

# MA IN GLOBAL HEALTH AND SOCIETY

---

## Overview

The University of Miami's Master of Arts in Global Health and Society provides a comprehensive framework of global health that underscores the sociopolitical, economic, and geographic factors that, in addition to biomedical factors, impact health conditions of various countries and populations throughout the world. Graduates of our program acquire skills in leadership and advocacy and combined with a deep understanding of policy and governance, are prepared to assist private, government, non-profit, and for-profit organizations formulate new global and community health strategies.

Miami is the crossroads of the hemisphere. We are uniquely positioned to study the underlying causes that affect the health of individuals, communities, and nations around the world. You will be able to take a range of interdisciplinary courses examining the emerging challenges to human health and security, the differential access and adoption of evidence-based health policies and practices, and how these interventions translate from international to community scales. This program will give you the social science knowledge and methodologies to integrate stakeholders and researchers in the design, implementation, interpretation of community-based participatory studies.

The interdisciplinary degree is awarded by the College of Arts and Sciences.

## Admission Requirements

The Master of Arts in Global Health & Society employs a rolling admissions deadline. Students may apply for admissions in the Fall or Spring. Interested students should contact the program with any questions.

- Online Application
  - Please complete the online application by clicking here (<https://www.applyweb.com/miamigrd/>). (<https://www.applyweb.com/miamigrd/>)
- Application Fee
  - An \$85.00 non-refundable application fee is paid online upon submission of the application.
- Statement of Purpose
  - The statement of purpose is the most important element of your application packet. This letter needs to reflect who you are, your goals and why you would be an asset to the Global Health & Society program. It is very important to ensure it is grammatically correct and as detailed as possible. The statement of purpose should be no more than two pages in length. Please review before your submission.

Below is a link to help you get started:

OWL Statement of Purpose Guidelines ([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue\\_owl.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html)).

- Letters of Recommendation
  - Three letters of recommendation must be provided.
- Official Transcripts
  - You must provide official transcripts from each post-secondary institution attended. Official transcripts in languages other than English must also be submitted with a certified English translation.
- Resume
  - Please provide a copy of your resume if it is available.
- Admissions Interview
  - The admissions interview may be conducted in person, over the phone, or via video conference.
- Grade Point Average (GPA)
  - A minimum overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Official TOEFL (or IELTS) Score
  - All international students are required to take this exam in order to demonstrate sufficient English competency. This exam is offered as a paper-based test (PBT) or an internet-based test (IBT). A score of 550 is required for the PBT or 80 for the IBT.
  - Students may also take the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam to demonstrate sufficient competency in English. A score of 6.5 or higher is required.
  - Students from countries whose primary language is English are not required to take this exam. Please visit the **Graduate School's International Applicant English Proficiency** webpage for more information.
  - International students from countries whose primary language is English are not required to take this exam.

## Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core Courses</b>		
GHS 601	Sociocultural Foundations of Global Health	3
EPH 601	Medical Biostatistics I	4
EPH 621	Fundamentals of Epidemiology	3
EPH 644	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	3
GHS 670	Community-Based Participatory Action Research	3
GHS 672	Global Health Policy and Ethics	3
<b>Electives</b>		<b>9</b>
Electives should be chosen in consultation with your advisor, and should align with your goals in global health and/or to prepare you for your capstone experience. The list below is only a selection of the courses available in crafting your plan of study.		
APY 602	Advanced Seminar in Cultural Anthropology	
APY 611	Methods of Anthropological Research	
APY 612	Advanced Medical Anthropology	
EPH 612	Global Health	
EPH 613	Emerging Challenges in Global Health Systems	
EPH 614	Global Outbreak	
EPH 616	Global Health and Global Justice	
EPH 617	Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	
EPH 640	Urban Environment and Public Health	
EPH 650	Health Economics for Evaluation and Policy	
GEG 619	Immigration to the United States	
GEG 622	Urbanization in the Developing World	
GEG 636	Sustainable Food Systems	
GEG 646	Immigrant Refugee Health	
GEG 648	Climate Change and Public Health	
GHS 610	Hospital Ethnography	
GHS 612	People, Plagues, and Pandemics	
GHS 639	Globalization and Health	
GHS 640	Global Health Response to Disasters: From Management to Recovery and Reconstruction	
GHS 715	Modern and Traditional Health Systems	
IGS 613	Global Cultures: Religion, Communication, and Security	
IGS 614	World Affairs and Diplomacy	
IGS 615	International Political Economy	
IGS 644	Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability	
IGS 645	Human Security: Prevention Mitigation	
IGS 646	Civil Security Preparedness and Management	
IGS 647	Disasters and Humanitarian Assistance	
LAS 601	Politics, Societies, and Cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean	
LAS 604	Interdisciplinary Topics in Latin American and Caribbean Studies - Travel Course.	
LAS 606	Civic Engagement in Latin America	
LAS 681	Graduate Seminar on Public Health: Latin America and the Caribbean	
LAS 684	Global Public Health: Harnessing Theoretical Prep with Health Diplomacy and Practical Exper	
MLS 604	Survey of Medical Humanities	
SOC 610	Advanced Research Methods	
SOC 613	Qualitative Research Methods	

SOC 614	Evaluation Research	
SOC 615	Class Structure and Social Stratification	
SOC 620	Social Epidemiology	
SOC 632	Social Psychology of Health and Illness	
SOC 635	Medical Sociology: Issues in Research and Theory.	
SOC 636	Health Diversity Across the Life Course	
SOC 651	Race Relations: Social Psychological Perspectives	
<b>Capstone</b>		<b>3</b>
GHS 890 or GHS 810 or EPH 678	Global Health Internship Graduate Thesis in Global Health CAPSTONE PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE AND PROJECT PREPARATION	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>31</b>

## Language Requirement

Students are required to demonstrate foreign language competency. Students may meet this requirement by using one of the options below:

- Fulfilling the language requirement in their undergraduate career.
- Passing two courses taught in the target language at the 600-level or above (these courses will not count towards the required credits for the Master of Arts Degree)
- Completing a Directed Independent Language Study (DILS) program, or
- Passing a language competency exam with a qualified speaker.

Students may petition for a waiver of examination if they have gained target language competency in another manner (i.e., native speaker, upper division coursework in target language, Peace Corps service, IB credits, or Defense Language Proficiency Test)."

Plan of Study

<b>Year One</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Fall</b>		
GHS 601	Sociocultural Foundations of Global Health	3
EPH 621	Fundamentals of Epidemiology	3
GHS 672	Global Health Policy and Ethics	3
	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
EPH 601	Medical Biostatistics I	4
GHS 670	Community-Based Participatory Action Research	3
Elective		3
	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Year Two</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
EPH 644	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
GHS Capstone		3
	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>31</b>

## Mission

The MA in Global Health and Society (GHS) provides students with an interdisciplinary social scientific perspective for understanding how global health outcomes relate to society, culture, and the environment. Whereas medicine itself addresses the proximate causes of health, social science perspectives address the underlying causes that affect individuals, communities, and nations. A range of interdisciplinary courses examine emerging

challenges to human health and security, differential access and adoption of evidence-based health policies, practices, and interventions, community-based participatory research, and evaluation, and how these translate from international to community scales.

## Goals

The goals of this degree are to enable students to help build partnerships around critical health issues in communities throughout the world; develop the capacity to address and/or prevent health risks in increasingly dynamic environments; and mitigate health issues associated with global challenges such as climate change, violence, population movements, and natural disasters.

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will analyze through a social science perspective how to understand and intervene in complex and varied social and cultural settings across local, regional, national, and international landscapes.
- Students will apply social justice, human rights, and global politics principles to discuss Health Rights and Policy Advocacy strategies to address disparities across culturally and geographically defined populations.
- Students will learn how to apply social science strategies to integrate stakeholders and researchers in participatory ethnographic research, monitoring, and evaluations on global health issues in socio-cultural and politically diverse communities throughout the world.
- Students will identify the complexity and ethical dilemmas of global health projects in diverse economic, political, and cultural context, and promote accountability for the impact of policy decisions upon public health practice at local, national, and international levels.