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APPROVED NOV 16 2005

**A Proposal to Create a Minor Degree Component
in Medicine & Society
at the University of Houston
(Summer, 2005)**

Though the University of Houston does not have a medical school, it is the only public research university in a city where medicine and health care is an industry and social practice of immense importance, historically, economically, culturally. The Texas Medical Center is the largest in the world and home to two medical schools, two schools of nursing, and a score of programs in the allied health sciences, as well more than a dozen major hospitals, clinics, research laboratories, and other medical facilities. Collectively these institutions carry on an enormous amount of teaching and research. The University of Houston is cultivating its ties to the Methodist Hospital and to other institutions in the TMC, to the University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston, and to the medical community generally; these ties have usually been through the Colleges of Pharmacy, Optometry, Engineering, or Natural Sciences and Mathematics. This proposal would establish a multidisciplinary minor degree component that would organize and "package" pre-existing curricular and faculty resources across the University.

Housed in the Honors College, the minor will be available to all University of Houston students. Academic advising will be coordinated through the Honors College.

The minor would

- 1) encourage pre-health professions students to explore historical, economic, and cultural issues associated with health care;
- 2) introduce students of all majors to historical, economic, and cultural dimensions of health, illness, and health care;
- 3) support access to research, clinical, and instructional opportunities both on- and off-campus.

At the suggestion of Interim Provost Strickland, a steering committee to explore the advantages of a program in Medicine & Society has been meeting since September, 2004, with the following objectives:

- 1) Determining whether a minor in Medicine & Society would be attractive to undergraduates at the University of Houston.
- 2) Identifying courses currently taught at the University of Houston that would be appropriate for a minor degree component in Medicine & Society.
- 3) Developing a new course, "HON 3301: Readings in Medicine & Society," required of students completing the minor. (Approved Spring 2005; offered Fall 2005, TTH 5:30-7:00p.m.) This course will be offered each semester.

Medicine & Society Steering Committee

Bill Monroe (Honors College and English), Chair
 Andy Achenbaum (Social Work), Co-chair
 John Lienhard (History and Mechanical Engineering)
 Joe Kotarba (Sociology)
 Bill Nelson (Philosophy)
 Alejandro Chaoul (M.D. Anderson and Rice University)
 Andrea Smesny (Pharmacy)
 Tracy Karner (Sociology)
 Alison McDermott (Optometry)
 Stanley Woo (Optometry)
 Norris Lang (Anthropology)
 Susan Rasmussen (Anthropology)
 Janis Hutchinson (Anthropology)
 Andy Gordon (Anthropology)
 Matthew Franchck (Biomedical Engineering)
 Ralph Metcalfe (Biomedical Engineering)
 Thomas R. Cole (UT Health Science Center)
 Joan Krause (Law Center)
 Warren Holleman (Baylor College of Medicine)
 Alice Cepeda (Social Work)
 Diane Dorris (Academic Advising Center)
 Avelardo Valdez (Social Work)
 Lawrence Schulze (Industrial Engineering)
 Clifford Dacso (University Professor, College of Technology)

Proposed minor and catalog language

Medicine & Society Minor

approved
CLASS JSC
9/15/05
J. Monroe

Director: William Monroe

Associate Director: W. Andrew Achenbaum

Coordinator: Helen Valier

Housed in the Honors College, the minor in Medicine & Society will be available to all University of Houston students. Academic advising is coordinated through the Honors College. The minor in Medicine & Society is designed to

- 1) encourage pre-health professions students to explore historical, economic, and cultural issues associated with health care;
- 2) introduce students of all majors to historical, economic, and cultural dimensions of health, illness, and health care;
- 3) support access to research, clinical, and instructional opportunities both on- and off-campus.

The minor in Medicine & Society consists of three components.

1. 15 hours in designated Medicine & Society courses including:
 - a. One foundation course: HON 3301: *Readings in Medicine & Society*.
 - b. Four additional courses chosen from the list of elective courses approved for the minor.
 - c. A minimum of 12 hours must be taken in residence; 9 must be advanced hours.
 - d. A maximum of six hours of approved transfer credits may be accepted toward the minor.
 - e. No more than six hours in a student's major may apply toward the minor.
2. Approved research, field-based service, internship/externship, or an additional 3-hour course from the list of approved elective courses.
3. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required in those courses completed for the minor.

The following is a partial listing of regularly offered courses that can be counted toward the minor. In addition, courses listed in each semester's class schedule under "Medicine & Society" are considered approved courses for the minor, even though those courses may not appear on the list below.

ANTH 3350 Women and Health: Anthropological Perspectives
 ANTH 3364 Disease in Antiquity
 ANTH 4331 Medical Anthropology
 ANTH 4337 Anthropology of the Life Cycle
 ANTH 4339 Alcohol, Drugs, and Culture
 ANTH 4352 Biomedical Anthropology
 ANTH 4353 Biocultural Adaptation
 ANTH 4384 Anthropology of HIV
 BIOE 1440 Frontiers in Biomedical Engineering
 BIOL 1309 Human Genetics and Society
 COMM 4333 Health and Communication
 COMM 4397 Health Literacy
 COMM 4397 Doctor-Patient Communication
 ECON 3368 Economics of Health Care
 ENGL 4371 Literature and Medicine
 HIST 3303 Disease, Health, and Medicine in American History
 HIST 3397 History of Medicine
 HLT 3306 Environmental Health
 HLT 3381 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
 HLT 4308 Understanding Cancer
 INDE 4337 Human Factors, Ergonomics, and Safety
 OPTO 1300 Introduction to Health Professions
 PHAR 2362 Principles of Drug Action
 PHIL 3354 Medical Ethics
 PHIL 3351 Contemporary Moral Issues
 SOC 3345 Sociology of Death and Dying
 SOC 3380 Introduction to the Sociology of Health Care

HON 3301: Readings in Medicine and Society 4th Draft

I. History, Culture & Sociology of Medicine (as profession with links to community health and pharmacology, with various pathways to graduate education, and with dimensions changed by technology)

Aug 23 Monroe	Introduction	Achenbaum and
Aug 25	Early episode(s) in history of medicine	Leinhard
Aug 30	History of US medicine	Achenbaum
Sept 1	Case studies of medical anthropology	Gordon
Sept 6	The pharmacological revolution	Smesny
Sept 8 Sept 13	Engineering, technology & medicine Asian medical systems' influence on community and alternative medicine in the US (plus FEEDBACK*)	Metcalf Chaoul
Sept 15	Religion, health, and well-being (cross cultural)	Rasmussen
Sept 20	Papers due and discussion of papers	Achenbaum
Sept 22	Women's health and gender-specific diseases	Kotarba
Sept 27	Race as a factor in mortality and morbidity	Hutchinson
Sept 29	Worker health and injury prevention	Schulze
Oct 4	Take-home Midterm DUE	

II. Health, Well-being, Disease and Death over the Life Course (age, gender, race)

Oct 6	Diagnosis as Interpretation (plus FEEDBACK*)	Monroe
Oct 11	Cancer	(McDermott)?
Oct 13	Obesity	Jill Bush (Human Performance)?
Oct 18	Mental health	Floyd Robinson

Oct 20	Strokes and brain injury	Eldred
Oct 25	Public health and preventive medicine	Helen Valier (?)
Oct 27	Community-based/ VA rehabilitation	George & Harden
Nov 1	HIV and epidemics	Lang and Segu
Nov 3	Anti-aging (plus FEEDBACK*)	Cole
Nov 8	Death and dying	Karner

III. Law, (bio)ethics, and hard policy choices

Nov 10	Right-to-die/informed consent	Krause & Health
	Law Policy Center	
Nov 15	Ethics of technological intervention	Stanley Reiser
Nov 17	Our future selves: DNA and Genetic Manipulation	McDermott
Nov 22	Bio-ethics: a clinical perspective	Bailey
Nov 29	Resource allocation from a philosopher's view (plus wrap-up)	Nelson
Dec 1	Papers due and discussion of papers	
Dec. ??	Final Examination	

* FEEDBACK sessions will be led by Dr. Achenbaum, the instructor of record. These are conceived as 30 minute sessions for addressing potential confusions and responding to student questions. On these occasions the presenters will be limited to 45 minute sessions.



Catalog Language [to be placed at end of the The Honors College section of the catalog]

Medicine and Society Program

Director: William Monroe

Associate Director: W. Andrew Achenbaum

Coordinator: Helen Valier

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A minor in Medicine and Society requires 15-18 semester hours of approved course work, including HON 3301 "Readings in Medicine and Society" (note that this class is open to all University of Houston students; it is not restricted to those students enrolled in the Honors College); four additional courses chosen from a list approved for the minor; plus one of the following options: a special project of original research; an internship/externship (as arranged by the Program Coordinator); or an additional 3 hour course chosen from the approved list of electives. Students must complete at least 12 hours in residence, 9 hours of which must be at the advanced level. A maximum of 6 hours of approved transfer credits may be accepted toward the minor upon the approval of the Program Coordinator. No more than 6 hours of a student's major may apply toward the minor. A minimum 3.0 grade point average for all courses applied to the minor is required.

The academic requirements are as follows:

- 1) HONS 3301 'Readings in Medicine and Society'
- 2) A selection of four elective courses taken from the list of approved courses:


ANTH 3350	Women and Health
ANTH 3364	Disease in Antiquity
ANTH 4331	Medical Anthropology
ANTH 4337	Anthropology of the Life Cycle
ANTH 4352	Biomedical Anthropology
ANTH 4384	Anthropology of HIV
ANTH 4394	Anthropology of the Body
BIOE 1440	Frontiers in Biomedical Engineering
BIOL 1309	Human Genetics and Society

COMD 4301	Deaf Culture
COMM 4333	Health Communication
COMM 4397	Health Literacy
COMM 4397	Doctor-Patient Communication
ECON 6397	Economics in Health
ENGL 4371	Literature and Medicine
HIST 3303	Disease, Health, and Medicine
HIST 4395	Science, Technology and Empire
INDE 4337	Human Factors, Ergonomics, and Safety
OPTO 1300	Introduction to the Health Professions
PHIL 3354	Medical Ethics
SOC 3382	Sociology of Drug Use and Recovery
SOCW 3397	Spirituality and Aging

Note: Courses are added to the approved list between editions of the catalog. Students may obtain a complete list of courses approved for this minor in the office of the Program in Medicine & Society, 212 M.D. Anderson Library.

- 3) Approved research, field-based service, internship/externship, or an additional 3-hour course from the list of approved elective courses.

ITEC 4347 Experiencing The Future Health



New SPRING 2006 Class Offering

ITEC 4397/TEPM 6397: Experiencing the Future of Health

Taught by
Clifford C. Dacso, MD, MPH, MBA

This course builds on the foundation of other University classes to begin the process of designing healthcare interventions. Class participants will be exposed to current issues in healthcare as well as visions and arguments for the future. At the conclusion of the course, students will have understood the determinants of the future of healthcare worldwide and will have experienced the challenges of designing and critiquing scenarios.

Topics will include:

- The Environment of Health
 - Cultural Determinants of Healthcare
- The Influence of Structures and Esthetics on Health
- What Does the Business Community Expect from a Healthcare System?
- What are the Political Drivers for Healthcare Futures?
- The Legal and Regulatory Structures of Healthcare
- HIV/AIDS as a Metaphor for Health Intervention
- International Healthcare, Development, and Human Rights
 - Technology and Research Drivers
 - Personal Health, Autonomy, and Efficacy
 - Scenario Planning Techniques

Class requirements: Sophomore status or above