

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH STUDIES

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/health-studies/graduate-programs/ms-in-health-studies/>

The Master of Science in Health Studies program prepares students to work as health educators. As a health promotion/health education program, the M.S. program prepares students to educate people about behaviors to promote health and wellness across settings. Such settings include health departments, hospitals, clinics, nonprofit agencies, corporate wellness programs, and community health settings. Graduates are eligible to take the MCHES® Exam to become Master Certified Health Education Specialists.

Dental Hygiene Emphasis

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

Marketable Skills

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<http://www.60x30tx.com/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

1. Communicate and advocate for the improvement of health.
2. Assess health needs and recommend appropriate solutions.

Admissions

All students must meet the University requirements as outlined in the Admission to the TWU Graduate School (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/graduate-school/admission-graduate-school/>) section of the catalog.

This academic program may have additional admission criteria that must also be completed as outlined on the program's website.

Degree Requirements

Prerequisites or Co-requisites

1. Undergraduate degree from an accredited university.
2. Successful completion of new student orientation within the first year.

Total Semester Credit Hours Required

Thesis Option: 42-43 semester credit hours (SCH) that includes 18 SCH of required program courses, 9 SCH of focal area courses, 9-10 SCH of research tools, and 6 SCH of thesis

Internship/Professional Affiliation/National Certification Option:

36 semester credit hours (SCH) that includes 18 SCH of required program courses, 12 SCH of focal area courses, and 6 SCH of research tools

Emphasis in Dental Hygiene Option: 36 semester credit hours (SCH) that includes 18 SCH of required program courses, 12 SCH of Dental Hygiene emphasis area courses, and 6 SCH of research tools

Thesis Option (42-43 SCH)

Code	Title	SCHs
Health Studies Core		
HS 5413	Current Issues in Health Promotion	3
HS 5353	Epidemiology	3
HS 6443	Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion	3
HS 5423	Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Health Decisions	3
HS 5383	Program Planning and Implementation in Health Promotion	3
HS 6453	Strategies in Health Promotion Planning and Delivery	3
Focal Area		
9 SCH from one of the following Focal Areas (Practicum is not required)		9
Higher Education		
HS 5113	Curriculum Development for Health Professionals	
HS 5103	Principles and Methods of Teaching for Health Professionals	
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor)		
Community/Population Health		
HS 5363	Population Health	
HS 5053	Psychosocial Aspects of Health	
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor)		
Worksite Health		
HS 5613	Worksite Health Promotion	
HS 5343	Risk Reduction	
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor)		
Research Tools		
HS 5013	Data Collection and Analysis	3
HS 5023	Health Promotion Research Methods	3
Select one of the following		3-4
PSY 5304	Advanced Psychological Statistics I	
KINS 5033	Applied Statistical Principles	
HS 5703	Applied Statistics in Health Promotion	
MATH 5573	Statistical Methods I	
Thesis		
HS 5983	Thesis (during semester prospectus meeting is scheduled)	3
HS 5993	Thesis (every semester chair advises defense)	3
Total SCHs		42-43

Internship/Professional Affiliation/National Certification Option (36 SCH)

Code	Title	SCHs
Health Studies Core		
HS 5413	Current Issues in Health Promotion	3
HS 5353	Epidemiology	3
HS 6443	Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion	3
HS 5423	Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Health Decisions	3
HS 5383	Program Planning and Implementation in Health Promotion	3
HS 6453	Strategies in Health Promotion Planning and Delivery	3

Focal Area

Select 12 SCH from one of the following Focal Areas 12

Higher Education

HS 5113	Curriculum Development for Health Professionals
HS 5103	Principles and Methods of Teaching for Health Professionals
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor)	
HS 5003	Internship/Professional Affiliation in Health Promotion

Community/Population Health

HS 5363	Population Health
HS 5053	Psychosocial Aspects of Health
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor)	
HS 5003	Internship/Professional Affiliation in Health Promotion

Worksite Health

HS 5613	Worksite Health Promotion
HS 5343	Risk Reduction
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor)	
HS 5003	Internship/Professional Affiliation in Health Promotion

Research Tools

HS 5013	Data Collection and Analysis	3
Select one from the following		3
HS 5703	Applied Statistics in Health Promotion	
KINS 5033	Applied Statistical Principles	
MATH 5573	Statistical Methods I	
PSY 5304	Advanced Psychological Statistics I	

Total SCHs 36

Emphasis in Dental Hygiene (36 SCH)

Code	Title	SCHs
Health Studies Core		
HS 5413	Current Issues in Health Promotion	3
HS 5353	Epidemiology	3
HS 6443	Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion	3
HS 5723	Health Care in a Culture of Poverty	3
HS 5763	Alternative Dental Health Careers	3
HS 5383	Program Planning and Implementation in Health Promotion	3

Dental Hygiene

HS 5713	Dental Hygiene Leadership and Advocacy	3
HS 5733	Dental Hygiene Clinical Education	3
HS 5753	Interprofessional Collaboration and Health Promotion	3
HS 5783	Research in Dental Hygiene	3

Research Tools

HS 5013	Data Collection and Analysis	3
HS 5703	Applied Statistics in Health Promotion	3

Total SCHs 36

Emphasis

9 SCH (Thesis Option) or 12 SCH (Internship/Professional Affiliation/National Certification Option) from one of three focal areas offered among Higher Education, Community/Population Health, or Worksite Health. The emphasis in Dental Hygiene does not include focal areas.

Residence Requirement

For students in the Thesis Option, campus visits are required to defend the complete proposal and again to defend the complete thesis. There is no resident requirement for students in the Internship/Professional Affiliation/National Certification Option and Emphasis in Dental Hygiene.

Final Examination

For the Thesis Option, the successful oral defense of a completed thesis; for Internship/Professional Affiliation/National Certification /Emphasis in Dental Hygiene, a written comprehensive core project on the core coursework is required.