

# HEALTH SERVICES, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)

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Program director

The Bachelor of Science in Health Services will prepare future health care leaders with the knowledge, skills and competencies to meet the challenges of managing responsibilities across the range of health care organizations. With an emphasis on evidence-based practice, the program will prepare students to work as medical and health services providers charged with planning, directing and coordinating medical and health services. Graduates will be able to work in diverse health care settings, such as hospitals, specific clinical areas or departments within those facilities, health management organizations or in medical practice groups.

The program is designed for students who wish to create a pathway into a health care field. It provides a core set of courses to build a foundation of health care knowledge. It also provides the flexibility for students to focus their studies on a particular area of interest through the selection of open and restricted elective courses. The flexibility gives students an opportunity to identify how their strengths, values and skills can best serve the health of their communities.

## Student learning outcomes

Upon completion of the B.S. in Health Services degree program, graduates will be able to:

- Describe health, illness and human development in the context of the U.S. health care system
- Analyze contemporary issues and trends in health promotion and delivery in the context of the U.S. health care system
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of professional and ethical behaviors within the health care context
- Identify and analyze cultural and economic factors impacting health disparities in the U.S. health care system
- Apply effective written and oral communications skills within the health care services context
- Analyze and apply basic theories of leadership and change management to the health care services workplace
- Evaluate and interpret evidence-based practices in the health care services context

## Degree requirements

The B.S. in Health Services requires 120 credits.

### Service-learning requirement

All students in the degree program will have a culminating experiential learning opportunity in the final semester of the senior year when they take ALHP 435. All students will receive constructive feedback from their faculty adviser and also the site supervisor for the relevant experiential and applied learning experience. The course is designed to prepare students for career search, future professional and educational opportunities, and reflective oral and written presentations on professional and ethical practice in the service-learning environment.

## Curriculum requirements

Course	Title	Hours
General education ( <a href="http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/">http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/</a> )		
Select 12-13 credits from general education foundations and 17-18 credits from areas of inquiry.		30
<b>Major requirements</b>		
• Major core requirements		
ALHP 310	Introduction to Health Care Professions	3
ALHP 320	Person-centered Care	3
ALHP 325	Introduction to Rehabilitation Services	3
ALHP 330	Human Growth and Development for the Health Professions	3
ALHP 340	Health Care Technology and Innovation	3
ALHP 410	Professional and Clinical Ethics	3
ALHP 415	Health Care Financing and Budgeting	3
ALHP 416	Health Care Economics	3
ALHP 420	Health Care Leadership Development	3
ALHP 425	Health Care Management and Performance	3
ALHP 430	Overview of Research in the Health Professions	3
ALHP 435	Health Care Career Development and Planning in Allied Health Professions	3
• Additional major requirements		
ACCT 202	Accounting for Non-business Majors	3
HCMG 300	Health Care Organization and Services	3
<b>Ancillary requirements</b>		
ECON 210	Principles of Microeconomics (satisfies general education BOK for social/behavioral sciences and AOI for global perspectives)	3
STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics (satisfies general education quantitative foundations)	3
Restricted electives (Select from the list below.)		24
<b>Open electives</b>		
Select any course.		21
Total Hours		120

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

### Restricted electives

Course	Title	Hours
BUSN 329	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	3
GRTY 410	Introduction to Gerontology	3
GRTY 510	Aging	3
INFO 360	Business Information Systems	3
MGMT 310	Managing People in Organizations	3
MGMT 331	Human Resource Management	3
PATC 511	The Professional Caregiver	4

PSYC 101 Play course video for Introduction to Psychology	Introduction to Psychology (satisfies general education BOK for social/behavioral sciences and AOI for diversities in the human experience)	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
RHAB 202	General Substance Abuse Studies	3
RHAB 321	Introduction to Substance Abuse	3
RHAB 502	American Sign Language I	3
SLWK 201	Introduction to Social Work	3
SLWK 230	Communication in the Helping Process	3
SOCY 344	Medical Sociology	3
SOCY 401	Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities	3

**Freshman year**

**Fall semester**

MATH 131 or MATH 141 or MATH 151 or MATH 200	Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics (satisfies quantitative foundation; any serves as prerequisite for STAT 210) or Algebra with Applications or Precalculus Mathematics or Calculus with Analytic Geometry I	3
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UNIV 111 Play course video for Focused Inquiry I	Focused Inquiry I (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
	General education course (select AOI for diversities in the human experience)	3
	General education course (select BOK for humanities/fine arts and AOI for creativity, innovation and aesthetic inquiry)	3
	Open elective	3

Term Hours: 15

**Spring semester**

UNIV 112 Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
	General education course (select BOK for natural sciences and AOI for scientific and logic reasoning)	3
	General education course (select any AOI)	3
	Open electives	6

Term Hours: 15

**Sophomore year**

**Fall semester**

STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	3
UNIV 200	Inquiry and the Craft of Argument (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
	General education course (select any AOI)	3
	Open electives	6

Term Hours: 15

**Spring semester**

ACCT 202	Accounting for Non-business Majors	3
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ECON 210	Principles of Microeconomics (satisfies general education BOK for social/behavioral sciences and AOI for global perspectives)	3
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Open electives 6

Restricted elective 3

Term Hours: 15

**Junior year**

**Fall semester**

ALHP 310	Introduction to Health Care Professions	3
ALHP 325	Introduction to Rehabilitation Services	3
HCMG 300	Health Care Organization and Services	3
	Restricted electives	6

Term Hours: 15

**Spring semester**

ALHP 320	Person-centered Care	3
ALHP 330	Human Growth and Development for the Health Professions	3
ALHP 340	Health Care Technology and Innovation	3
ALHP 410	Professional and Clinical Ethics	3
	Restricted elective	3

Term Hours: 15

**Senior year**

**Fall semester**

ALHP 415	Health Care Financing and Budgeting	3
ALHP 425	Health Care Management and Performance	3
ALHP 430	Overview of Research in the Health Professions	3
	Restricted electives	6

Term Hours: 15

**Spring semester**

ALHP 416	Health Care Economics	3
ALHP 420	Health Care Leadership Development	3
ALHP 435	Health Care Career Development and Planning in Allied Health Professions	3
	Restricted electives	6

Term Hours: 15

Total Hours: 120

**The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.**

**ALHP 310. Introduction to Health Care Professions. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Provides an introduction to health professions and careers with an emphasis on allied health. Introduces concepts of professionalism and interprofessional collaboration in the health care services environment; basic knowledge of issues and trends in health promotion and delivery; and cultural and economic factors impacting health equity and access.

**ALHP 320. Person-centered Care. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Provides an introduction to person-centered care and examines the relationships between patients, their families and health care providers. Emphasizes the role that these relationships and interactions play in the current health care services system and how they lead to better quality of care, increased satisfaction with health care providers and improved health outcomes.

**ALHP 325. Introduction to Rehabilitation Services. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Provides an overview of rehabilitative services. Familiarizes students in the areas of chronic illness and disability in interdisciplinary rehabilitation professions and settings. Introduces public policy and legislation pertinent to rehabilitation services.

**ALHP 330. Human Growth and Development for the Health Professions. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines the major theories and research of human development across the lifespan. Focuses on physical, emotional, social and cognitive aspects. Emphasizes how developmental processes relate to persons, including those who experience illness and disability.

**ALHP 340. Health Care Technology and Innovation. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Emphasizes the "hows and whys" of recent advances and disrupters in health care information systems. Students will design a life-saving (or money-making) app.

**ALHP 391. Special Topics. 1-4 Hours.**

Semester course; 1-4 credits. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Offered for undergraduate level. Interdisciplinary study through lectures, tutorial study or independent research of selected topics not provided in other courses.

**ALHP 410. Professional and Clinical Ethics. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Emphasizes the ethical responsibility of health care providers and health services professionals. Reviews the code of ethics for professional and personal integrity. Applies the principles of ethics toward informed decision-making.

**ALHP 415. Health Care Financing and Budgeting. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines payment for health care services. Shows how the results of financial operations are recorded and evaluated. Develops basic skills for financial management of health care organizations.

**ALHP 416. Health Care Economics. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ECON 210. Provides an introduction to microeconomic concepts and theories as tools for understanding health and health care issues. Explores the fundamentals of health and health services as markets and how these may differ from markets for other goods and services. Describes market failure and the role of government. Examines economics as a way of approaching issues of public policy in the organization and financing of health care services.

**ALHP 420. Health Care Leadership Development. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Focuses on the development of leadership skills within a health care services setting. Introduces students to positive organizational scholarship and its impact on organizational performance/outcomes and employee engagement. Provides students with an opportunity to identify and develop their leadership characteristics.

**ALHP 425. Health Care Management and Performance. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines the role of managers in health care organizations and effective management of organizational performance, including quality.

**ALHP 430. Overview of Research in the Health Professions. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: UNIV 200 and STAT 210. Emphasizes the preparation of professionals as consumers of research who will find, understand, interpret and apply research findings in their professional practice. Stresses the capacity to critically analyze and utilize research findings and evaluate the outcomes of programs, interventions and services.

**ALHP 435. Health Care Career Development and Planning in Allied Health Professions. 3 Hours.**

Semester course; 2 lecture and 1 field experience hours (60 service hours). 3 credits. Prerequisite: ALHP 310. Emphasizes the preparation of students for job search or future professional and educational opportunities. Provides an opportunity for service learning and relevant experiential, applied learning in a health services field.