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 **Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry**

**2022-2023**

**OVERVIEW**

The UTHeath School of Dentistry, in conjunction with the McGovern Center for Humanities and Ethics at the UTHealth McGovern Medical School, is pleased to offer dental students a Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry. Since 2007, the McGovern Center has offered a Medical Humanities and Ethics Certificate Program for medical students. The Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry is the first of its kind in any United States dental school.

The Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry encompasses the first three years of dental school training, with structured programs and learning opportunities that allow students to reflect, share, and work together to enhance their individual and collective capacities to see and care for the patient. Students completing this program have their certificates conferred at a banquet in May each year. They also receive recognition at the School of Dentistry Senior Awards Banquet.

The program offers students the opportunity to enrich their humanities education through participation in elective courses, lecture series, writing workshops, and production of an original scholarly work.

**PROGRAM GOALS**

* To enhance the traditional dental curriculum, given that dentistry is both an art and a science.
* To explore health care through the lenses of history, ethics, law, literature, religion and spirituality, social sciences, cultural studies, and the arts by providing students with insight into the human condition and a patient-centered approach to health care.
* To enhance students’ abilities to cultivate that most important instrument of healing—their individual selves.
* To assist students in becoming culturally competent, ethical, and compassionate caregivers.

**ADMISSION TO THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

To apply to the Clinical Humanities Certificate Program, please fill out the application at the end of this message and email it to one of the co-directors of the program, listed below. Applications for admission may be submitted during the fall or spring of the student’s first year. Each year’s class is limited to a maximum of ten students.

On the application, it is recommended that students pay special attention to the “Personal Statement” section. Responses to these questions are important for us to better understand the student as an individual as well as their goals and interests in clinical humanities.

Applications will be reviewed by the co-directors of the program.

**GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING REQUIREMENT**

The student must maintain good academic standing in all courses to remain in the Clinical Humanities Certificate Program.

**MAKE-UP CREDIT**

Requirements for each academic year must be completed by the end of that academic year. In the event a student is unable to meet the stated program requirements, make-up credit may be obtained for each event missed by successfully completing a make-up assignment. The deadline for make-up work is one month after notification of the deficiency.

**COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM**

No student may receive the certificate without the approval of the co-directors, and the co-directors retain the discretion to drop a student from the Certificate Program for failure to comply with any of the requirements or for other good cause. The co-directors shall also have authority to modify, waive or reconfigure the program requirements where necessary to promote equity and fairness in the event of unforeseen complications or exigent circumstances.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Dr. Deborah Franklin, Co- Director

SOD 5412; 713-486-4291

**Deborah.R.Franklin@uth.tmc.edu**

**Dr. Nathan Carlin****,** Co-Director

JJL 450, 713-500-5080

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**Requirements for Students**

**DS1 Year**

1. Actively participate in SPEA (Student Professional Ethics Program)
2. Attend at least 2 events related to ethics or humanities\*. Document all events with a one-page reflection on the event in Canvas.
3. Participate in 1 course offered in the Humanities and Ethics electives (e.g., Art of Observation, Ethics: Historical Lessons, Pathographies of Mental Illness)

**DS2 Year**

1. Attend 2 of 4 Program Meetings
2. Actively participate in SPEA
3. Participate in 1 course offered in the Humanities and Ethics electives (e.g., Art of Observation, Ethics: Historical Lessons, Pathographies of Mental Illness)
4. Attend at least 3 events related to ethics or humanities\*. Document all events with a one-page reflection on the event in Canvas.
5. Spring semester: Turn in one-page outline for final project.

**DS3 Year**

1. Attend 2 of 4 Program Meetings
2. Actively participate in SPEA
3. Journaling Requirement
	1. Attend 1 writing workshop (there will be three offered during the year)
	2. Write 3 sets of journal entries during the year
4. Participate in 1 course offered in the Humanities and Ethics electives (e.g., Art of Observation, Ethics: Historical Lessons, Pathographies of Mental Illness, Sacred Sites) or in a Medical School Blue Book elective
5. Attend at least 3 events related to ethics or humanities\*. Document all events with a one-page reflection on the event in Canvas.
6. Fall Semester: Turn in draft of final project.
7. Spring Semester: Turn in completed final project.

The Final Project should be an original manuscript (such as a case report or commentary) ready to submit to a professional journal **OR** produce an original blog, vlog, podcast, video, artwork, sculpture,photographic essay or other creative project relating to the humanistic aspect of patient treatment.

1. Complete documentation of events in Canvas.

\* Events related to ethics or humanities will be advertised by email. They will typically involve lectures and other special opportunities in the Health Science Center, at Rice University, or in the Houston community