

# MEDICAL HUMANITIES (MINOR)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/english/>)

## Program Description

Medical humanities is an emerging field that uses the methods of humanistic inquiry to engage the discourses of medicine, health, and medical science. This minor is based in the Department of English and draws on many other departments in Arts and Science. For all students, a medical humanities approach offers modes of scholarly inquiry and possibilities for reflection on the complex interplay of biology, narrative, and human history. This multidisciplinary discourse provides ways of considering and reconsidering illness, health, healing, trauma, birth, death, and disability, and offers new ways of looking at history, society, literature and culture, and technology. The field is energized by scholarly research and pedagogical approaches designed to enrich professional training in medical and health careers and encourage self-reflection and emotional support for medical students and practitioners. Through the medical humanities, we explore perspectives on human bodies and what becomes of them, and also how human minds formulate and tell those stories individually and collectively.

The minor also provides an opportunity for students to study with a wide array of Arts and Science faculty whose research interests examine medicine through the lenses of the humanities, arts, and social sciences. While taking courses at a global site is not a requirement, the minor in Medical Humanities includes a global studies component that enables students to make academic progress on the minor while participating in a study-away experience.

## Minor Declaration

To declare a minor in Medical Humanities, contact the director of the minor, Prof. Perri Klass ([perri.klass@nyu.edu](mailto:perri.klass@nyu.edu)) or the undergraduate administrator, Ms. Mary Mezzano ([mary.mezzano@nyu.edu](mailto:mary.mezzano@nyu.edu)). (%20mary.mezzano@nyu.edu)).

## Program Requirements

The minor in Medical Humanities requires four 4-credit courses (16 credits) completed with a grade of C or better (courses graded Pass/Fail do not count). Two of these courses are required, and two are chosen from a list of approved electives. One of the four courses may be taken outside of the College of Arts and Science in another division of New York University; the minor's steering committee may, from time to time, add non-CAS courses to the list of approved electives.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
MHUM-UA 101	Introduction to the Medical Humanities	4
MHUM-UA 102	Pandemics and Plagues	4
<b>Electives</b>		
Choose two courses (8 credits) from the following list of electives:		8
ANTH-UA 107	Medical Anthropology	
ANTH-UA 108	Global Biocultures: Anthropological Perspectives on Public Health	
CORE-UA 400	Texts and Ideas: Children and Childhood: Medical, Historical, and Cultural Perspectives	

CORE-UA 400	Texts and Ideas: Contagion
CORE-UA 9760	Expressive Culture (Topics): Visual Arts and the Arts of Healing in the Italian Renaissance (NYU Florence)
ENGL-UA 415	Colloq: Shakespeare
HEL-UA 134	Theatre and Medicine: From the Greeks to the Modern Stage
HIST-UA 79	Pandemics in World History
HIST-UA 158	History of Medicine
HIST-UA 202	The History of Western Medicine
HIST-UA 293	Seminar in History of Medicine
HIST-UA 681	Race and Reproduction
JOUR-UA 201	The Beat:
PHIL-UA 50	Medical Ethics
SCA-UA 158	Race & Reproduction
SOC-UA 414	Sociology of Medicine

**Total Credits**

16

## Policies

### Program Policies

#### Double-Counting of Courses

Students may double-count one course as an elective for this minor and a College Core Curriculum requirement, or double-count one course between this minor and a second minor or a major. Petitions to double-count more than one course for other majors or minors will be considered by special permission of the Director of the minor in Medical Humanities.

#### NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

#### College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).