

# College of Medicine, Florida State University

## Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences (IMS) Program

### List of Upper Division Non-Science Electives

Revised on 1/12/2026

Course #	Name	Credits	Description	Prerequisites	Department	University Requirements	Misc Information
ANT 2410	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3	This course introduces the origin and development of human lifeways with emphasis on non-Western societies. A comparative perspective is used to examine language, social organization, religion, values, and technology. Attention is also given to contemporary world problems.		Anthropology	Spring 2026: Counts as an IMS non-science elective only (no longer EHE or Social Science). Fall 2025: EHE Before Fall 2025: Social Science; Div	Available online
ANT 3570	Human Biological Variation and Adaptation	3	This course uses ecological and evolutionary principles like life history theory and natural and sexual selection to examine human biological and behavioral variation in living human populations across the globe. Through this course, students will understand how and why humans have successfully moved out of Africa to inhabit virtually every corner of the planet.		Anthropology		
ANT4053	One Health: Human, Animal, and Environmental Health in the Anthropocene	3	This course provides a detailed overview of the history, utility, application, and future of the One Health paradigm. One Health is the concept that the health of humans, wildlife, domestic animals, and ecosystems are all dependent on one another. Physicians, public health professionals, veterinarians, social scientists, and others all contribute to this paradigm, which takes an inclusive approach to the study of broad determinants and indicators of health across species and biomes. In the current Anthropocene epoch – characterized by rapid and complex human modifications of the global environment – such an approach to medicine and health is critically important. To this end, students will be trained on the fundamental topics and methods in One Health to better understand the complexities involved in global disease prevention and control.		Anthropology		
ANT4930*	Special Topics: Evolutionary Medicine	3	The evolutionary history of our species is being used more and more in modern medicine to understand the genetic roots of illness. However, there is a great deal about the dynamics between genes, environment, and health that is still poorly known. In this course, we explore a wide range of topics – disease, diet, birth, death, stress, drugs – from the perspective of biological anthropology with an emphasis on determining how much of our health may be attributed to things that happened many generations before we were born, and how our actions today may be impacting the health of future generations.		Anthropology		
ANT4930*	Special Topics: Global Health Cultures	3	This class explores crucial questions about health, well-being, medicine, and environment.		Anthropology		

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APK 2001	Medical and Scientific Terminology	3	This course is the study of medical and scientific terminology, the language of medicine that focuses on prefixes, suffixes, word roots and their combining forms by review of each body system and specialty area. Emphasis is on word construction, usage, comprehension, pronunciation, and spelling. In addition, students gain information regarding anatomy and physiology, pathology, diagnostic/surgical procedures, pharmacology, scientific equipment and instruments, and abbreviations.	PET 3322 or BSC 2085	Nutrition and Integrative Physiology		Online only
CHD 3243	Contexts of Adolescent Development	3	This course examines the developmental process related to cognitive, physical, and psychosocial growth from pre- to late adolescence and the reciprocal influences of various contexts in which youth are embedded, such as families, peer groups, schools, and communities.		Family & Child Sciences		Available online
CLP 3305	Clinical and Counseling Psychology	3	This course is a survey of the theory, research, and treatment procedures in the clinical process.	PSY 2012	Psychology		
CLP 4143	Abnormal Psychology	3	This course focuses on the causes of personality disorganization, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness, and developments in experimental psychopathology.	PSY 2012 Recommended: Junior or Senior standing	Psychology		
DSC 4213 (formerly PAD 4844)	Public Health and Emergency Management	3	This course is designed to provide an overview of international public health events that have either evolved into disasters, or are born of disasters. In addition, this course looks at preventing and preparing for public health disasters. A variety of threats and case studies are reviewed with an evaluation of future threats. Additionally, epidemiology and the discovery and reporting of events are reviewed.		Public Administration		Typically offered Fall and Spring Online only
ECP 4530	Economics of Health	3	This course provides an overview of the U.S. health care system and the role that economics plays in advancing our understanding of it. Topics included are the demand for medical care and health insurance, the role and impact of government in funding health care services (Medicare and Medicaid), cost benefit analysis, pharmaceuticals and the FDA, organ donation and vending, as well as health care and insurance in other developed countries.	ECO 2013 and ECO 2023	Economics	Before Fall 2025: Upper Division Writing	Typically offered Fall and Spring

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ENT 4622	Biomedical Innovation and Entrepreneurship	3	The course covers recent innovations in biomedicine that span from biological molecules to healthcare delivery systems followed by the study of companies that are pursuing the opportunities unveiled by the innovations. The innovations explored come from advances in molecular biology and biological, biomedical, mechanical, electronic, and software engineering.		Jim Moran Entrepreneurship		Typically offered Spring Previously offered under ENT4934 Special Topics "Biomedical Entrepreneurship"
FAD 2230	Family Relationships	3	This course examines the dynamics of contemporary family life and interpersonal relationships in a changing society and over the life course.		Family & Child Sci	Social Science	Fall, Spring, Summer
FAD 3220	Individual and Family Life Span Development	3	This course devotes attention to all stages of human development and the aging process. For students to fully understand human behavior, the development issues of an individual at all ages must be understood, including the influence of various social, cultural, and environmental contexts. Students become familiar with development from the prenatal period through end of life.		Family & Child Sci		Fall, Spring Summer
FAD 3343	Contexts of Adult Development and Aging	3	This course provides students with a critical understanding of both the theoretical and the interdisciplinary nature of aging, the aging process (physical, cognitive, social-emotional), and challenges of adulthood as a period of the lifespan. Further, this course focuses on critical issues in aging while strategically focusing on writing and communicating aging issues for the Human Sciences field.		Family & Child Sci	Upper Division Writing	It is not recommended this course be taken along with any IMS upper level seminar/capstone course (IHS3931, IHS4501, or IHS4901).
FAD 4451	Human Sexuality Education	3	This course examines sexuality through the lifespan regarding relationship issues and health concerns and provides training for professionals and parents in sexuality education.		Family & Child Sci		Typically offered Spring
FAD 4455	Family Life Education	3	This course provides information and techniques needed to facilitate and evaluate home, school, and community relations through the lifespan.		Family & Child Sci		Typically offered Fall
GEO 4450	Medical Geography	3	This course applies geographical concepts and techniques to health-related problems, including the ecology of health, disease diffusion, medical cartography, and health care access.	GEO 1400	Geography		Typically offered Fall and Spring

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HIS 3491	Medicine and Society	3	This course examines the development of public health and the history of medicine in the United States from the colonial period to the present. Topics cover changes in medical knowledge, the medical profession, government responsibilities, and public responses; how the health of a community can be protected; and what constitutes a public health hazard.		History	Spring 2026: Counts as an IMS non-science elective only (no longer EHE or "W"). Fall 2025: EHE, "W" Before Fall 2025: History, EHE; "W"	
HSC 4711	Wellness/Health Risk Reduction	3	In this course the emphasis is on positive lifestyle practices to reduce one's risk for disease and for the maintenance of health and vitality. Topics include health behavior, stress, psychological health, chronic diseases, sexually-transmitted infections, immunology, and psychoactive substance use and abuse.		Nutrition and Integrative Physiology		Fall, Spring, Summer <a href="#">Available online</a>
IDS 3493	Empowering Health Consumers in the eHealth Era	3	This course explores the use of emerging technologies for health information seeking, health promotion and disease prevention, and for supporting the treatment and management of chronic illnesses. Students learn how to assess users' information needs, competencies, and health behaviors in order to develop accessible, useful, and effective solutions. They also study issues and concerns influencing adoption of these technologies at different levels.		Information	SIP; "W"	
IHS3126	Comics in Medicine	3	This course examines comics and graphic novels that address issues of illness and medicine from various perspectives. Students probe how the sequentialized hybrid of word and image brings new insights to clinical experiences, as well as study the value of the graphic form as a communication and critical thinking tool that can be applied to a number of fields in healthcare and beyond.	ENC 1101, and one of the following courses; ENC1102 or ENC2135, for a total of six credits of English.	Health Sci Interdisciplinary	Fall 2025 onwards: EHE Before Fall 2025: Humanities; EHE	
IHS 4120	Frontiers in Medicine	3	This course aims to provide advanced undergraduate students the opportunity to gain an understanding of common human disease conditions through a highly interactive set of learning activities. We recommend that students have taken physiology, genetics and biochemistry. Examples of topics covered include heart failure, cancer, diabetes, depression and Alzheimer's disease.	Recommended: PCB3063, BSC2085, and BSC4053/CHM3218	Health Sci Interdisciplinary		Typically offered Spring
IHS 4123	Narrative Medicine: Patient-Centered Care, and the Individual Story	3	The humanities and arts provide insight to the human condition, suffering, personhood, and our responsibility to each other. Studying and reflecting on works of literature helps students develop and nurture skills of observation, analysis, empathy, and self-reflection.	ENC 1101, and one of the following courses; ENC1102 or ENC2135, for a total of six credits of English.	Health Sci Interdisciplinary	EHE	Typically offered Spring

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IHS 4210	Future Healthcare Challenges	3	In this course students explore challenges that will alter the environment they will step into as future healthcare providers. These challenges include a rapidly aging society, the impact of big data, global warming, changes in health care delivery systems, and the ethical implications of new technologies. This course encourages students to form their own rational approach to the analysis of complex societal issues affecting their chosen profession.	Recommended: BSC2011/L and CHM1046/L	Health Sci Interdisciplinary		Typically offered Spring
IHS 4932*	Comparative Healthcare	3		BSC2011/L and CHM1046/L	Health Sci Interdisciplinary		
ISS 4931*	ArtScience: Inquiry and Imagination	3	This course will use interdisciplinary approaches to explore dynamic intersections between the arts and sciences, focusing on how both realms use observation, interpretation, and creative thought to probe the world and construct meaning. Through readings, discussions, lectures, collaboration, and creative projects, students will engage with scientific and humanistic inquiry and will delve into topics including: creativity's entwinement with learning processes and knowledge production; ethical considerations relevant to scientific pursuit and creative expression; and metaphor in art, literature, and science. Students will cultivate scientific literacy, develop analytical and interpretive skills, and benefit from exposure to a selection of art and literature from a variety of historical and cultural contexts.		Interdisciplinary Social Science		
NUR 3053	Foundations of Lifestyle Medicine: Positive Habits for Optimal Health	3	This course examines evidence-based lifestyle medicine strategies in the prevention and management of chronic health disorders, and the promotion of well-being. Non-pharmacologic approaches such as exercise, nutrition, sleep and stress management will be discussed. Strategies for incorporating lifestyle medicine for optimal physical and mental health will be explored.		Nursing	Oral Communication	
NUR 3076	Communication in Health Care	3	This course examines various communication patterns basic to individual and group relationships. Course emphasizes the development of interactive skills paramount to effective communication with individuals and groups involved with health care issues. It provides an opportunity for the validation of oral communication and a range of public speaking experiences especially related to health care.	ENC 1101	Nursing	Oral Communication	Typically offered Summer and Fall

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PAD 4372	Leadership & Communication in Emergency Management	3	This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts, theories, principles, and practices of public information and communication in a risk environment as well as effective leadership principles in an emergency management shared power context.		Public Administration		Typically offered Spring
PAD 4833	International and Comparative Disaster Management	3	This course discusses practical and theoretical issues associated with international disaster management. Risk, hazards, and disasters are addressed from a global perspective with particular emphasis placed on the differences in key issues between developing and developed countries.		Public Administration		Typically offered Fall and Spring <b>Online only</b>
PAS 2054	Introduction to the PA (Physician Assistant) Profession	3	This course explores the history and development of the physician assistant profession. Students develop a thorough understanding of the PA's role within the healthcare system and the important role they play on the healthcare team.		Physician Assistant Practice		Typically offered Fall and Spring
PSY 4930*	Industrial & Organizational Psychology	3		PSY 2012	Psychology		<b>Must be taken under topic listed in order to count toward IMS Degree elective requirement</b>
REL 3180	Religion & Bioethics	3	The course offers an introduction to theoretical and practical issues in bioethics from the perspective of a variety of religious and secular positions.		Religion	Ethics; SIP	Typically offered Fall and Spring
SOP 3004	Social Psychology	3	This course involves scientific study of how people think about, influence, and relate to one another. Subjects include individual, cultural, behavioral, and biological levels of analysis.		Psychology		
SOW 4144	Working with Families An Interprofessional Perspective	3	This course develops students' skills necessary to work effectively in interprofessional collaborations and on multi-disciplinary teams. Focused on addressing the well-being of children and families, students will learn about working with teams that include professionals from various backgrounds including criminology, education, law, medicine, nursing, and social work. The course teaches trauma responsive care and effective communication. It focuses on leadership among teams of professionals.		Social Work		Typically offered Fall
SOW 4935*	Treating Tobacco Dependency	3	This course explores evidence based clinical and systems level interventions for treating tobacco dependency with a special focus on populations experiencing health disparities exacerbated by tobacco dependency. The course maintains a social work and public health perspective and includes a service learning component in which students have the opportunity to participate in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of community based cessation services.		Social Work		<b>Must be taken under topic listed in order to count toward IMS Degree elective requirement</b>

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SYO 4402	Medical Sociology	3	This course explains why and how social structure influences the distribution of health and illness and illustrates how the medical care system is organized and responds.		Sociology	Upper Division Writing	It is not recommended this course be taken along with any IMS upper level seminar/capstone course (IHS3931, IHS4501, or IHS4901).
SYP 3000	Social Psychology of Groups	3	This course represents the study of social psychology from a sociological perspective. Specifically, it is an analysis of the influence of the groups and the individual on each other, including the study of norms, group pressure, leadership, motivation, and social personality.		Sociology		
SYP 3730	Aging and the Life Course	3	This course introduces students to aging from a variety of perspectives, integrating information from various social science disciplines. This course focuses on several important areas of theory and research, including the way older people interface with society and the tools used to study older adults and aging processes.		Sociology	Before Fall 2025: Social Science	Available online
URP 4936*	Healthy Cities, Healthy Communities	3			Urban Planning		Must be taken under topic listed in order to count toward IMS Degree elective requirement

\*Purple highlight = special topics course, **must** be taken under topic listed in order to count toward IMS Degree elective requirement