

HEALTH EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINOR

Health equity involves identifying the root causes of the uneven distribution of health-related burdens and outcomes. Social justice is the view that everyone deserves equal rights and opportunities including access to and control over the basic material and non-material resources that sustain and promote health at a high level of satisfaction. In the U.S. and worldwide there are health inequities that are avoidable, unnecessary, and unjust. These inequities are the result of policies and practices that create an unequal distribution of money, power, and resources among communities based on but not limited to race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and place. In order to ensure that communities have the opportunity to attain and promote health at a high-level of satisfaction we must address the social determinants of health in order to achieve health equity. Future health care practitioners and researchers interested in this goal require training in the social and behavioral sciences in order to critically examine the causes and consequences of health inequities. Taken together, a selection of courses will teach students to identify and critically evaluate measures, causes, and consequences of health disparities, which will prepare a new generation of leaders to make significant changes in the delivery of health care to improve health equity for local and global populations.

Learning Goals and Outcomes

Goal 1: Health equity and social justice minors will describe health disparities that are based on but not limited to race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and place within the United States and around the world.

Objective 1.1: Students can describe the broader social, economic, and political factors associated with health inequities both in the US and around the world.

Goal 2: Health equity and social justice minors will identify and critically evaluate measures, causes, and consequences of these health disparities.

Objective 2.1: Students can critically assess research studies that describe the root causes of health disparities.

Goal 3: Health equity and social justice minors will describe evidence-based policies and practices that can reduce inequities in our national and global healthcare systems.

Objective 3.1: Students can critically assess the limits and possibilities of policies and practices designed to reduce health inequities in the US and around the world.

Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Part 1:		
SOC 101	Intro to Sociology	3
or SOC 103	Intro to Anthropology	
Part 2 - At least one course from the following:		3
SOC 306	Medical Anthropology	
SOC 285	Sociology of Medicine	
SOC 323	Health and Society	
Part 3 - Choose four courses from the following: If 2 or more from Part 2 are taken, then fewer courses are needed from Part 3.		12

SOC 205	Ethnic & Minority Relations
SOC 217	Mental Health & Society
SOC 216	Alcohol, Drugs & Society
SOC 232	Sociology of Human Sexuality
SOC 253	Race and Social Justice
SOC 215	Gender, Race, and Justice
SOC 325	Women and Health
SOC 305	Social Epidemiology
Total Hours	18