



## Healthcare Science | Major

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The purpose of the Healthcare Science program is to provide a rigorous curriculum that will prepare graduates for meaningful roles and careers in our current healthcare environment. Consistent with Alvernia University's Franciscan values, students will become broadly educated lifelong learners who will engage with their communities. Utilizing a strong interdisciplinary design, this program encourages service and the promotion of healthy lifestyles for all persons of all abilities, income levels and social/cultural backgrounds. The Healthcare Science program creates advocates for individuals and communities that are underserved or under-informed on issues related to health and wellness, health systems policies and health management. Students with a Healthcare Science degree will graduate prepared to work in healthcare agencies, businesses and various medical care settings.

### ACADEMIC QUALITY

The Healthcare Science program is an excellent mid-degree opportunity for transfers or new applicants with associate degrees as occupational therapy assistants, physical therapy assistants, medical imaging professionals, dental hygienists or respiratory therapists. Students in the Healthcare Science program are concerned with the well-being of all people. Completing the Healthcare Science program requires a mastery of science, the ability to engage in critical appraisal and the desire to serve the community. In addition to taking the required courses in Healthcare Science, students are able to study in an area of concentration such as Biology, Business, Communications, etc.

### CAREER SUCCESS

The Healthcare Science program prepares students for work in healthcare agencies, businesses and medical care settings as healthcare advocates, healthcare educators or healthcare managers. Emphasis on health behavior theories through educational programming and experience with practical applications through volunteer service in the health field will provide students with a variety of educational tools and techniques to use in their professions. Healthcare program graduates could enter the healthcare field as health counselors or advocates, science and health writers or policy analysts. In addition, graduates from the Healthcare Science program may find positions in government organizations, consumer groups, healthcare agencies, scientific research or consumer institutes.

### HEALTHCARE SCIENCE/ELECTIVES\*/AREAS OF INTERESTS/CONCENTRATIONS

Working closely with faculty and advisors, students in the Healthcare Science major build their "elective" coursework around their specific areas of interest or concentrations. If a student wanted to work as an Advocate or Navigator in the Healthcare profession, they would take "elective" coursework in the area of Communication and Psychology. Students interested in the Allied Health area such as Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy or Physician Assistant would concentrate their "electives" in the areas of Chemistry, Physics, and Anatomy & Physiology. Students who desire to work with Healthcare in the elderly population might want to fulfill their "electives" with courses which eventually would lead to a minor in Gerontology.

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

**Liberal Arts Core (31/55 credits)\***

**General Elective Requirements (as needed)\*\***

### **Healthcare Science Major Requirements (30 Credits):**

HCS 200 Foundations of Healthcare Science  
HCS 300 Writing for Healthcare Science  
HCS 310 Health & Wellness Over the Lifespan  
HCS 320 Healthcare Science & Cultural Competence  
HCS 330 Healthcare Literacy & Advocacy  
HCS 340 Healthcare Science Management  
HCS 400 Healthcare System Policy  
HCS 410 Community Health Org. & Admin.  
HCS 420 Current Issues in Healthcare  
HCS 430 Healthcare Science Capstone

### **Related Requirements:**

BIO 100 Level with Lab  
BIO 216 Nutrition  
PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology (Social Science Core applicable)  
PSY 208 Human Development Across Life-Span  
SOC 111 Intro to Sociology

\*All Alvernia University students are required to complete between 31-55 credits toward the Liberal Arts core. Transfer work may be applicable for this area. As part of the application process, students receive specific information regarding remaining credits.

\*\*A total of 123 credits including 3 credits in a human diversity course are required to complete a Bachelor's degree. To adhere to Franciscan Values, community service hours are also required. In addition, at least 30 credits at the 300/400 level must be taken at Alvernia University. Recommended core 100 level science with lab: BIO 102, BIO 107/117, BIO 109 or BIO 115/116.

## LOCATIONS

Students can choose to take classes where and when it is most convenient. This program is offered on campus at our Reading, Philadelphia, and Pottsville locations.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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