

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE CERTIFICATE

Introduction

Please click here (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/college-liberal-arts-sciences/sociology/>) to see Sociology department information.

Enhancing the health and quality of life for individuals and communities are central goals to societies the world over. Medical sociology is a subfield devoted to the study of population health, health care systems and policy, and the social dimensions of illness and healing. Medical sociologists study the causes of health inequalities, social constructions of health and illness, origins of medical authority, doctor-patient relationships, community influences on health, and the social forces that affect policy. The Sociology Department's Sociology of Health and Medicine Certificate provides training in the core research methodologies and theories of medical sociology, examining individual experience, institutional structures, laws and policies that affect health, and broader systems of inequality that lead to unequal rates of illness and access to care. This certificate provides depth of training in these areas and is ideal for students interested in graduate-level study and social research on health and medicine as well as those interested in careers in public health, health care services, and non-profit organizations.

Upon successful completion of the certificate, students will:

- Articulate the central explanations for historical shifts in disease, including neighborhood effects and behaviors that may increase the risk of disease and mortality
- Identify social factors that contribute to population health inequalities, including race, ethnicity, gender, class, immigration status, sexuality, or disability
- Understand the social influences that shape medical authority, knowledge, and patient experiences with illness and treatment
- Be able to use different methodologies to understand the social aspects of health and medicine
- Know how to conduct original research, analyze policy, and evaluate community needs for organizations devoted to improving population health

These requirements are subject to periodic revision by the academic department, and the College reserves the right to make exceptions and substitutions as judged necessary in individual cases. Therefore, the College strongly urges students to consult regularly with their faculty advisor and CLAS advisor to confirm the best plans of study before finalizing them.

Program Delivery

This is an on-campus or online program.

Declaring This Certificate

- **Eligibility:** While housed in Sociology, the study of health and medical issues is in fact a multidisciplinary field that draws from diverse liberal arts fields, including Anthropology, Communications,

Psychology, and History, among others. Thus, CU Denver undergraduate students in any discipline can enroll in the certificate program. This certificate is also available to non-degree-seeking students who already have earned a BA or BS degree, either at CU Denver or elsewhere.

- **Application procedures:** Students are encouraged to apply for the Sociology of Health and Medicine Certificate at any point in their undergraduate studies. To apply, students should print and attach a completed the Sociology of Health and Medicine Certificate Application to an unofficial transcript. These documents should be submitted to the Sociology of Health and Medicine Certificate Administrator. Once the application is approved, students will be contacted about their acceptance into the program.

General Requirements

Students must satisfy all requirements as outlined below and by the department offering the certificate.

- Click here (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/>) for information about Academic Policies.

Program Requirements

1. Students must complete a minimum of 15 credit hours from the approved courses below.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 6 upper-division (3000-level and above) SOCY credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- (1.7) in all certificate courses taken at CU Denver and must achieve a minimum cumulative certificate GPA of 2.0. All graded attempts in required and elective courses are calculated in the certificate GPA. Students cannot complete certificate or ancillary course requirements as pass/fail.
4. Students must complete all 15 credits applied to the certificate at CU Denver chosen from the approved courses below. (If students have completed a course required for the certificate elsewhere, they may add the needed credits in the form of additional elective credits drawn from the approved elective courses.)

Certificate Restrictions, Allowances and Recommendations

1. The certificate will be awarded the semester in which the student completes all required courses for the certificate.

Required Courses

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Take the following</i>		
SOCY 3440	Medical Sociology	3
SOCY 3115 & SOCY 3119	Quantitative Methods & Analysis and Qualitative Methods ¹	8

¹ Students may take two approved methods courses in the student's major discipline, one on quantitative methods and one on qualitative methods: e.g. PSYC 2090 Statistics and Research Methods, PSYC 3090 Research Methods in Psychology, PSCI 3011 Research Methods, PHIL 3440 Introduction to Symbolic Logic, PHIL 2441 Logic, Language and Scientific Reasoning, ECON 3801 Introduction to Mathematical Economics, ECON 3811 Statistics with Computer Applications, GEOG 2080 Introduction to Mapping and Map Analysis, GEOG 4080 Introduction to GIS. Questions about eligible methods course substitutions should be directed to the Sociology of Health & Medicine Certificate Administrator

Approved Elective Courses

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Take two of the following</i>		6
ANTH 3045	Cannabis Culture	3
ANTH 4010	Medical Anthropology: Global Health	3
ANTH 4290	Anthropology and Public Health	3
ANTH 4600	Medical Anthropology	3
COMM 4500	Health Communication	3
COMM 4525	Health Communication and Community	3
COMM 4550	Rhetorics of Medicine & Health	3
COMM 4558	Digital Health Narratives	3
ECON 4660	Health Economics.	3
ETST 3002	Ethnicity, Health and Social Justice	3
GEOG 3501	Geography of Health	3
GEOG 4235	GIS Applications in the Health Sciences	3
HEHM 3100	Introduction to Health Humanities	3
HIST 3606	Science, Technology, and Society in the Modern World	3
HIST 4345	Gender, Science, and Medicine: 1600 to the Present	3
PHIL 3550	Philosophy of Death and Dying	3
PHIL 4242	Bioethics	3
PSCI 4330	U.S. Health Policy	3
PSYC 3262	Health Psychology	3
PSYC 3265	Drugs, Brain and Behavior	3
PSYC 3612	Domestic Abuse	3
PSYC 3822	Aging, Brain and Behavior	3
SOCY 3010	Sociology of Human Sexuality	3
SOCY 3040	Drugs, Alcohol & Society	3
SOCY 3570	Death & Dying: Social & Medical Perspectives	3
SOCY 4050	Health Disparities	3
SOCY 4110	Sociology of Health Care	3
SOCY 4270	Social Meanings of Reproduction	3
SOCY 4290	Aging, Society and Social Policy	3
WGST 4345	Gender, Science, and Medicine: 1600 to the Present	3

To learn more about the Student Learning Outcomes for this program, please visit our website (https://clas.ucdenver.edu/sociology/sites/default/files/attached-files/medical_sociology_health_certificate_description.pdf).