**What is Health and the Humanities?**

- National trend—nearly 65 new programs created in last ten years
- Argument: illness and all phenomena related to health are not just the purview of ‘medicine’ and are, in fact, *lived* outside medical settings where doctors play a minimal role
- Goal: think critically about the complexity of health and healthcare; promote the value of diverse perspectives in understanding the human consequences of medicine
- Method: interdisciplinary research across the humanities curriculum; writing, synthesis, reflection

**HatH at UW**

- In its fourth year; constantly growing
- Limited enrollment certificate housed in the English department
- “The why to the how.”
- Courses offered by more than a dozen departments
- Certificate can be tailored to your specific interests

**Student Learning Goals**

- Identify major developments in the history of medicine and the medical profession
- Describe how the meaning of “health” has varied over time and space
- Comprehend and evaluate complex arguments about politics, values, healthcare, and health in contemporary society
- Understand health and illness as grounded in personal experience, develop empathy for others’ experiences, and use creative means to reflect on those experiences
- Display sensitivity for what health means among differently positioned people
Plan your HatH certificate:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HatH Certificate Course Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Semester</td>
<td>Credits</td>
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<td>Core course (before applying)</td>
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<td>Health and Illness in Social Context (1 of 2)</td>
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<td>Health and Illness in Social Context (2 of 2)</td>
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<td>Cultural Competency</td>
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<td>Total Credits</td>
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**Next Application Cycle:** due by **11:59PM on Friday, March 5, 2021**

- Available online on the “Admission” page of our website
- Must have **completed** a core course with a C or better in order to apply
- Students who are already completing the Global Health Certificate are not eligible to apply

**Essay Prompt**

In addition to collecting basic personal information, the HatH application will ask you to respond to the following essay prompt. You should limit your response to 500 words. We highly recommend that you take time to draft and revise your essay answer before you submit your application.

**In what ways do you think a scientific perspective alone might limit your understanding of health? How would a humanities perspective help you better understand the health experiences of people who are different from you?**

**Assessment Criteria**

To respond to this prompt, we recommend that you draw on your experience in your core course. We are looking for answers that indicate something about what you already know but also focus on what you still need to learn, how you still need to grow, and/or what you hope to get out of the HatH certificate. The strongest answers will include specific and concrete details.

We will assess essays based on the following criteria:

- Reflection on the specific value of the HatH certificate.
- We seek forward-looking essays that describe what the student still needs to learn or understand.
- Understanding of humanities learning and its relevance for thinking about health.
- Awareness of & reflection on social position and its relevance to thinking about health.
- Capacity to write in clear, specific, and nuanced ways about experience and goals.