

Advising Dashboard For Course Registration Advising Health and Society Program

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What is Health and Society

Health and Society is an interdisciplinary major and minor that focuses on social science and liberal arts approaches to analyzing the relationship between societies' social structures and cultural practices and human population health, healing practices, and health-care systems. The program aims to promote critical understanding of social, cultural, economic, political, psychological, and environmental contexts that shape varied human experiences of health and illness and of healing and healthcare.

In HSOC, students explore the ways in which human health, healing and healthcare are:

- a) Defined, perceived, and enacted in different cultural and social settings.
- b) Influenced by global, national, regional, and local forces, including historical legacies, biocultural variation, cultural ideas/traditions, psychological factors, social inequalities, political/economic systems, ecological settings, and planetary health.
- c) Often unevenly distributed by race, ethnicity, nationality, region, class, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

HSOC offers multidisciplinary perspectives on health-related societal problems, including:

- a) The ways societies contribute and respond to human health and misery.
- b) The ways social institutions and sociocultural processes shape human health-related ideas, experiences, and practices.
- c) The ways in which health-related knowledge is shaped by different perspectives, values, priorities, identities, cultural frameworks, social conventions, scientific paradigms, and/or social, political, and financial interests.
- d) Health-related effects of social inequality, social institutions, corporate entities, economic and political systems, public policies, sociocultural beliefs and practices, and individual psychology and social behavior.

Fall 2024 HSOC Course List

Each semester the HSOC Program posts a course list advising sheet on the Advising page of its website. To navigate to the HSOC Course List Advising Sheet for Spring 2025, look near the top of the righthand sidebar on the HSOC Advising Page for the one labelled Spring 2025: <https://www.uvm.edu/cas/healthsociety/advising>.

Within the course list, you will see that the courses are divided into two lists, first the CAS courses and second the non-CAS courses. You need to pay attention to that, because students majoring in HSOC and/or another major in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) need a

certain number of CAS courses for their major, as well as overall. For the HSOC minor as well, a certain number of your HSOC courses need to be CAS-designated.

You will also see a column marked “Relation to HSOC Major.” That column tells you for each course whether it is an introductory Required course, an Intermediate Core course, an Advanced Core course, the required Introductory Methods course, or an HSOC Elective. HSOC majors need to take a certain number of all these types of courses. HSOC minors need to take introductory Required courses, the required Introductory Methods course, and HSOC electives.

HSOC Major and Minor Requirements

Below is how to find the HSOC major and minor requirements. Remember to follow the catalog year that is appropriate for you, depending on when you entered UVM (or joined a new college at UVM).

- **HSOC Major Requirements:** Please see this link for the [2024-2025 HSOC Major Requirements](#). If you are following a previous catalogue year for your requirements, see [course catalogue archives](#) for the HSOC major requirements for that catalogue year. If you are an HSOC major, remember that at least 15 out of your 33 major credits and at least 84 out of your overall 120 credits must be CAS-designated courses. CAS designation is often not intuitive, and many HSOC courses are non-CAS, so be sure to review the HSOC course listing sheet carefully each semester, which tells you which course prefixes are CAS. Also, remember that for the HSOC major, for interdisciplinary exposure, no more than 21 credits for the major can come from a single course prefix (e.g., ECON, SOC).

- **HSOC Minor Requirements:** Please see this link for the [2024-2025 HSOC Minor Requirements](#). If you are following a previous catalogue year for your requirements, see [course catalogue archives](#) for the HSOC minor requirements for that catalogue year. For the HSOC minor, at least 9 of your 18 HSOC credits must be CAS-designated courses. For interdisciplinary exposure, no more than 12 credits of courses for the minor can come from a single course prefix.

Pathways in the HSOC Major and Minor

The HSOC major and minor offer much flexibility and many choices. Having so many choices can be simultaneously exciting and challenging to navigate. To help students to find their way, we have laid out some pathways within HSOC showing students how to get to intermediate and advanced courses. See this [URL](#) for pathways that students can choose to take within the HSOC major and minor.

HSOC majors need to find a way to take the prerequisites needed to get from introductory to intermediate to advanced courses within the major. HSOC majors forge at least two pathways to intermediate and advanced HSOC courses. HSOC minors need to take at least nine HSOC credits at the intermediate level or above, usually aiming for one pathway, which may or may not reach all the way to the advanced level.

Within courses offered by the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), there are pathways to advanced HSOC courses offered in the departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology. These HSOC courses are in biological, medical, and psychological anthropology, health economics, health geography, health politics and politics, health psychology, and sociology of health and illness. These pathways emerge and evolve as faculty are hired and regularized courses are added. The Geography pathway is the most recent, with its still to be added to the course catalog descriptions of the HSOC major and minor. Here is what we anticipate the CAS HSOC pathways to advanced courses to be over the coming years:

Anthropology:

ANTH 1190: Global Health, Development and Diversity (3 credits)
ANTH 2170 Culture, Health & Healing, ANTH 2181 Aging in Cross-Cultural Persp, ANTH 2191 Foundations of Global Health, OR ANTH 2205 Gender, Sex, Race & Body (3 credits)
ANTH 3192 Anth Research in Global Health OR ANTH 3475 Research in Human Biological Diversity (Anth 3475 needs Anth 1400 prereq) OR ANTH 3### Culture, Mind, Body (3 credits)

Economics:

HSOC 1600: Health Care in America (3 credits)
MATH 1212: Calculus (3 credits, economics prereq)
ECON 1450: Microeconomics (3 credits)
ECON 2450: Microeconomic Theory (3 credits)
ECON 3850: Topics in: Health Economics (or the 4850 level version) (3 credits)

Geography:

ANTH 1190: Global Health, Development and Diversity (3 credits)
GEOG 2782 Health Geography or GEOG 2### GeoHealth (3 credits)
GEOG 3### Geography research or data analysis (with Sarah Mah, focus in Health Geography) (3 credits)

Political Science:

HSOC 1600: Health Care in America (3 credits)
POLS 1300 US Political System (3 credits)
POLS 2### Health Policy and Politics (3 credits)
POLS 3490 Research in Health Politics and Policy or POLS 4310 VT Legislative Research Srv (with health focus) (3 credits)

Psychology:

HSOC 1600: Health Care in America (3 credits)
PSYS 1400 Intro to Psychological Sciences (3 credits)
PSYS 2500 Psychopathology (3 credits)
PSYS 3510 Health Psychology (3 credits)

Sociology:

HSOC 1600: Health Care in America (3 credits)
SOC 1500 Intro to Sociology (3 credits)
SOC 2300 Population Health Research OR SOC 2335 Gender Sexualities and Med (3 credits)
SOC 3300 Health: Race, Class, Gender OR SOC 3335 Soc of Reproduction OR SOC 3### Soc of Health and Illness (3 credits)

CAS also has pathways to the intermediate level only in English, Philosophy, and Religion. Here is what we anticipate the CAS HSOC pathways to intermediate only courses to be:

English:

ENGL 1260: Drugs and Lit
ENGL 2####: Drugs and Addiction in Film and Literature

Philosophy:

PHIL 1675: Death and Dying
PHIL 2670: Medical Ethics

Religion:

REL 1650: Religion, Health, and Healing
REL 2652: Mysticism and Shamanism

Beyond this, HSOC students may be able to also take a pathway to relevant intermediate or advanced courses offered in other non-CAS colleges at UVM. Non-CAS advanced courses that can count toward HSOC include courses like HSCI 3100, HSCI 3300, STAT 3000, CSD 3200, NFS 4245, and NR 3360. Students interested in taking a pathway to those courses need to make sure to find and take the necessary prerequisites.

Internships in HSOC

Students who want to take an internship that relates to health and society have several choices.

One great fit is CAS 2920B: CL: COP: Nonprofits & Social Change, a group internship course offered by the College of Arts and Sciences. This course is a community of practice (COP) course led by a faculty member with experience placing students in nonprofit and health related internship positions. To qualify for HSOC elective credit, let your instructor know that you need a community placement that is related to health or well-being. In this course, in addition to your internship work in the community, you meet each week with the course instructor and fellow students to share experiences and get guidance, support, and feedback.

There are many other CAS group internship courses you may wish to consider. In each case, if you want it to qualify as an HSOC elective, you need to request a placement with an organization focused on health or well-being. Such internships include different levels of The Washington Center (CAS 1900, 2900, or 2991), Semester in the City (Boston; CAS 1902, 2902, or 2991), and Semester for Impact (Vermont; CAS 1990 or 299 or 2991).

If you already have secured placement with a community organization and none of these group internship course options fits your needs, there is also HSOC 2991 and HSOC 4991, for which you would contact the HSOC program director to request instructor permission. Or you can take SOC 3991 with an HSOC-related placement.

Teaching Assistant Practicum in HSOC

If you are interested in being a teaching assistant, there are a couple ways to proceed. You might be contacted directly by a professor in person or by email with an invitation to apply to be a teaching assistant for one of their courses. This is most likely to happen with a course in which you did outstanding work in your coursework and had excellent attendance and class participation. Alternatively, you might find a general call for applications for a TA position in a group listserv email or on JobX. Or you might reach out yourself to a faculty member to see if

they need a TA and ask if you could apply. If you are selected to be a TA in a course, the instructor will decide if your TA practicum will be at the level of HSOC 2994, HSOC 3994, or HSOC 4994, and you will request an override from the program director. You can qualify for HSOC elective credit if your TA practicum course is 3 credits (not just 1 or 2 credits).

Research Opportunities in HSOC

If you are interested in doing research in HSOC, there are several options. You can take HSOC courses that have a research project or research paper as one of the assignments; this is most likely to be the case in intermediate or advanced courses. You can see if a faculty member needs a research assistant to help them with some aspect of an existing research project that faculty member is conducting, and you can apply to work with them (HSOC 3995 or 4995: Undergraduate Research). Or you can develop your own idea for a research project and find a faculty member who has common interests who has availability to work with you, through an independent study (HSOC 3993) or if your GPA is 3.5 or higher and your proposal is selected, as a senior honors thesis (HSOC 4996).

To prepare yourself for undergraduate research or senior honors thesis work, first you should aim to take courses that provide you with the kinds of knowledge, theoretical frameworks, and research and methodological skills needed to do the kind of research you would like to do. Try to take courses with a professor whose research area interests you, doing as well as you can in their course to demonstrate your capabilities. Some courses offered this spring semester that will help you to develop research methodology skills include STAT 1110, STAT 1410, STAT 3000, SOC 2500/POLS 2800, and ANTH 3192. If you'd like to prepare to do future work with refugees, you may want to take SWSS 1040. For those wishing to do a senior honors thesis, you should take a research design course like ANTH 3192. If you plan to do quantitative analysis for a senior thesis, you should take STAT 3000.

Materials on the College and University Level

Here are some key resources to help you to navigate the changes as you register for Spring 2025 courses.

- **CAS degree requirements with Catamount Core:** [2024-2025 CAS degree requirements with Catamount Core](#). These requirements are for all students entering UVM Fall 2023 and after AND for students who change their degree, such as transferring colleges within UVM. Your degree audit is set to follow your designated catalogue year.
- **CAS degree requirements prior to Catamount Core:** These requirements are for students entering before Fall 2023 who have not made changes to their degree (they have not transferred colleges within UVM): See [course catalogue archives](#) for the requirements that pertain to you. Again, your degree audit is set to follow your designated catalogue year.
- **Finding gen ed designations** (e.g., D1, D2, etc.): Click on the link to the course in the current schedule of courses or the course catalog, and the short description will tell you whether a course counts toward any of the Catamount Core requirements.
- **Resolving degree audit issues:** The Degree Audit software often requires human intervention. If you think you see a problem, contact your HSOC advisor or the HSOC program director, telling them your catalogue year with a link to it (see above), the exact course prefix and number in question, and what requirement you hope it can count toward, whether that's a certain Gen Ed requirement, or a certain major or minor requirement. Please note that any course with a 1990, 2990, 3990, or 4990 special topics wildcard designation usually needs human intervention.
- **Finding interdisciplinary courses** (HSOC, etc.) in the Schedule of Courses (the "SOC"):
Many courses that count toward HSOC do not have an HSOC prefix. This often happens in interdisciplinary programs like HSOC. Those courses that count toward HSOC that have the HSOC prefix in addition to another prefix are called "cross-lists." Those courses that count toward HSOC that don't have the HSOC prefix are called "see also's." **See the classic schedule of courses** to view a list of all HSOC courses to be offered in the upcoming semester, including cross-lists and see also's.
- **Deciphering new and old course numbers:** [Course renumbering widget](#) (if you attended UVM prior to Fall 2023, you can find out here the new 4-digit number for any previous 3-digit course number, and vice versa)
- **Course search tool:** [SOC Advanced Search Tool](#) (to find gen ed courses (e.g., D2, SU, etc.) and courses by prefix (e.g., ANTH, SOC, etc.)