

Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry

OVERVIEW

The UTHealth School of Dentistry, in conjunction with the McGovern Center for Humanities and Ethics at 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 Scholarly Concentration 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 all four 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 and special designation at graduation as a John P. McGovern Humanities Scholar.

The program offers students the opportunity to enrich their humanities education through participation in elective courses, lecture series, volunteer opportunities, writing workshops, and production of an original scholarly or creative 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 science, 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. For students who do not apply during the first year, second year student applications will also be considered for enrollment on a case-by-case basis. 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. To replace a missing event, students must complete a two-page, single-spaced paper (1000 words) on an assigned reading; the assigned reading will relate to the missed event. The deadline for make-up work is one month after notification of the deficiency.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Dr. Nathan Carlin, Co-Director
JL 450, 713-500-5080
Nathan.Carlin@uth.tmc.edu

Dr. Deborah Franklin, Co-Director
SOD 5412; 713-486-4291
Deborah.R.Franklin@uth.tmc.edu

Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry: 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 appropriate event assignment in Canvas.
3. Upload completion of requirements in Canvas.

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, Sacred Sites)
4. Attend at least 3 events related to ethics or humanities.* Document all events with a one-page reflection posted to the appropriate assignment links in Canvas.
5. Service Learning Requirement: Students must engage in a volunteer activity, write a 1-page reflection paper on the activity, and include photo documentation of the activity in the appropriate assignment link in Canvas.
4. Upload completion of requirements in Canvas.

DS3 Year

1. Attend 2 of 4 Program Meetings
2. Actively participate in SPEA
3. Journaling Requirement
 - a. Attend 1 writing workshop (there will be five offered during the year, two of which will be at the School of Dentistry).
 - b. Write 3 sets of journal entries during the year (journals are uploaded in Canvas).
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 McGovern Medical School Blue Book elective
5. Attend at least 3 events related to ethics or humanities.* Document all events with a one-page reflection posted to the appropriate assignment links in Canvas
6. Upload completion of requirements in Canvas.

DS4 Year

1. Attend 2 of 4 Program Meetings
2. Actively participate in SPEA
3. Attend at least 3 events related to ethics or humanities.* Document all events with a one-page reflection posted to the appropriate assignment links in Canvas.
4. Final Project Requirement: produce 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 aspects of patient treatment. A PowerPoint presentation is required to complete the Final Project.
5. Upload completion of requirements in Canvas.

Students are expected to maintain a record of their program activities (journal entries, service learning reflection paper, list of event attendance for the academic year, Final Project requirements, etc.) and submit documentation in Canvas assignments.

* 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.

**Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION
2021-2022**

Thank you for your interest in becoming a part of the Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry. This application may be returned to either of the co-directors of the program during your first year, or during the fall semester of your second year. Return to:

Dr. Nathan Carlin, Co-Director
JLJ 450, 713-500-5080
Nathan.Carlin@uth.tmc.edu

Dr. Deborah Franklin, Co- Director
SOD 5412; 713-486-4291
Deborah.R.Franklin@uth.tmc.edu

1. About You

Name:

Phone:

Email:

What was your major and minor course of study in undergraduate work?

Major:

Minor:

Do you have any additional experience or special skills in the humanities that you would like us to know about?

2. Personal Statement

Please attach a written statement describing your interest in humanities and ethics. You may include personal experiences or formal training, or anything that you believe will help us evaluate your interest. In your statement, please describe your specific goals for your work in the Clinical Humanities Certificate Program at the School of Dentistry

3. Interview

We want to meet you in person! The Program Co-Directors, Dr. Deborah Franklin and Dr. Nathan Carlin, will review your application and you will be contacted to set up a time to meet for a brief visit.

4. Other Information

If you have any additional questions or concerns, you are encouraged to contact Dr. Carlin or Dr. Franklin at Nathan.Carlin@uth.tmc.edu or Deborah.R.Franklin@uth.tmc.edu for assistance.