

**Memorandum: Revisions to the Medicine & Society Minor**

To: Dr. William Monroe, Dean, Honors College

From: Dr. Helen Valier, Coordinator, Medicine & Society Program

Date: 04-10-12

Re: Revisions to the Medicine & Society minor: 1.internships and 2.degree structure

APPROVED APR 24 2013

RECEIVED OCT 11 2012

1. The Medicine & Society minor is currently an 18 SCH minor, but many students use the option to 'waive' 3 SCHs by completing an internship. When the minor was established in the Spring semester of 2006, this option served us and the students well. Now that we have over 120 students enrolled in the Medicine & Society minor, however, maintaining the internship program has become logistically problematic. I suggest that we delete the internship component of the minor and instead transfer the internship program to the newly proposed Honors Pre-Health Professions program (HPHP). The Medicine & Society program will itself become part of HPHP, so the transition should be smooth and allow for us the focus on providing (as we did back in 2006) a dozen or so high quality internships for highly motivated, highly qualified students. This will establish Medicine & Society internships as a 'value added' part of the HPHP experience, much like undergraduate research gives a value added dimension to the BS and BA degrees. I suggest that as students rarely take the 18 SCH option that we drop our requirement to 15 SCH for the degree, which, in any case, better conforms to the requirements of other minor degrees offered around campus.

## Memorandum: Revisions to the Medicine & Society Minor

2. When the Medicine & Society minor was established in 2006, we had few courses developed by Honors College or Medicine & Society-related faculty specifically serving the instructional needs of our students. Following on from our expansion, we are now eager to improve the coherence of the minor, with a clearer pathway through the degree using a selection of newly designed and existing classes that have proven to complement each other very well. With that in mind, I would like to propose the following revisions to the minor:

*For a minor in Medicine & Society, a student must complete 15 semester hours of approved course work, including:*

- a. HON 3301*
- b. 6-12 hrs courses from this list:*
- ❖ COMM 3300; ENGL 4371H; HON 3304 (~~proposed class for 2013~~),  
and  
3305 (~~proposed class for 2013~~), 3306 (~~proposed class for 2013~~);  
HIST 3303H, 3316H, 3318, 3319.*
- c. 0-6hrs courses from this list:*
- ❖ ANTH 3350, 3364, 4331, 4352, 4384; COMM 3301, 3302, 3303,  
and  
3304, 3305; OPTO 1300H; PHIL 3354; POLS 4363; PSYC 2335  
and*
- d. Students may petition appropriate special topics classes for credit towards the minor upon the approval <sup>of</sup> a) of the Dean of the College and, b) the Coordinator of the Medicine & Society minor. No more than two special topics classes (totaling 6 hrs) may be petitioned ~~in this way.~~*