

2023 Health Sciences Major (HESC) Assessment Plan

The HESC major is more directly career-focused than most Hendrix majors. It provides students with the preparatory curriculum to pursue post-baccalaureate careers in health professions such as Physical Therapy, Physicians' Assistant, Occupational therapy, Chiropractic and Nursing. We also have a few students prepare for medical school with this major.

All Health Sciences majors take a common suite of seven core courses plus four elective courses, two of which must be at the 300-level or higher. Because two of the core courses are 400-level, students must take a minimum four upper level courses. Students are also required to complete at least one internship prior to the second semester of their Senior year to gain hands-on experience in a health care field of their choice.

HEALTH SCIENCES LEARNING GOALS

Health Sciences majors will:

- 1) Describe, interpret, and integrate fundamental principles that underly the health sciences including human anatomy and physiology, human behavior and development, common diseases and disorders, and statistics.
- 2) Connect theory from coursework with practice from a hands-on, in-depth experience in the health science field of their choice.
- 3) Develop professional competencies necessary to prepare for post-graduate pursuits including analytical, written and oral communication, interview, and patient care skills.
- 4) Discuss the ways in which health science professions interface with other disciplines in the liberal arts and various aspects of our society including ethics and governance.

DIRECT ASSESSMENT PLAN

The career-focused nature of the Health Sciences major allows for a practical set of assessment measurements. By the end of their Junior year, students must have arranged for an internship or research experience that will allow them to gain extensive hands-on experience in their choice of health science fields. This experience includes a written report (that serves as part of the Capstone) and the students also make an oral presentation of their experience during Senior Seminar. Students are also required to interview two professionals in separate health care fields and integrate interviewee responses and career insights into the paper and presentations during Senior Seminar. The major core courses, internship requirement, and capstone (which is completed through enrollment in senior seminar) scaffold to fulfill the four major learning goals.

LEARNING GOAL 1

Describe, interpret, and integrate fundamental principles that underly the health sciences including human anatomy and physiology, human behavior and development, common diseases and disorders, and statistics.

To assess this learning goal, the department will:

- Administer a capstone exam that tests student understanding of major concepts covered in each of the core courses.

Because the major is still in its infancy, we have not yet developed a capstone exam. Our timeline for development of the exam is to have it completed by the end of the spring 2021 semester for administration in the spring of 2022.

LEARNING GOAL 2

Connect theory from coursework with practice from a hands-on, in-depth experience in the health science field of their choice.

To assess this learning goal the department will:

- Evaluate successful completion of the student's required internship through reflections required by the Hendrix Faculty/Staff internship sponsor.
- Implement a rubric for both the paper and the presentation in Senior Seminar to assess the student's understanding of major health care paradigms and how professionals in these fields interact with the public.

Rubrics for both the senior paper and presentation are attached below. The department will focus on developing the rubric for required reflections in the spring of 2020 for implementation for internship supervisors during the summer of 2020 so that learning goal 2 can be assessed in the spring of 2021.

LEARNING GOAL 3

Develop professional competencies necessary to prepare for post-graduate pursuits including analytical, written and oral communication, interview, and patient care skills.

To assess this learning goal the department will:

- Collect data on the number of graduates with post-baccalaureate career goals in the health sciences domain.
- Have Senior Seminar students complete a Career Fair Activity (for which a rubric is being developed) during which each student is required to attend the Career and Internship Fair hosted by Career Services. For this activity, students will interact with representatives from organizations and write a reflection that considers different health-related career paths after graduation from Hendrix.
- Evaluate written communication by evaluation of the resume assignment and capstone paper (rubrics attached).
- Evaluate oral communication by evaluation of the capstone presentation (rubric attached).
- Host a senior dinner during which faculty members will lead conversations with groups of students to assess the extent to which patient care skills were developed as part of their internships and/or interviews with health care professionals. A rubric along with student comments will be compiled to evaluate results for each student.

LEARNING GOAL 4

Discuss the ways in which health science professions interface with other disciplines in the liberal arts and various aspects of our society including ethics and governance.

To assess this learning goal the department will:

- Evaluate the appropriate section (Discussion) of the capstone paper and presentation (rubrics attached).
- The comprehensive exam will also include an open response question in which students will provide a feedback on how they are able to **“Discuss the ways in which health science professions interface with other disciplines in the liberal arts and various aspects of our society including ethics and governance.”** – a rubric will be generated and the grade will be used to assess this learning goal.

INDIRECT ASSESSMENT PLAN

Each year the department will:

- Have graduating seniors complete an exit survey (attached below) regarding their experience with the major which will include student reflections on the following: what courses and experiences have contributed to the student’s career goals; what could be improved at Hendrix to help future students better prepare for career goals; what the student could have done differently to be better prepared for their career goals.
- Collect data on the total number and success rates of students who apply to the various graduate and professional programs in the health sciences domain.
- Plan to review the senior survey annually and make adjustments such that a majority of our majors are consistently attaining their post-graduate goals in health care such as attending professional programs (Occupational Therapy School, Nursing School, etc.). We realize that we are early on in this process and will need to make adjustments each year for the time being. Once a consistency is reached, we will review the surveys every two years and make adjustments accordingly.

Curriculum map:

			Definitions		Course Mapping – Core Sequence			Course Mapping– Electives		
	HESC Learning Goals	Benchmark	Milestone	Capstone	Benchmark	Milestone	Capstone	Benchmark	Milestone	Capstone
LG1	Describe, interpret, and integrate fundamental principles that underly the health sciences including human anatomy and physiology, human behavior and development, common diseases and disorders, and statistics.	Describe	Describe and interpret	Describe, interpret, and integrate	CHEM 110, CHEM 120		BIOL 205, BIOL 215	BIOL 250, BIOL 340 PSYC 290, CHEM 240 PSYC 341	BIOL 435 PSYC 352 PSYC 330 PSYC 335 PSYC 210 PSYC 351 HESC 200 PSYC 365 BIOL 310 BIOL 325 HESC265	BIOL 362, BIOL 440, CHEM 330, PSYC 310
LG2	Connect theory from coursework with practice from a hands-on, in-depth experience in the health science field of their choice.	Recognize connections	Discover connections	Integrate, evaluate, and apply connections	BIOL 205, BIOL 215		HESC 497	BIOL 250, BIOL 340 PSYC 335 PSYC 341 HESC 200 PSYC 351 BIOL 325	BIOL 362 BIOL 310 HESC265	CHEM 330 PSYC 330 PSYC 310
LG3	Develop professional competencies necessary to prepare for post-graduate pursuits including analytical, written and oral communication, interview, and patient care skills.	Basic level	Moderate level	Advanced level	CHEM 110, CHEM 120, BIOL 205, BIOL 215		HESC 497	BIOL 250, BIOL 340, BIOL 362 PSYC 210 PSYC 290, CHEM 240 HESC 200 PSYC 365	PSYC 352 PSYC 330 PSYC 335 PSYC 351 PSYC 310 PSYC 341 BIOL 310 BIOL 325 HESC265	CHEM 330 BIOL 435, BIOL 440
LG4	Discuss the ways in which health science professions interface with other disciplines in the liberal arts and various aspects of our society including ethics and governance.	Recognize connections	Discover connections	Integrate, evaluate, and apply connections		HESC 497, BIOL 205, BIOL 215		BIOL 250, BIOL 340, BIOL 362, PSYC 352 PSYC 330 PSYC 335 PSYC 210 PSYC 310 PSYC 341 HESC 200 PSYC 365	BIOL 435 PSYC 351 BIOL 310 BIOL 325 HESC265	

