

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH CARE QUALITY AND SAFETY

Program Description

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The Master of Science in Health Care Quality and Safety degree program is targeted toward health care professionals engaged or planning to be engaged in leadership roles in the quality and safety areas in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and other health care organizations. Professionals in health care quality and safety manage the strategic and operational aspects of quality operations; establish goals and standards; lead the quality improvement programs; provide training and coaching in quality improvement tools and techniques; develop, implement and monitor measures to assess quality performance; direct organization-wide quality initiatives including the National Patient Safety Initiatives; and direct ongoing monitoring of accreditation survey readiness activities.

Admission

Applicants seeking admission to the graduate program in health must submit the following directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions:

1. A Graduate Studies Application (<http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply-texas.html>) with the application fee
2. Undergraduate degree from an accredited U.S. institution
3. Official transcript(s) from all postsecondary schools attended
4. Minimum GPA of 3.0
5. Official scores for the GRE, GMAT, MCAT, DAT, LSAT, USMLE, or other graduate school entrance exams obtained within the last 5 years. This requirement may be waived if any of the following apply:
 - a. Graduate or professional degree from U.S. accredited institutions
 - b. Successfully completed 9 or more hours of graduate coursework from an accredited institution in the U.S. with no grade below a B
 - c. Evidence of a minimum of 3 years of professional supervisory experience in healthcare.
6. Writing samples:
 - a. Please include a 250-500 word essay describing your reasons for undertaking study at Sam Houston State University, and your academic objectives, career goals, and related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, relevant to your program of interest. Include any substantial accomplishments
 - b. Please provide a 500 word description of one key issue in Healthcare Quality or Patient Safety and discuss possible solutions.
7. Two letters of recommendation from:
 - a. Individuals who served in a supervisory capacity, and who can strongly attest to the applicant's work ethic, and/or
 - b. Academic instructors who can strongly attest to the applicant's academic ability
8. A CV or resume
9. Evidence of health care work experience in clinical or non-clinical settings preferred
10. On-campus or video interview with the MSHCQ&S faculty coordinator for selected competitive applicants meeting all admissions criteria
11. The program currently does not accept international students

Degree Requirements

Master of Arts in Health Care Quality and Safety (Thesis Option)

Core Coursework

HLTH 5355	Health Services Administration	3
HLTH 5371	Health Care Quality & Safety	3
HLTH 5373	Risk Mgmt in Health Care Orgs	3
HLTH 5374	Research Seminar	3
HLTH 5375	Statistical Design in Health	3
HLTH 6371	Advanced Concepts in Health Care Quality	3
HLTH 6373	Leading Change in Health Care Organizations	3
HLTH 6384	Health Care Quality & Safety Capstone	3

Internship

HLTH 6397	Internship	3
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Thesis

HLTH 6098	Thesis	3
HLTH 6399	Thesis	3

Electives

Select one course form the 5000-6000 level health: 3

HLTH 5097	Special Topics in Health (Chronic Care Coordination)	
HLTH 5333	Colqm In Human Sexuality	
HLTH 5378	Health Care Informatics	
HLTH 5384	Quality and Safety Public Reporting Systems	

Total Hours 36

Master of Arts in Health Care Quality and Safety (Non-Thesis Option)

Core Coursework

HLTH 5355	Health Services Administration	3
HLTH 5371	Health Care Quality & Safety	3
HLTH 5373	Risk Mgmt in Health Care Orgs	3
HLTH 5375	Statistical Design in Health	3
HLTH 5377	Independent Studies	3
HLTH 5378	Health Care Informatics	3
HLTH 5384	Quality and Safety Public Reporting Systems	3
HLTH 6371	Advanced Concepts in Health Care Quality	3
HLTH 6373	Leading Change in Health Care Organizations	3
HLTH 6384	Health Care Quality & Safety Capstone	3

Internship

HLTH 6397	Internship	3
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Electives

Select one course form the 5000-6000 level health: 3

HLTH 5097	Special Topics in Health (Chronic Care Coordination)	
HLTH 5333	Colqm In Human Sexuality ¹	
HLTH 5374	Research Seminar	

Total Hours 36

NOTES: All courses require Graduate Standing in the program.