

Global Health Minor

The Global Health minor will allow you to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of health issues and health care in a global context. Through the bundling of a broad range of courses, this minor will provide a solid foundation in social, cultural, epidemiological, environmental and nutritional determinants of health, and will explore the challenges facing global health solutions. You will investigate the health implications of globalization, as well as have the option for an engagement experience, both of which contribute to better understanding the determinants of health issues around the world.

Required Foundational Courses

Global Health

We propose a minor in Global Health that will allow students to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of health issues in a global context with focus on the biological or the social environmental. Through a broad range of courses, the minor in Global Health will provide a solid foundation in social epidemiological, environmental, and nutritional determinants of health.

Students adding a Global Health Minor to their major will explore the scientific, social, environmental and cultural challenges facing global health solutions. They will investigate the health implications of globalization, as well as have an engagement experience which is crucial to understanding the determinants of health issues around the world.

Faculty associated with the Global Health Minor come from across MSU from such areas as the Colleges of Letters and Science, Education, Agriculture, Nursing and Engineering. With courses from diverse departments such as Modern Languages and Literatures, Cell Biology and Neuroscience, Microbiology and Immunology, for example, the minor spans the breadth of the global health field.

Why does this minor matter? Our minor focuses on problems in global health from the standpoint of both clinical disease as well as from a cultural understanding of the associated cultural, socio-economic, and environmental factors. **Global health is a shared responsibility and requires an equitable, interdisciplinary, and systematic approach including transnational cooperation and collaboration between health care providers, veterinarians, scientists, and local communities.**

Students in this minor will study the major health issues (including both infectious and non-communicable disease) that are endemic to developing countries as well as in underprivileged and underrepresented populations in the United States. Topics of study to choose from will include: the transmission of zoonotic diseases and the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying infectious disease; the impacts of climate change and human-environmental interactions on the spread of diseases; the influence of anthropogenic environmental change on food and medicinal plant systems; dietary transitions and their implications for nutrition and health outcomes; geography, socio-economic status, and health disparity; an appreciation for culturally-appropriate best practices when working with minority cultures, and unique and indigenous care modalities; and a comparative analysis of different national health care systems.

The goal of this new minor is to support training of students who are better equipped to contribute to addressing health disparities in developing countries as well as among disadvantaged populations in the United States. The proposed minor is well aligned with MSU's strategic plan goal of integrating learning, discovery, and engagement through increased collaboration across disciplines, international experiences for students, and engagement with communities internationally.

Unique Components of Curriculum:

- Cultural linguistic component: basic proficiency in Spanish, French or Chinese.
- Engagement project: In consultation with an advisor, students in the minor will develop an engagement project related to any aspect of global health in a local or international environment.
- Students in this minor can enhance their majors by focusing the minor on any related health area. For example, (1) the biomedical, (2) the cultural, socio-economic, (3) policy issues such as food access related to world health problems or (4) ecology and epidemiology of infectious diseases.

Learning Outcomes:

Students completing the Global Health Minor will be able to:

- Be familiar with major diseases that increase morbidity and mortality, with particular emphasis on diseases in low resource communities regionally and globally.
- Analyze health disparities through cultural and socio-political perspectives to identify restrictions and challenges.
- Use specific discipline-based methodologies (from engineering, political science, public health, etc.) to examine issues of health inequity and perceptions of health.
- Develop cross-cultural competency as well as awareness of and sensitivity to cultural differences.

Course Requirements

***At least 9 credits overall MUST be upper division, 300 & 400 level**

Required Foundational Courses

LS 104	Introduction to Global Health	3
BIOH 303	Global Diseases and Health Disparities	3
SPNS 101	Elementary Spanish I	3
SPNS 250	Spanish for Healthcare Professionals	3

Elective Courses

Choose 6 credits from Biomedical Electives:		6
BIOB 100IN	Organism Function	
BIOB 160	Principles of Living Systems	
BIOB 410	Immunology	
BIOH 185	Integrated Physiology I	
BIOH 201	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	
BIOH 422	Genes and Cancer	
BIOH 445	Introduction to Pharmacology	
BIOM 210IN	Environmental Health Science	
BIOM 250	Microbiology for Health Sciences: Infectious Diseases	
BIOM 400	Medical Microbiology	
BIOM 415	Microbial Diversity, Ecology, and Evolution	
BIOM 435	Virology	
BIOM 441	Eukaryotic Pathogens	
CHTH 440	Principles of Epidemiology	
KIN 221	Health Anatomy & Physiology	
NUTR 221CS	Basic Human Nutrition	
Choose 6 credits from Social/Economic Policy Electives:		6
AGBE 315	Ag in a Global Context	
ANTY 101D	Anthropology and the Human Experience	
ANTY 225IS	Culture, Language, and Society	

ANTY 327	Medical Anthropology
CHTH 210	Foundations in Community Health
ECNS 317	Economic Development
HTH 455	The Ethic of Care
NRSG 418	Hlth Policy/Hlth Care Econ Cln
PSCI 423	Politics of Development
PSYX 383	Health Psychology
SOCI 370	Sociology of Globalization
SOCI 380	Sociology of Health & Medicine
SFBS 146	Introduction to Sustainable Food and Bioenergy Systems
SFBS 451R	Food Systems Research
Choose 3 credits from Cultural Electives:	
BIOB 492	Independent Study (Guided Undergrad Engagement or Study Abroad)
CHTH 414	Health and Culture: A Global Perspective
CHTH 428	Health Disparities
GPHY 121D	Human Geography
GPHY 141D	Geography of World Regions
HSTR 160D	Modern World History
NASX 105D	Introduction to Native American Studies
NASX 415	Native Food Systems
PHL 255D	Philosophy and Culture
PSCI 230D	Introduction to International Relations
RLST 100D	Intro to the Study of Religion
SOCI 374	Sociology of Culture
SPNS 350	US Latino Cultures
Total Credits	

3

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