Master of Science in Health Administration Course Descriptions

Taught by working experts in the health care field, online courses in the Master of Science in Health Administration program from Saint Joseph’s University combine a practice-based curriculum with the latest industry-tested theories and strategies you can immediately apply to your current organization as you build the foundation for a better career.

To earn the online master’s degree, you must complete the core, 36-credit-hour curriculum as outlined below and choose either a two-course specialization in Health care Ethics or a four-course specialization in Informatics.

Core Courses

HAD 550 Health Services Research (3 credits)
Designed to help professionals in health services critically evaluate research in their respective fields. The course will cover basic principles of research design and statistical analysis and will survey health services research approaches, including epidemiology, program evaluation, case studies, organizational analysis, ethnography, and sociology/health psychology.

HAD 552 Health Administration (3 credits)
An introduction to the principles of administration within health and human services organizations and the basic concepts of leadership and organizational theories relevant to effective administration of health care institutions. Organizations are viewed as open systems requiring constant interactions with the environment. Considerable emphasis is placed on quality improvement and organizational change.

HAD 553 Health Care Organization (3 credits)
An overview of the organization, structure, and financing of the health care delivery system in the United States. The various elements comprising the system will be presented, along with an exploration of the basic concepts and measures of health, disease, needs, quality, and utilization. Issues in health care resourcing, institutions, and system organization will be examined.

HAD 554 Health Care Law (3 credits)
An examination of the major legal issues encountered in the health care field by administrators and practitioners. Among the topics to be included are principles of liability, legal aspects of medical ethics, and legislative and regulatory factors in health care delivery.

HAD 555 Accounting for Health Care Organizations (3 credits)
An introduction to basic accounting techniques used in the health care industry.

HAD 556 Financial Management of Health Care Organizations (3 credits)
An introduction to the basic theories and practices of financial management as they relate to health care organizations. Course includes budgeting principles.

HAD 560 Health Care Informatics (3 credits)
A survey of the current use of information technology in the clinical and management practice for the health care delivery enterprise. Students will become familiar with the basic terminology, strategies, and utilization of IT as a key component in the delivery of patient care.

HAD 600 Ethics of Health Care (3 credits)
A critical examination of the central ethical issues in the health care field. Issues to be treated include euthanasia, life-prolonging medical technologies, abortion, screening for genetic defects, experimentation and informed consent, distribution of scarce medical resources, the right to health care, and its implications for the health care delivery system. Necessary background in moral philosophy will be provided.

**HAD 700 Integrative Course in Health Services (3 credits)**
An integrative capstone course in which the student is expected to integrate and synthesize prior course work and to demonstrate competence in health services through the analysis of complex cases in health services delivery and management and the development of a case of his/her own based on experience and observation. This should be the final course in the curriculum.

**HSV 551 Managed Health Care (3 credits)**
This course is an introduction to managed care including current and evolving models, terminology, and differences among insurers and payor types. The course will focus on the use of financial incentives to restrain health care costs and the role of utilization review, peer review, provider.

**Health Care Ethics Specialization**

**HED 552 Epidemiology and Community Health (3 credits)**
An introductory course exploring the basic concepts of epidemiology as a public health science, including rates and ratios, risk and association, causation and investigation of outbreak.

**HAD 559 Health Policy (3 credits)**
The formulation and analysis of health policy at federal, state, local, and corporate levels. This course presents an overview of the legislative, regulatory, and political processes and their effect on the health care system. Provides a conceptual and analytic framework for policy analysis regarding policy formulation, adoption, implementation, operation, evaluation, and termination. Pragmatic application of policy analysis tools is included.

**Informatics Specialization**

**HAD 561 Health Care and the Internet (3 credits)**
Examination of the specific roles that internet technology plays in health care. Observations and trends that play a significant role in improving the quality of health care delivery will be discussed. Various components such as intranets, extranets, knowledge management and web design concepts will be explored.

**HAD 562 Health Information Management Systems Data and Infrastructure (3 credits)**
Analysis and case study of IT networks, internets, data interchange, data access, and data management.

**HAD 563 Health Information Management Systems Applications (3 credits)**
Case study of the foundation and incorporation of the critical IT applications in the modern health care delivery enterprise. Specific applications will be explored with an emphasis placed on the practice of Managed Care.

**HAD 564 Computer-Based Patient Record (CPR) (3 credits)**
An in-depth analysis of the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) standards, requirements, attributes, and benefits of the CPR and its use in the health care delivery enterprise. The use of data warehouses, data repositories, and integration technology will be explored relevant to CPR development along with the various issues and strategies for implementation.

To learn more about the online Master of Science in Health Administration curriculum from Saint Joseph's University and what it can do for your career, call (866) 758-7670 to speak with an admissions advisor, or you can request more information and we'll reach out to you.
HAD