

Health & Human Biology Sample Theme Courses

This document provides a list of courses that recent HHB concentrators have used to fulfill the various theme and two related elective requirements.

The courses listed here are only examples; you are not restricted to choosing from this list.

Courses listed may not be offered every year. It is up to the student to develop a cohesive grouping of four theme courses that offer depth of learning in the area of interest. Students may find other courses of interest and should discuss these with the concentration advisor in choosing a cohesive grouping for the theme. Students should strive to articulate how the four selected theme courses complement and supplement one another in a clear way.

Mind, Brain, Behavior

Mind, Brain, Behavior encompasses the study of causes and consequences of brain and behavioral health wellness through the lens of myriad fields including contemplative studies, education, cognitive science and more. Examples of specific interests relevant to this theme include young adult development, traumatic brain injury, addiction, nervous system disorders, mental health, mindfulness, cognitive wellness, and more. Departments offering relevant coursework include but are not limited to CLPS, Education, Contemplative Studies, Public Health, and Sociology. Many students who pursue capstones and research do so with faculty from within the Division of Biology and Medicine as well as [the Carney Institute for Brain Science](#), but experiences with non-BioMed faculty are common, as well.

Example Theme Courses (not all may be offered every semester)

CLPS 0110: Mechanisms of Animal Behavior	CLPS 1510: Psychology of Hearing
CLPS 0200: Human Cognition	CLPS 1570: Perceptual Learning
CLPS 0220: Making Decisions	CLPS 1610: Cognitive Development
CLPS 0400: Brain Damage and the Mind	CLPS 1650: Child Language Acquisition
CLPS 0500: Perception and Mind	CLPS 1700: Abnormal Psychology
CLPS 0510: Perception, Illusion, and the Visual Arts	CLPS 1760: The Moral Brain
CLPS 0610: Children's Thinking	CLPS 1790: Personality and Clinical Assessment
CLPS 0701: Personality	COST 1020: Cognitive Neuroscience of Meditation
CLPS 0800: Language and the Mind	ANTH 0200: Culture and Human Behavior
CLPS 1150: Memory and the Brain	ANTH 0300: Culture and Health
CLPS 1193: Laboratory in Genes and Behavior	ANTH 1300: Anthropology of Addiction & Recovery
CLPS 1290: Laboratory in Cognitive Processes	ANTH 1880: From Magic Mushrooms to Big Pharma
CLPS 1291: Computational Cognitive Science	EDUC 0800 Human Development
CLPS 1400: The Neural Basis of Cognition	EDUC 1270: Adolescent Psychology
CLPS 1490: Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging: Theory and Practice	EDUC 1710: History & Theories of Child Dev.

PHIL 0020: Mind and Matter

CLPS 1492: Computational Cognitive Neuroscience

PHIL 1520: Consciousness

PHIL 0990F: Perception

SOC 1440: Intimate Violence

Planetary Health

Planetary Health is a multidisciplinary field that focuses on the human health impacts of human-caused disruptions of Earth's natural systems. Students studying planetary health might focus on the health and wellness implications of climate change, global trade/travel and species invasions, land-use change, the loss of biological diversity and ecosystem function. Because environmental factors that influence health and well-being are often intertwined with sociocultural factors, many students simultaneously explore the social dimensions of environmental health from sustainable and equitable development perspectives. Biology, Public Health, and the [Institute at Brown for Environment and Society](#) (IBES) are examples of departments whose faculty offer relevant coursework and support undergraduate research.

Example Theme Courses (not all may be offered every semester)

- GEOL 0030: Climate and Climate Change
- GEOL 1320: Intro to GIS for Environmental Applications
- GEOL 1370: Environmental Geochemistry
- PHP 1070: The Burden of Disease in Developing Countries
- PHP 1700: Current Topics in Environmental Health
- PHP 1710: Climate Change & Human Health
- PHP 1964: Cancer Epidemiology & Prevention
- RELS 0260: Religion Gone Wild: Spirituality & the Environment

- PLCY 2555: Environmental Policy, From the Ground Up
- ENVS 0110: Humans, Nature and the Environment
- ENVS 0490: Environmental Science in a Changing World
- ENVS 1245: Air Pollution & Chemistry
- ENVS 1552: Science & Power: The Corruption of Environmental Health
- ENVS 1555: Urban Agriculture: The Importance of Localized Food Systems
- ENVS 1913: China's Environment: Power, Pollution, and Hope
- ENVS 1355: Environmental Issues in Development Economics
- ENVS 0130: The Engineer's Burden: Why Changing the World Is Difficult

Global Health

Global Health is a collaborative and transnational approach to improving health and achieving health equity for all people worldwide. Global Health draws on many disciplines within the health sciences, sociology, anthropology, international relations, and economics. Students who pursue this theme might study prevention and control of global pandemics, transnational differences in vaccine development and delivery, and the economic factors that impact the diagnosis, prevention, surveillance and treatment of communicable and non-communicable disease. The [School of Public Health](#), BioMed, [Brown's Global Health Initiative](#), and the [Institute at Brown for Environment and Society](#) (IBES) are examples of the affiliations of faculty who support coursework and research relevant to this theme.

Example Theme Courses (not all may be offered every semester)

GEOL	0030: Climate and Climate Change
GEOL	1320: Intro to GIS for Environmental Applications
GEOL	1370: Environmental Geochemistry
ENVS	0110: Humans, Nature and the Environment
ENVS	0490: Environmental Science in a Changing World
ENVS	1355: Environmental Issues in Development Economics
ENVS	0130: The Engineer's Burden: Why Changing the World Is Difficult
INTL	0700: Global Health, Humanitarianism, & Inequality
PHP	1070: Burden of Disease
PHP	1160: The Global Burden of Mental Illness: A Public Health Approach
PHP	1710: Climate Change & Human Health
PLCY	1825: The New National Security: Transnational & Cross-Border Issues
ANTH	0110: Anthropology and Global Social Problems
ANTH	0300: Culture and Health
ANTH	1020: AIDS in Global Perspective
ANTH	1255: Anthropology of Disasters
SOC	1620: Globalization and Social Conflict
SOC	1340: Principles and Methods of GIS

Social Determinants of Health

Study of the Social Determinants of Health encompasses both qualitative and quantitative examination of social factors and their influence on health outcomes. These influences can be exerted at levels ranging from individual and family circumstances to societal factors such as economic policies, social norms, and political systems. The history of medicine, health communication, and alternative approaches to healing are examples of a few additional areas of study applicable to this theme.

Example Theme Courses (not all may be offered every semester)

ANTH	0300: Culture and Health
EDUC	1270: Adolescence in Social Context
HIST	1490: History of Medicine I: Medical Traditions in the Old World Before 1700
HIST	1491: The Development of Scientific Medicine in Europe and the World
HIST	1971T: Knowing & Believing: Galileo to Darwin
HIST	1978C: Health and Healing in the Colonial and Post-Colonial Africa
PHP	1070: Burden of Disease in Developing Countries
PHP	0310: Health Care in the United States
PHP	1680I: Pathology to Power: Disability, Health and Community
PHP	1740: Principles of Health Behavior & Health
PHP	1520: Promotion Intervention Emergency Medicine Systems
PHP	2380: Health Communication
SOC	1550: Sociology of Medicine
GNSS	1960B: Health and Healing in American History
GNSS	1960C: Gender, Sexuality and Science
GNSS	090C: Reproductive Health
HIST	1180: The Rise of the Scientific Worldview
HIST	1190: 19 th Century Roots of Modern Medicine
AFRI	1920: Health Inequality in Historical Perspective
AFRI	1930: Race, Difference and Biomedicine: Historical Considerations
CLPS	1550D: Biomedicalization: The Body as a Social Problem
RELS	0525: The History & Practice of Yoga in India & Beyond