

SOCIOLOGY (B.S.)

Medical Sociology Track

Study Health Through a Sociological Lens

The **Medical Sociology Track** explores how social factors shape health, illness, and healthcare systems. Students examine how inequality, policy, culture, and institutions influence access to care, health outcomes, and lived experiences of disease.

This track prepares students for:

- Graduate study (Public Health, Medicine, Sociology, Social Work, Health Sciences)
 - Careers in healthcare, public health, health policy, research, and community health
 - Data-driven and research-focused health professions
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Why Medical Sociology?

Students learn to:

- Analyze social determinants of health
- Examine health disparities related to race, class, gender, and policy
- Apply sociological theories to healthcare systems
- Conduct and interpret quantitative and qualitative research
- Produce professional research reports and policy-informed analysis

A key component of the program is the completion of an **original research project and capstone experience**.

Program Structure

Total Degree Hours: 120

Major Requirements: 60–61 Credit Hours

Medical Sociology Electives: 21 Credit Hours

Interdisciplinary Health Electives: 15 Credit Hours

Core Courses Include:

- Applied Social Statistics
- Research Methods
- Social Power and Inequality
- Medical Sociology

Capstone Requirement:

- Data Analysis: Capstone (4 credits)

Students complete advanced coursework in areas such as:

- Social Determinants of Health
- Mental Health in Society
- Sociology of Health Care
- Aging and Health
- GIS for Public Health
- Drug Use and Alcohol in Society
- Men, Masculinities, and Health
- Food and Society

100% Online Option Available

The Medical Sociology Track may be completed fully online (elective availability may vary). Students enrolled exclusively online may qualify for reduced campus-based fees.

Recommended Complementary Minors & Certificates

- Health Sciences
- Medical Anthropology
- Health Communication
- Aging Studies
- Health Services Administration
- Human Services

(Approval required. Courses may not double count.)

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Medical Sociology Track will be able to:

- Explain core sociological theories related to health and illness
- Conduct independent and collaborative research using ethical standards
- Analyze and interpret social data to inform policy and practice
- Communicate findings effectively to academic and professional audiences

Learning outcomes align with UCF's Academic Learning Compact and High-Impact Learning standards.

Career Pathways

Medical Sociology graduates pursue careers in:

- Public Health
 - Health Policy & Advocacy
 - Hospital & Health Systems Administration
 - Health Data & Research Analysis
 - Community Health Programs
 - Nonprofit & Global Health Organizations
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Advising & Contact Information

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Social Sciences Program Director & Undergraduate Director:

Dr. Angela Vergara

Explore Health. Analyze Inequality. Conduct Research. Lead Change.

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University of Central Florida