

# HEALTH EQUITY SCIENCES - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

## Program Description

The doctoral program in Health Equity Sciences (HES) focuses on health disparities and equity from public health, population health, and community health perspectives. Underserved and marginalized groups experience health disparities attributable to economic, social, cultural, and environmental disadvantages at higher rates than other groups. The HES program provides advanced training to prepare graduates to become health equity researchers and to assume leadership positions in governmental (local, state, federal) and non-governmental agencies, public health and social justice organizations, health care organizations, and institutions of higher learning. Graduates will have the ability to conduct original research that addresses complex health problems, develop culturally competent community-based programs, and design and conduct program evaluations. They will be able to apply their expertise in research methodology, statistical analysis, and health communication in many settings, including rural, tribal, border, and other underserved communities. The focus of the program will be on research to address existing and emerging health disparities and health equity. Through a cooperative agreement with the University of New Mexico, students are provided with advanced comprehensive training to prepare them for positions of leadership in state, federal, and global governmental and non-governmental agencies, public health and social justice organizations, health care provider organizations, and institutions of higher learning.

## Program Curriculum

NOTE: Students will participate in a mix of program-specific courses using the HES (i.e., Health Equity Sciences) prefix and graduate-level courses from across the NMSU campus and from UNM by cooperative arrangement/MOU. All HES courses will be at the doctoral level (6000 or 7000), including content offerings and research/dissertation hours; courses from across the NMSU campus will be graduate-level (5000 or higher).

Prefix	Title	Credits
<b>Core courses (24 Credits)</b>		
HESC 6110	Doctoral Seminar in Health Equity	3
HESC 6120	Quantitative Research Methods in Health Equity Sciences	3
HESC 6130	Seminar in Behavioral and Social Change for the Promotion of Health Equity	3
HESC 6250	Design and Evaluation of Programs to Promote Health Equity	3
<b>Qualitative Research Elective</b>		
CEPY 6410 Introduction to Qualitative Research ANTH 579 Qualitative Data Analysis and Interpretation SOCI 5157 Seminar in Qualitative Research Methods COMM 5140 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication		
HESC 6210	Advanced Multiple Regression for Health Equity Sciences	3
HESC 6220	Regression-Based Structural Equation Modeling for Health Equity Sciences	3
Statistics/Methods Elective (3 SCH; from a menu of HES and existing NMSU courses)		
<b>Tracks (12 hours)</b>		

Select one four-course track: 1. Environmental & Occupational Health 2. Socio-Cultural & Behavioral Sciences 3. Health Across the Lifespan 4. Health Administration & Policy 5. Applied Biostatistics (shared NMSU & UNM)	
Track Elective Courses <sup>1</sup>	12
Completion of Preliminary Paper/Comprehensive Exam <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Research and dissertation courses (18 hours)</b>	<b>18</b>
HESC 6991	Doctoral Research
HESC 6997	Independent Study
HESC 7000	Doctoral Dissertation
Completion of Written dissertation and oral defense <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>54</b>

<sup>1</sup> Track Elective courses will be determined with the consultation of the student's advisor.

<sup>2</sup> Pass written and oral components of the preliminary paper/comprehensive exam

<sup>3</sup> Pass written and oral components of the dissertation