

# 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 medical humanities minor 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](mailto:%20mary.mezzano@nyu.edu)).

## Program Requirements

To complete a minor in medical humanities, students must receive a grade of C (2.0) or better in four courses (16 credits). 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. Courses taken Pass/Fail do not count toward the minor.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
MHUM-UA 101	Introduction to the Medical Humanities	4
MHUM-UA 102		4
<b>Electives</b>		
Choose two courses (8 credits) from the following list of electives:		8
ANTH-UA 35	Medical Anthropology	
ANTH-UA 36	Global Biocultures: Anthropological Perspectives on Public Health	
ARTH-UA 682		

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)
COLIT-UA 141	
ENGL-UA 415	Colloq: Shakespeare
ENGL-UA 800	
HIST-UA 79	Pandemics in World History
HIST-UA 158	
HIST-UA 202	The History of Western Medicine
HIST-UA 253	
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

### 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 Medical Humanities minor.

### 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/>).

### NYU Policies

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