

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STUDIES

Web Site: <http://www.twu.edu/health-studies/>

Effective Fall 2018, the Department of Health Studies and the Department of Kinesiology (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/health-sciences/kinesiology>) **have merged to become the School of Health Promotion and Kinesiology led by Dr. George King.**

Chair: Dr. George King, Professor

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Graduate Degrees Offered

- M.S. In Health Studies (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/health-sciences/health-studies/health-studies-ms>)
- Dual Degree: M.S. in Health Studies/ Master of Library Science (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/health-sciences/health-studies/dual-degree-health-studies-ms-mls>)
- Ph.D. in Health Studies (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/health-sciences/health-studies/health-studies-phd>)

Mission Statement

The Department of Health Studies is dedicated to improving the health of communities by conducting research, teaching evidence-based practice, educating future health education/health promotion professionals, and developing leaders and scholars who translate research into practice. Through responsive, collaborative relationships with faculty, staff, students, alumni, schools, and populations, the department's purpose is to graduate professionals of high esteem who impact behavioral and social determinants of societal health.

Master's Program

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree program in the department of Health Studies prepares graduates for leadership positions in the disciplines of health education and health promotion. The M.S. Program is built upon the competencies as framed in the entry-level competencies of the National Commission for Health Education Credentials' latest Competency Update Project Model.

Master's Programs Goal

To prepare graduates to become health education leaders and practitioners in the profession.

Master's Programs Objectives

The Master's Programs curricula are designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to:

- Assess the health needs and interests of individuals, groups, and communities in relation to cultural, ethnic, and demographic factors.
- Plan, implement and evaluate health education and health promotion programs in a variety of settings.

- Approach health education and health promotion from a multicultural perspective and sensitivity to diversity.
- Develop appropriate strategies to effect positive health behavior among the groups or populations addressed.
- Coordinate the provision of health education services and serve as a resource person in health education and health promotion.

Courses are taught 100% online. The online M.S. in Health Studies began operating more than a decade ago with approval of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Dental Hygiene Focal/Emphasis

Students who have graduated with an entry-level dental hygiene degree and a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene or related field may pursue an M.S. in Health Studies with a focal/emphasis in Dental Hygiene that will prepare leaders in dental hygiene and health education. This focal area will provide students the opportunity to learn to access, plan, implement and evaluate dental hygiene programs. In addition, successful completion of the program may help qualify graduates of the program for positions such as dental career educator, wellness coordinator and dental health administration/management.

Dual Degree Program

Through a joint program of the Department of Health Studies and the School of Library and Information Studies, students may also pursue a dual master's degree in Health Studies and Library Science. This dual degree program prepares specialized professionals for careers in health sciences information services and medical library services, as well as in the field of health education and health promotion. Graduates of this program will have the combined professional expertise of both disciplines to address society's growing needs for health information stemming from the rapid advances in information technologies.

M.S. in Informatics

Informatics is the study and application of information science, computer science, cognitive science, and organizational science to the arts, sciences, and professions. The Master of Science program in Informatics (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/mathematics-computer-science/informatics-ms>) at TWU provides students with a flexible, adaptable, interprofessional, and interdisciplinary approach to the study of Informatics in a hybrid learning environment. The program will provide students with the skills needed for success in high-demand professions and careers in the areas of Clinical Informatics, Data Science, Data Analytics, Health Studies, and Community Informatics. The program is delivered collaboratively by Academic Components including Computer Science, Nursing, Health Studies, and Library and Information Studies.

Doctoral Program

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree program in the department of Health Studies prepares graduates to be effective health education leaders, researchers, and scholars in the profession. The Health Studies Doctoral Program is built upon the entry-level, advanced 1, and advanced 2 level competencies of the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing's latest Strategic Plan.

Doctoral Program Goal

To prepare graduates to be effective health education leaders, researchers, and scholars in the profession.

Doctoral Program Objectives

The Doctoral Program curriculum is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to:

- Assess the health needs and interests of individuals, groups, and communities in relation to cultural, ethnic, and demographic factors.
- Plan and implement health education and health promotion programs in a variety of settings.
- Evaluate health education and health promotion programs in a variety of settings.
- Approach health education and health promotion from a multicultural perspective and sensitivity to diversity.
- Develop appropriate strategies to effect positive health behavior among the groups or populations addressed.
- Coordinate the provision of health education services and serve as a resource.
- Serve as an advocate to both the community and the profession.
- Critically analyze and communicate current and future health education and health promotion needs.
- Apply appropriate research principles and methods in health education and health promotion to make scholarly contributions to the profession.
- Apply ethical principles in the practice of health education and health promotion.

Admissions

Applicants may be admitted for graduate study in the Department of Health Studies either unconditionally or provisionally. In addition to the general admission requirements presented in the admissions section of this catalog, the Department of Health Studies has established the following criteria for unconditional and provisional admission.

Master of Science in Health Studies

Unconditional admission

1. Undergraduate degree from accredited university.
2. Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher for the last 60 semester credit hours of bachelor's degree coursework, as evidenced by official transcripts.
3. Appropriate academic background and professional/volunteer experience for graduate study as evidenced by a professional resume/vita, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
4. Two recommendations by faculty members or employers, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
5. Ability to express concepts and ideas in writing as evidenced in a Personal Statement Letter, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
6. *For international students only, a minimum score of 550/213/79 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).*

Provisional admission

For applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements for unconditional admission to the master's degree program, provisional admission will be considered, dependent upon the relative strength of the applicant's undergraduate GPA, academic background, professional experience, and Personal Statement Letter. A student's performance

on graduate coursework taken prior to application for admission to the Health Studies master's degree program will be considered.

Doctor of Philosophy in Health Studies

Unconditional admission

1. Preferred graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher, as evidenced by official transcripts.
2. Preferred GRE scores of 152 verbal and 140 quantitative, or waiver if eligible. Ph.D. applicants are eligible for a GRE waiver if they have a master's GPA of 3.5 or higher and meet two of the following: *5 years of health-related work, 5 years of research experience, 3 publications or 5 presentations (peer-reviewed) in the last 5 years.*
3. Appropriate academic background and professional/volunteer experience for doctoral study as evidenced by a professional resume/vita, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
4. Two recommendations by faculty members or employers, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
5. Ability to express concepts and ideas in writing as evidenced in a Personal Statement Letter, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
6. A scientific writing sample of no more than 5 pages from a thesis, professional paper, published paper, or research/academic paper, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
7. *For international students only: a minimum score of 575 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).*

Provisional admission

For applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements for unconditional admission to the doctoral program, provisional admission will be considered, dependent upon the relative strength of the applicant's master's GPA, GRE/TOEFL test score, academic background, professional experience, and written essay.

Dual Degree: Master of Science in Health Studies and Master of Library Science

For the dual master's degree program in Health Studies and Library Science, admission to the master's programs in both departments is required (see the admission requirements for the master's degree in Library Science (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/professional-education/library-information-studies/#admissionstext>)).

Unconditional admission

1. Undergraduate degree from accredited university.
2. Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher for the last 60 semester credit hours of bachelor's degree coursework, as evidenced by official transcripts.
3. Appropriate academic background and professional/volunteer experience for graduate study as evidenced by a professional resume/vita, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
4. Two recommendations by faculty members or employers, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).
5. Ability to express concepts and ideas in writing as evidenced in a Personal Statement Letter, submitted via the Health Studies Graduate Application Portal (<https://twuhealthstudies.slideroom.com/#/login>).

6. For international students only, a minimum score of 550/213/79 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Provisional admission

For applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements for unconditional admission to the master's degree program, provisional admission will be considered, dependent upon the relative strength of the applicant's undergraduate GPA, academic background, professional experience, and Personal Statement Letter. A student's performance on graduate coursework taken prior to application for admission to the Health Studies master's degree program will be considered.

Minors

For a minor in Health Studies the hour and course requirements are flexible and are determined by major and minor committee members and the student's background and interests. Minor: 12-18 hours

Courses

Courses

HS 5003. Practicum in Health Education. Internship experiences with health-related agencies or in the development of an original contribution to teaching and learning materials. Six practicum hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5006. Practicum in Health Education. Internship experiences with health-related agencies or in the development of an original contribution to teaching and learning materials. Twelve practicum hours a week. Credit: Six hours.

HS 5013. Data Collection and Analysis. Overview of data collection and analysis. Covers health education principles such as age-adjustment, relative risk, vital statistics, life tables, and health surveys. Analyzing retrospective and prospective studies, specifically in health education. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5023. Methods in Health Education Research. Required for Master's Thesis Option only. Focus on basic research skills including library skills, the reading and interpretation of research, writing style, research planning and design, methodologies, and research as they relate to health education. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: One graduate-level statistics course. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5053. Psychosocial Aspects of Health. Emphasis on theory, research, and application of the interrelationships of the social and psychological aspects of health and wellness, including concepts of stress management and the impact of organizational factors. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5063. Aging and Health. Aging as part of the life cycle; special health concerns of the elderly; current life extending research and technology for successful aging. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5103. Principles and Methods of Teaching Health Professionals. Development of classroom and clinical teaching competencies with emphasis on identification of resources, planning and implementation of instructional units, and instructional strategies for health professionals. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5113. Curriculum Development for Health Professionals. Theoretical concepts of curricular design; identification and implementation of unique factors that determine health curricula. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5343. Risk Reduction. Identification and analysis of risk-taking behaviors and application of health risk assessment theory, tools, data sources, and methodology. Use of risk assessments, demographic data, and behavior-change theories to determine appropriate health risk reduction and health enhancement strategies for various populations and settings. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5353. Epidemiology. Study of disease occurrence in human populations and the understanding of the various methods used in the study of disease. Prerequisite: A disease process course. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5363. Population Health. Dimensions of population health; application of community health concepts through the use of multicultural approaches; effective capacity building in coalitions and other populations. Community health agency organization, role, and structure. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5383. Program Development and Coordination. Development and evaluation of community and worksite health education programs. Review of approaches to program design, criteria for content selection, writing of programs, and community resources and support. Prerequisite: HS 5423. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5413. Current Issues in Health Studies. Introduction to the professions of health science and allied health: role, credentialing, ethics, journals, associations and organizations, leaders in the field, and current and future trends in health science. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5423. Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Health Decisions. Consideration of major chronic, degenerative, and communicable diseases in light of socio-cultural influences; exploration of myths and misconceptions in ethnic groups and the related health implications; alternative strategies for minorities to improve health through education. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5453. Community-Based Health Informatics. Use of informatics to promote community health; basic technological tools needed to develop and manage public health data collection systems that meet analytical needs of community-based organizations. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5563. Consumer Health. Information concerning health care products, services, and consumer protection. Strategies for effective delivery of information to the public concerning consumer health related products and problems. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5613. Worksite Health Promotion. Design and management of effective worksite health promotion programs; organizational aspects of healthy work environments; critical issues related to health behavior change and intervention programs in the workplace setting. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5703. Applied Statistics for Health Educators. Descriptive and inferential statistics utilized by health educators; selection of appropriate statistical tests for specific health research problems. Critical evaluation of statistics used in published health studies. Development of terminology and skills for communicating statistical concepts. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5713. Dental Hygiene Leadership and Advocacy. Appraisal of selected theories of leadership and identification of practical methods to inspire excellence in individuals, in community, and/or in organizations; to create and communicate a shared vision; and to successfully manage change both to attain individual and organizational strategic goals and successful performance. Develop advocacy skills from local, state, and national perspectives to contribute to the advancement of the profession and to the improvement of oral health. Prerequisite: Registered Dental Hygienist. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5723. Health Care in a Culture of Poverty. Research and development of healthcare or oral healthcare plans for under-served populations throughout the world based on the synthesis of the worldview of stakeholders including political, economic and other relevant factors affecting healthcare and oral healthcare delivery. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5733. Dental Hygiene Clinical Education. Study of educational methodology as it applies to the clinical education environment or for self-evaluation and improvement of clinical skills in the practice of dental hygiene. Access to a dental hygiene program clinic, clinical facility, or dental office is required; however, no clinical treatment of human subjects will be required. Prerequisite: Registered Dental Hygienist. Two lecture and three laboratory hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5743. Dental Hygiene Educational Concepts. A focused study of educational concepts, including educational theory and methodology, as related to adult learners with the purpose of application in clinical dental patient education encounters and/or formal education of entry-level dental hygiene students.

HS 5753. Interprofessional Collaboration and Health Promotion. Approaches to health care promotion and effective collaboration among members of the healthcare community with emphasis on the diversity of expertise in interprofessional collaborative teams and basic concepts of effective teamwork. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5763. Alternative Dental Health Careers. Critical examination of professional roles, responsibilities, and structure of various alternate career paths within the discipline of dental hygiene; legal and functional requirements of alternative career paths; cross-cutting principles of leadership within alternative career paths. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5773. Social and Organizational Issues in Health Informatics. Overview of social and organizational challenges in health informatics. Development of decision-making strategies about access to and use of health informatics for research and public health. Development of ethical decision-making guidelines and tools for the role of health information management in organizations. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5783. Research in Dental Hygiene. Process of inquiry and research methodologies applied to dental hygiene. Integrative culminating research experience with a professional presentation of the results. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5803. Writing for Health Studies. Concepts and techniques for effective writing practices within the field of Health Studies. Analysis of professional writing and strategies to improve written communication in a range of writing genres (basic correspondence, essays, literature reviews, abstracts, research-based writing). Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5901. Special Topics. Concentrated study of a particular topic in health education. May be repeated for credit when topic varies. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

HS 5903. Special Topics. Concentrated study of a particular topic in health education. May be repeated for credit when topic varies. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5911. Independent Study. Advanced study in a selected area of health education leading to the solution of a problem of professional interest and significance. May be repeated for additional credit when topic varies. Credit: One hour.

HS 5913. Independent Study. Advanced study in a selected area of health education leading to the solution of a problem of professional interest and significance. May be repeated for additional credit when topic varies. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5923. Capstone in Informatics. Culminating organization and/or community-based interdisciplinary/interprofessional project supported through informatics and technology and applied to a specific domain to demonstrate knowledge and skills acquired in the informatics program. Immersive, investigative, and reflective opportunity for deep study on a selected area of practice/application domain. Prerequisite: Completion of 24 semester credit hours. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5983. Thesis. Credit: Three hours.

HS 5993. Thesis. Prerequisite: HS 5983. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6043. Methods in Health Education Research. Review of library skills and writing style, reading and interpreting of research, research planning and design, methodologies, and research reporting as they relate to dissertation prospectus preparation in health education; advanced research skills and health behavior research; appropriate selection of qualitative versus quantitative methodologies; community-based participatory research. Prerequisites: HS 5013, HS 6483, HS 6073, and six hours of statistics. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6053. Qualitative Research Methods in Health Studies. An overview of epistemological and theoretical perspectives underlying qualitative methods in health science research; techniques for gathering and analyzing qualitative data; and issues relative to publishing qualitative research in health science. Prerequisite: HS 6043. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6073. Seminar in Health Education. Capstone course that draws from skills learned in other courses throughout the program; synthesis of theory and methods of health education; needs assessment and program planning; implementation; and evaluation into advanced application through grant writing activities; seven areas of responsibility of a graduate level health education specialist. Prerequisites: HS 5423, HS 6453, and HS 5383. Co-requisite: HS 6483. Three seminar hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6353. Social Epidemiology. Epidemiological methods with focus on social determinants of diseases, including the theoretical foundation and processes involved in conducting social epidemiological research. Prerequisite: HS 5353 or permission of instructor. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6403. Environmental Health. Basic principles of ecology as they apply to the health of human beings; analysis of modern developments in technology and science and their resultant effects on human beings; development of community efforts in establishing environmental quality. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6423. Global Health. Health status, health delivery systems, and health policy issues affecting human populations around the world; roles of selected international organizations in advancing the health status of certain populations. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6433. History of Health and Medicine. Significant historical events with emphasis upon ideas, personalities, institutions, and cultural factors of each era as they affected the origin and development of health education. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6443. Foundations of Health Science. Introduction of theories and concepts related to health science. Includes rational, psychodynamic, and behavioral theories from education, psychology, and sociology. Applications of theory to health education practice and research. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6453. Strategies in Health Education Delivery. Identification of the various entities within the health education system which influence decisions about accepting health information and changing unhealthful lifestyles. Development of strategies for effective utilization of health information. Prerequisite: HS 5423. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6483. Evaluation in Health Education. Evaluative tools for individuals, groups, and programs in health education; methods for selecting instruments and collecting data; advanced interpretation and reporting evaluation results through a formal evaluation plan. Prerequisites: HS 5353, HS 5383, HS 5423, and HS 6443. Co-requisite: HS 6453. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6563. Health Advocacy and Leadership. Exploration of advocacy, including building coalitions, creating media messages, meeting with decision-makers, and impacting health policy. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6901. Special Topics. Concentrated study of a particular topic of current interest in health education. May be repeated for credit when topic varies. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

HS 6903. Special Topics. Concentrated study of a particular topic of current interest in health education. May be repeated for credit when topic varies. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6911. Independent Study. Individual study in health studies leading to the solution of a problem of professional interest and significance. May be repeated for credit. Credit: One hour.

HS 6913. Independent Study. Individual study in health studies leading to the solution of a problem of professional interest and significance. May be repeated for credit. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6983. Dissertation. Credit: Three hours.

HS 6993. Dissertation. Prerequisite: HS 6983. Credit: Three hours.

Faculty

Associate Professors

GOLMAN, MANDY A., Associate Professor of Health Studies. B.A., University of Texas, Austin; M.S., Texas Woman's University; Ph.D., Texas Woman's University.

MASSEY-STOKES, MARILYN, Associate Professor of Health Studies. B.S., Southwestern Oklahoma State University; M.Ed., Southwestern Oklahoma State University; Ed.D., Oklahoma State University.

PARKER, KIMBERLY A., Associate Professor of Health Studies. B.S., South Carolina State University; M.P.H., University of South Carolina, Columbia; M.A., South Carolina State University; Ph.D., University of Georgia.

WIGINTON, KRISTIN L., Associate Professor of Health Studies. B.S.Ed., Baylor University; M.S.Ed., Baylor University; Ph.D., Texas Woman's University.

Assistant Professors

AMUTA, ANN O., Assistant Professor of Health Studies. M.P.H., Texas A & M University; Ph.D., Texas A & M University.

ESPINOZA, LUIS ENRIQUE, Assistant Professor of Health Studies. B.S., The University of Texas-Pan American; B.A., The University of Texas-Pan American; M.S., The University of Texas-Pan American; M.P.H., University of North Texas Health Science Center; Ph.D., Texas Woman's University.

MENN, MINDY, Assistant Professor of Health Studies. B.A., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., University of Florida, Gainesville.