

Master of Health Science Degree & Certificate Course Descriptions

AL600 Foundations of Health Care Education (3 credit hours)

Explores foundational theories of adult learning and their application to health care education. Students examine key learning theories, characteristics, and motivations of adult learners while reflecting on personal philosophies and approaches to teaching in professional settings.

AL601 Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care (3 credit hours)

Examines legal and ethical principles that guide professionals in health care practice and administration. Emphasis is placed on understanding and applying ethical frameworks, legal doctrines, and regulatory standards.

AL602 Special Populations in Health Care (3 credit hours)

Explores how culture, identity, and experience influence health beliefs, behaviors, and healthcare delivery. Emphasizes the development of cultural competence and humility through analysis of diverse populations, reflection on personal and professional biases, and examination of practices that promote equitable and inclusive healthcare environments.

AL620 Research Methods in Health Science (3 credit hours)

Focuses on general principles of quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, and action research. Students develop the ability to critically think and responsibly consume research in professional health science contexts.

AL622 Organization and Administration in Higher Education (3 credit hours)

Examines the organization and leadership functions of higher education institutions, with applications relevant to health professions education. Students analyze how structure, policy, leadership, and external influences shape institutional effectiveness and the student experience within higher education.

AL624 Assessment in Health Care Education (3 credit hours)

Focuses on developing assessment literacy for health care educators. Students learn to design and evaluate assessments that align with learning targets, curriculum standards, and program outcomes. Emphasis is placed on using assessment evidence to guide teaching decisions and support continuous improvement at both the classroom and program level.

AL626 Instructional Technology (3 credit hours)

Prepares students to apply theoretical frameworks to evaluate, select, and plan for instructional technology use to facilitate learning. Through practical application students will discover how to integrate technology into instruction and gain an awareness of the benefits and possible challenges of technology use.

AL628 Systems Thinking and Safety in Health Care (3 credit hours)

This course examines healthcare as a complex adaptive system and explores how human factors, system design, and organizational culture influence patient safety. Emphasis is placed on understanding human error, fostering a culture of safety, and designing safer processes and environments.

AL720 Curriculum and Instruction in Health Care Education (3 credit hours)

Explores various conceptualizations of curriculum and the role of educators in the curriculum development process. Instructional design models and various methods of instruction will be examined and applied.

AL724 Capstone Portfolio (3 credit hours)

Provides students the opportunity to curate, refine, and reflect upon key artifacts developed throughout their program of study. The portfolio demonstrates mastery of program learning outcomes. Through critical reflection, students integrate their learning to illustrate professional growth and create meaningful connections between the program of study and their professional goals. *Pre-requisite: 24 credits of degree coursework completed; taken during the last semester of coursework.*

Table 1: Course Descriptions. MHS Degree requires all courses. Graduate Certificate in Health Care Education requires AL600, AL624, AL626, and AL720. Graduate Certificate in Health Science requires AL601, AL620, AL628, and AL602.