



**HARVARD UNIVERSITY PH.D. PROGRAM IN HEALTH POLICY
MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY TRACK
2011-2012**

In this track, students will learn about, and contribute to knowledge in, several research areas that are extremely important to health policy, including the study of professions and professional behavior, the structure of health care organizations and systems, the impact of organizational and professional change on the structure of medical work, organizational improvement programs and their evaluation, the diffusion of innovations across providers and organizations, and the behavior of patients and consumers—including consumer evaluations of health care quality and patient perspectives on the process and outcomes of care.

Research on these substantive topics will be necessarily interdisciplinary. In particular, students should develop a strong grounding in psychological and sociological theories of individual behavior and theories of institutions, organizations, and professions.

In order to pursue substantive studies in these areas, students must possess strong analytic skills and be capable of using a broad range of social science methods. Some of this training will be accomplished prior to admission, and some through completion of the Program's statistics requirements. In addition, students in this track will need to acquire a range of methodological skills that go beyond statistical analysis. We envision that many graduates will acquire strong data collection skills, including survey design and administration as well as more qualitative approaches to research, such as in-depth and cognitive interviewing. Additionally, students may require special quantitative skills such as methods for gathering and analyzing data on social networks or diffusion processes.

We anticipate that students graduating from this track will seek research positions in health services organizations, research positions in research organizations and institutes, faculty positions in schools of medicine, public health, or social science departments, or positions in government agencies.

Major content areas:

Health Care Organization; Professions; Consumer Behavior; Social Determinants of Health/Social Epidemiology

- REQUIRED COURSES
- FACULTY MEMBERS
- COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED COURSES

I. General Requirements (see general program requirements for specific courses)

Health Policy Core Seminar (Health Policy 2000, 2 semester course)

“*Interdisciplinary*” coursework in other tracks (4 courses total)

Statistics/Evaluative Science (2 courses required)

Economics (1 course required)

Decision Sciences

Ethics

Management

Political Analysis

Epidemiology (Epidemiology 500)

Research Seminar (Health Policy 3040hf, beginning in the 3rd year)

II. Concentration substantive course requirements (7 courses)

Medical Sociology Seminar (SOC 390. Health and Social Structure)
Micro or Macro Organizational Behavior (1 course) [see page 2]
Research Methods (1 course) [see pages 2-3]
Medical Sociology Electives (4 courses) [see pages 4-5]

Micro- and Macro- Organizational Behavior courses that meet track requirement

GSAS

PSYC 2630. Social Behavior in Organizations: Seminar (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SOC 224. Organizational Analysis: Seminar

HSPH

HPM 539. Health Care Organization and Organizational Behavior

MIT

15.311. Organizational Processes
15.341. Individuals, Groups, and Organizations
15.342J. Organizations and Environments

Research methods courses that meet track requirement

GSAS

GOV 1002. Advanced Quantitative Political Methodology
GOV 1008. Introduction to Geographical Information Systems
GOV 1009. Advanced Geographical Information Systems Workshop
GOV 2010. Design for Political Inquiry
PSYC 2100. Research Methodology (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SOC 203a. Advanced Quantitative Research Methods
SOC 205. Sociological Research Design
SOC 275. Social Network Analysis Seminar (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
STAT 160. Design and Analysis of Sample Surveys

GSE

EDU S-052. Applied Data Analysis
EDU S-085. Applied Research Design (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
EDU A-210. Evaluation of Programs and Policies (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)

HBS

HBS 4070. Design of Field Research Methods

HSPH

BIO 212. Survey Research Methods in Community Health
BIO 226. Applied Longitudinal Analysis
BIO 231. Statistical Inference I
EPI 203. Study Design in Epi Research
EPI 204. Analysis of Case-Control & Cohort Studies
EPI 207. Advanced Epidemiologic Methods
EPI 233. Research Synth & Meta-Analysis
EPI 241. Measuring Health Status (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
EPI 271. Propensity Score Analysis: Theoretical and Practical Considerations

(Not offered in 2011 – 2012)

EPI 289. Models for Causal Inference

GHP 534. Introduction to Spatial Methods for Public Health

HPM 212. Program Evaluation in Health Policy *(Not offered in 2011 – 2012)*

SHH 231. Community Intervention Research Methods

SHH 245. Social and Behavioral Research Methods Part I

SHH 263. Multilevel Statistical Methods: Concept and Application

SHH 281. Methods for Research on Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health

HKS

SUP-107MA. Qualitative Methods in Policy Research

DPI-614M. Public Opinion, Polling, and Public Policy *(Not offered in 2011 – 2012)*

MIT

15.340J. Seminar in Social Science Research Methods *(Not offered in 2011 – 2012)*

Medical Sociology Electives

The equivalent of four one-semester elective courses is required. Any substitutions must be approved by the concentration chair. The economic courses listed below can serve as medical sociology electives for medical sociology students only. Economics courses at the 2000-level usually require the student to have a background in multivariable calculus, linear algebra, graduate economic theory, and graduate econometrics.

Note to Non-Medical Sociology Students: Non-economics courses listed on pages 4 and 5 satisfy the medical sociology distribution requirement for non-medical sociology students. In order for a course to count for a distribution requirement in the Harvard PhD in Health Policy Program, a student must take the equivalent of a one-semester course.

GSAS

African and African American Studies 197. Poverty, Race, and Health
Anthropology 2736. Medical Anthropology of Contemporary Africa
Anthropology 2740. Culture, Mental Illness, and the Body (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Anthropology 2750. Local Biologies: Perspectives on the Interaction Between Culture and Biology (*Not offered 2011-2012*)
Anthropology 2855. Deep China: What Medical Anthropology and Psychiatry Contribute to the Study of China Today (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Economics 1389. The Economics of Global Health
Economics 1816. Race in America (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Economics 2030. Psychology and Economics
Economics 2058. Networks and Social Capital (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Economics 2330. History and Human Capital
Economics 2811. Social Economics
History 87a. Health, Disease, and Ecology in African History
History of Science 140. Disease and Society (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
History of Science 141. The Social Life of Pharmaceuticals
History of Science 145. Medicine and Deviance: Conference Course
History of Science 148. History of Global Health (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
History of Science 153. History of Dietetics
History of Science 171. Narrative and Neurology (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
History of Science 173. The Abnormal Mind (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
History of Science 240. The Body in Health and Disease: Seminar (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
History of Science 243. The Making of Modern Medicine
History of Science 247. Current Issues in the History of Medicine: Seminar
History of Science 249. Caregiving: Historical and Anthropological Perspectives: Seminar (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Psychology 2500. Advanced Social Psychology
Psychology 2630. Social Behavior in Organizations: Seminar (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Sociology 160. Medicine, Health Policy and Bioethics in Comparative and Global Perspective (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Sociology 165. Inequalities in Health Care
Sociology 190. Life and Death in the US: Medicine and Disease in Social Context
Sociology 224. Organizational Analysis: Seminar
Sociology 231. Neighborhood Effects and Community-Level Social Processes (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
Sociology 255. Social Stratification

HSPH

HPM 516. Health Care: Quality Improvement
HPM 525. Disparities in Health (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
HPM 529. Principles of Suicide Prevention
ID 236. Social Epidemiology
ID 283. Epidemiological Investigation of Social and Environmental Risks for Psychiatric Disorders
SHH 201. Society and Health

SHH 203. Communication in Health Care Settings (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SHH 207. Race, Ethnicity & Health: Perspectives from Social & Behavioral Sciences
SHH 208. Adolescent Health
SHH 210. Women, Health and Development: Reconciling Science and Policy
SHH 211. Health Promotion through Mass Media
SHH 215. History, Politics & Public Health: Theories of Disease Distribution (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SHH 219. High-Risk Behavior: Epi/Prevention Strategies
SHH 220. Society and its Effects on Child Health
SHH 221. Psychosocial Theories of Health and Health Behavior
SHH 227. Psychosocial Aspects of Aging (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SHH 254. Social Disparities, Stress, and Health
SHH 260. Aging, Lifecourse Social Conditions & Public Health
SHH 291. Policy Analysis Methods for Public Health (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SHH 293. Place, Migration and Health (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SHH 295. Health and Social Policy Doctoral Seminar (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
SHH 298. Issues in Minority Health Policy
SHH 299. The Science of Learning, Behavior, and Health
WGH 200. Women, Gender, and Health (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)
WGH 210. Women, Gender and Health: Critical Issues in Mental Health

HMS

SM707.0. The Social History of Medicine
SM715.0. Seminar in Global Health Equity
SM720.0. Gender, Sexuality and the Politics of Health
SM750.0. Introduction to Social Medicine and Global Health

GSE

A-602. Organizations, Leadership, and Change (*Not offered in 2011 – 2012*)

MIT

15.311. Organizational Processes
15.341. Individuals, Groups, and Organizations
15.342J. Organizations and Environments

Faculty associated with the medical sociology track:

Nicholas Christakis, Chair, Professor of Medical Sociology, Harvard Medical School, and Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Margarita Alegria, Professor at the Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
John Ayanian, Professor of Health Care Policy and Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Jason Beckfield, Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Lisa Berkman, Thomas D. Cabot Professor of Public Policy and of Epidemiology, Harvard School of Public Health
Donald M. Berwick, Professor of Health Care Policy and Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
David Blumenthal, Samuel O. Thier Professor of Medicine and Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
Filiz Garip, Associate Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Maria Glymour, Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health, Harvard School of Public Health
Mary-Jo Good, Professor of Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Steven Gortmaker, Professor of Health and Social Behavior, Harvard School of Public Health
David Grabowski, Associate Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
LeRoi Hicks, Associate Professor of Medicine and Lecturer in Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
Ichiro Kawachi, Professor of Social Epidemiology, Harvard School of Public Health
Nancy Keating, Associate Professor of Health Care Policy and Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Ronald Kessler, Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
Arthur M. Kleinman, Esther and Sidney Rabb Professor of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Professor of Psychiatry and Medical Anthropology, Harvard Medical School
Bruce Landon, Professor of Health Care Policy and Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Peter Marsden, Edith and Benjamin Geisinger Professor of Sociology, Dean of Social Science, and Harvard College Professor, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Thomas McGuire, Professor of Health Economics, Harvard Medical School
Mary Ruggie, Adjunct Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
Robert Sampson, Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Stephen Soumerai, Professor of Population Medicine, Harvard Medical School
David Stevenson, Associate Professor of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
S V Subramanian, Professor of Population Health and Geography, Harvard School of Public Health
David Williams, Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health