

HEALTH HUMANITIES B.A.

The interdisciplinary Health Humanities Bachelor of Arts degree prepares diverse students for entry into undergraduate and graduate health professions programs, and health-related careers through a humanities forward study of health, malady, and the social, cultural, political, and environmental contexts that shape health and wellness.

Drawing from courses in philosophy, history, literature, religious studies, fine arts, social sciences, public health and health professions, this innovative interdisciplinary major transcends the traditional biomedical approach to understanding well-being and malady. Health Humanities students learn to think critically about complex social issues that impact health and to appreciate the cultural frameworks that govern how we speak about human health, disease and vulnerability. Further, Health Humanities students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and ability gained throughout their program through experiential learning in the D'Youville Health Professions Hub and internship opportunities.

With the help of their academic advisor, students can individualize their course of study to focus their degree outcome towards specific professional goals or intended graduate studies. Students who do not intend to pursue graduate study are prepared to enter the workforce as entry level health humanists in the non-profit health related sector.

Students can also opt for a Bachelor of Science degree with this major.

Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Analyze historical, literary, material, artistic, and ethical aspects of health and wellness through close reading and critical interpretation.
2. Apply humanities and medical humanities concepts/theories and methodologies to issues of human wellness and malady in literary, historical, and social contexts.
3. Reflect on the ways that health disparities, disability, and cultural conceptions of health and illness shape human experience, including patient and provider experience in a health care setting.

Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental/Pre-Veterinary/Pre-Health

Students interested in attending medical school, dental school, veterinary school, or other health programs should refer to the Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental/Pre-Veterinary/Pre-Health Advising Track (<https://nam111.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnextcatalog.dyouville.edu%2Fdegree-programs%2Farts-sciences-education%2Fpre-med%2F&data=05%7C02%7C%7C5e298be078fc4697d90608dc7a9bd30c%7C68f1f6313c9e4247804999e093207ced%7C0%7C0%7C638520056898074168%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IkhawWlEC3XVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GzHVvYpBYk%2BJGT4zHSmtm9JWlnmiB4T2haSTxjY5eWQ%3D&reserved=0>) page for more details.

The Health Humanities curriculum consists of 36–42 credits completed in the following areas.

Core Health Humanities (12 Credits)

Code	Title	Credits
HUM-101	Introduction to Health Humanites	3
HUM-102	Cultural Studies in Healthcare	3
HUM-201	Narrative Medicine	3

HUM-301	Topics in Healthcare History	3
Total Credits		12

Health Humanities Capstone/Internship (3–9 Credits)

Students take one or both of the following.

Code	Title	Credits
HUM-410	Health Humanities Capstone	3
HUM-444	Health Humanities Internship	3-9

Breadth in Health Humanities (21 Credits)

Students must take a minimum of 1 course from each of the breadth clusters for a total of 9 credits. The other 4 breadth cluster classes (12 credits) are determined in consultation with their advisor. Classes not included in the clusters may be counted toward the clusters with the approval of the Health Humanities program director.

Ethics, Health, and the Human Spirit

This cluster emphasizes ethical reasoning, the ethical impact of health policy, and spiritual dimensions of human well-being.

Code	Title	Credits
PHI-103	Ethics: Religious and Philosophical Perspectives	3
or RS-103	Ethics: Religious and Philosophical Perspectives	
PHI-210	Freedom, Death, and Meaning	3
PHI-211	Technology and Society	3
RS-214	Challenges of Death	3
PHI-312	Bioethics Seminar	3
or RS-312	Bioethics Seminar	

Health and the Arts

This cluster emphasizes artistic representations of the human body, health/illness, artistic engagement with environments, and related experiences.

Code	Title	Credits
ENG-205	Literature and the Brain	3
ENG-210	Science Fiction	3
ENG-237	Introduction to Literary Criticism	3
ENG-311	Themes in American Literature	3
IMA-231	Writing the Anthropocene	3
IMA-307	The Human Body in Art and Society	3
IMA-309	The Unthinkable Mind	3

Society, Health, and Behavior

This cluster emphasizes the historical and political dimensions that can impact health and individual well-being as well as behavioral determinants of health, with emphasis on issues of diversity and equity.

Code	Title	Credits
ENG-218	Minority Voices in American Literature	3
HIS-336	American Environmental History	3
IMA-236	Writing for Social Justice	3
RS-350	The Holocaust	3

Admission Requirements

D'Youville selects students who are academically well-rounded and committed to meeting the challenges of a high-quality education. Applications will be assessed holistically. Applicants are encouraged to apply for admission into the major based on a love of the subject matter and a desire to learn. Space in the program may be limited. If an applicant cannot be admitted into a program due to space constraints, the applicant will be placed on a waiting list for entry and duly notified.

Freshman Admission

Freshman applicants to this major must submit high school transcripts. Applicants may also submit any of the following optional materials:

1. Statement of intent (strongly encouraged)
2. High School average of 80

Transfer Admission

Transfer students *must* submit high school transcripts and any/all other transcripts from institutions previously attended. Transfer applicants *may* also submit any of the following optional materials:

1. Statement of intent (strongly encouraged)
2. Transfer GPA of 2.0