MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH STUDIES

The Master of Science in Health Studies program prepares students to work as a health educator. 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.

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 care educator, wellness coordinator and dental health administration/management.

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required
1. Thesis (42 semester credit hours)
   - 18 semester credit hours of required program courses, 9 semester credit hours of focal area courses, 9 semester credit hours of research tools, and 6 semester credit hours of thesis

2. Non-Thesis (36 semester credit hours)
   - 18 semester credit hours of required program courses, 12 semester credit hours of focal area courses, and 6 semester credit hours of research tools

3. Emphasis in Dental Hygiene (36 semester credit hours)
   - 18 semester credit hours of required program courses, 12 semester credit hours of Dental Hygiene focal area courses, and 6 semester credit hours of research tools

Thesis Option (42 semester credit hours)

Code | Title | SCHs
--- | --- | ---
HS 5013 | Principles and Methods of Teaching Health Professionals | 
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor) | 
Community/Population Health | 
HS 5363 | Population Health | 3
HS 5053 | Psychosocial Aspects of Health | 3
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor) | 
Worksite Health | 
HS 5613 | Worksite Health Promotion | 3
HS 5343 | Risk Reduction | 3
Leadership Elective (speak with advisor) | 
Research Tools | 
HS 5013 | Data Collection and Analysis | 3
HS 5023 | Methods in Health Education Research | 3
Select one from the following: | 3
- PSY 5304 | Advanced Psychological Statistics I | 
- KINS 5033 | Applied Statistical Principles | 
- HS 5703 | Applied Statistics for Health Educators | 
- 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

Non-Thesis Option (36 semester credit hours)

Code | Title | SCHs
--- | --- | ---
HS 5413 | Current Issues in Health Studies | 3
HS 5353 | Epidemiology | 3
HS 6443 | Foundations of Health Science | 3
HS 5423 | Ethnic and Cultural Factors in Health Decisions | 3
HS 5383 | Program Development and Coordination | 3
HS 6453 | Strategies in Health Education Delivery | 3
Focal Area | 
Select 12 semester credit hours from one of the following Focal Areas: | 12
- Higher Education | 
  - HS 5113 | Curriculum Development for Health Professionals | 
  - HS 5103 | Principles and Methods of Teaching Health Professionals | 
  - Leadership Elective (speak with advisor) | 
  - HS 5003 | Practicum in Health Education | 
  - Community/Population Health | 
  - HS 5363 | Population Health | 
  - HS 5053 | Psychosocial Aspects of Health | 
  - Leadership Elective (speak with advisor) | 
  - HS 5003 | Practicum in Health Education | 
- Worksite Health | 
  - HS 5613 | Worksite Health Promotion | 

Focal Area

9 semester credit hours from one of the following Focal Areas: | 9
Practicum is not Required | 
Higher Education | 
HS 5113 | Curriculum Development for Health Professionals | 

Emphasis in Dental Hygiene (36 semester credit hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SCHs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HS 5413</td>
<td>Current Issues in Health Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 5353</td>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 6443</td>
<td>Foundations of Health Science</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HS 5723</td>
<td>Health Care in a Culture of Poverty</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HS 5763</td>
<td>Alternative Dental Health Careers</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HS 5383</td>
<td>Program Development and Coordination</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 5713</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene Leadership and Advocacy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 5733</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene Clinical Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 5753</td>
<td>Interprofessional Collaboration and Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HS 5783</td>
<td>Research in Dental Hygiene</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS 5013</td>
<td>Data Collection and Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS 5703</td>
<td>Applied Statistics for Health Educators</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total SCHs 36

Emphasis

9 semester credit hours (Thesis Option) or 12 semester credit hours (Non-Thesis Option) from one of three focal areas offered among higher education, community/population health, or work-site health (except for Dental Hygiene).

Residence Requirement

None for Non-Thesis/Dental Hygiene Option. For Thesis Option, campus visits are required to defend prospectus and again to defend final thesis.

Prerequisites or Co-requisites

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

Final Examination

For thesis option the defense of thesis; for non-thesis/Dental Hygiene option a written comprehensive core project on the core coursework is required. The project will be included as a portion of HS 5383. Final Project passing grade will be a minimum of 80%. The course may be repeated once if the minimum passing grade is not achieved.
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.

BECKER, KEVIN, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology. B.S., University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse; M.S., Illinois State University; Ph.D., University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

DUPLANTY, ANTHONY, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology. B.S., University of North Texas; M.S., University of North Texas; Ph.D., University of North Texas.

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.

PICARIELLO, MANUELA, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology. B.S., University of San Marino; M.S., University of San Marino, Ph.D., University of Tennessee System : Knoxville.

Assistant Clinical Professor

GILLASPY, JESSICA, Assistant Clinical Professor of Kinesiology. B.S., University of North Texas; M.S., University of West Florida.