Global Health Studies, B.S.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete in order to stay on the University’s Four-Year Graduation Plan.

Before the fifth semester begins: at least six courses in the major.

Before the seventh semester begins: at least 12 courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: at least two additional courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Global Health Studies, B.S.

Course | Title |
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Academic Career | Hours |
Any Semester | 1 |
GHS:3035 | Engaging in Global Health b | 1 |
Honors: thesis c |
First Year | |
Fall |  |
GHS:2000 | Introduction to Global Health Studies | 3 |
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4 |
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion d | 3 |
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5 |
CSI:1600 | Success at Iowa | 2 |
Hours | 15-17 |
Spring |  |
GHS:3030 or GHS:3034 or GHS:3035 | Global Health Today or Doing Harm by Doing Good: The Ethics of Studying, Volunteering, and Working in Global Communities or Engaging in Global Health | 1 |
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4 |
Second Year | |
Fall |  |
GHS:3850 | Promoting Health Globally | 3 |
Major: global health perspectives and practices course f | 3 |
Major: natural sciences course with lab g h | 4 |
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5 |
Elective course | 2 - 3 |
Hours | 16-19 |
Spring |  |
GHS:3720 | Contemporary Issues in Global Health | 3 |
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts d | 3 |
Major: mathematics and statistics course g k l | 3 - 4 |
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course e | 4 - 5 |
Elective course | 3 |
Hours | 16-18 |
Third Year | |
Fall |  |
GHS:3010 or GHS:3012 | Identifying and Developing a Global Health Project or Community-Based Global Health Research | 3 |
Major: global health perspectives and practices course numbered 3000 or above | 3 |
Major: world language and culture requirement | 3 - 5 |
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture d | 3 |
Elective course | 3 |
Hours | 15-17 |
Spring |  |
Major: global health perspectives and practices course numbered 3000 or above | 3 |
Major: global health perspectives and practices course numbered 3000 or above | 3 |
Major: world language and culture requirement | 3 - 5 |
Elective course | 3 |
Elective course | 3 |
Elective course | 3 |
Hours | 15-17 |
Fourth Year | |
Fall |  |
Major: global health perspectives and practices course | 3 |
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives d | 3 |
Elective course | 3 |
Elective course | 3 |
Elective course | 3 |
Hours | 15 |
Spring |  |
Major: global health perspectives and practices course numbered 3000 or above | 3 |
The Global Health Studies Program connects students to experiential learning opportunities such as study abroad, internships, research, service learning, and capstone courses through which students develop real world skills related to major global health issues. Students meet regularly with their academic advisor for help in identifying ethical activities which can be integrated into their individualized graduation plan.

Global Health Studies students are encouraged to enroll in GHS:3035 Engaging in Global Health to explore how professionals and volunteers work in a broad variety of global health settings. This course counts toward Global Health Perspectives and Practices.

Students completing Honors in the Global Health Studies major work with a faculty mentor to produce an honors thesis, and then present their research at a venue approved by the Global Health Studies Program.

GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.


Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.

Enrollment in chemistry courses requires completion of a placement exam.

Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

Students should choose from the Global Health Studies approved B.S. course list.

Choose from MATH:1380, MATH:1440, MATH:1460, MATH:1550, MATH:1850, STAT:1020.

Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.

Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.