-UT Public Health Scholars Program* tab on the [Dean of Undergraduates website \(https://dou.rice.edu/student-resources/public-health-scholars-program/\)](https://dou.rice.edu/student-resources/public-health-scholars-program/).

Rice-UTMB Physical Therapy Scholars

Beginning in Fall 2023, a program agreement is in effect between the Sports Medicine & Exercise Physiology (SMEP) program at Rice University and the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB). This unique Rice-UTMB Physical Therapy Scholars Program (Rice-UTMB PTS) offers an opportunity for qualified SMEP students who have identified physical therapy as a career choice to receive preference during the admission

process into the UTMB Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. For more information on the Rice-UTMB Physical Therapy Scholars Program, please see the Department of Kinesiology website: <https://kinesiology.rice.edu/>.

Additional Information

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