Health Administration

The Master of Health Administration (MHA) program is a comprehensive program that prepares students for administration roles in healthcare organizations. Courses are accelerated and offered in eight week formats to expedite completion. To earn the MHA, students must successfully complete:

1. 39 credit hours of the core MHA courses including: MHA 510, MHA 511, MHA 520, MHA 531, MHA 536, MHA 551, MHA 555, MHA 556, MHA 566, MHA 575, MHA 580, MHA 582, and MHA 585
2. MHA 593 - Individual Research/Residency - 6 credit hours. Culminates in either a final scholarly work outlined by the SIU Graduate School or a Residency in a health care setting approved by the University and Instructor.

To facilitate completion of the program, the course of instruction will consist of 45 semester hours. As part of the 45 semester hours, students will complete a graduate residency (also known as a graduate internship) or research paper. The graduate residency will focus on one of the areas of healthcare management whereas students can apply coursework to real-world settings. The graduate residency is a six credit hour experience where one credit hour is equivalent to 50 contact hours. A total of 300 contact hours is required for successful completion.

Course material covers topics specific to the healthcare field including, but not limited to, effective organizational operations, healthcare systems, health policy, healthcare supply chain and inventory management or controlled substances, strategic leadership for differing healthcare settings, health promotion, legal and ethical foundations, managerial epidemiology and evidence based management, and financial issues specific to the healthcare industry such as charge masters and relative value units, etc. Upon completion of the program, students are expected to be equipped to operate effectively in administrative roles in healthcare organizations. Special project assignments, case readings, presentations, and journal article reviews are an integral part of the curriculum. Delivery will be via synchronous and asynchronous methods.

All students graduating from the MHA program will be required to meet the qualifications of the Graduate School at SIU. Students will be required to complete a culminating scholarly work which includes a research paper if not completing the graduate residency/internship option.

Students earning less than a B twice in any individual MHA courses are dropped from the MHA program due to poor academic performance. Students dropped due to poor academic performance will not be allowed re-entry into the MHA program at a later date.

Note: Not all healthcare organizations or facilities may act as residency sites due to the ability to meet achievable objectives of the program and/or residency course, state-to-state licensure/permissions, and/or upper SIU administrative approvals.

A 2.7 GPA from the student’s undergraduate program is required for admission to the MHA program. Students with a 2.5-2.7 undergraduate GPA may enter as a Non-Declared student, following Graduate School Policies, and will be allowed to take up to 9 credit hours of MHA courses. At the end of the 9 credit hours, the student must hold a 3.0 GPA to be then admitted to the MHA program. Students not meeting the 3.0 GPA at the end of the 9 credit hours will not be allowed to take any other MHA courses.

Students participating in a residency may be required to undergo a criminal background check and drug-screening. Students who do not satisfactorily pass the background check and/or drug screening may find it difficult to secure a residency in the field of health care and may be removed from the MHA program or administratively required to complete the individual research project included in MHA 593 instead.
Certificate in Clinical Leadership

The Certificate in Clinical Leadership is open to post-bachelor level students who hold a license in a clinical specialty. It is designed to provide the knowledge and skills specialized for roles in clinical leadership and/or as a preparatory certificate for graduate education. Courses in the certificate are specific to patient care environments and will include, but not be limited to: strategic planning, operations, human resource planning, health information, and evidence based managerial decision making specific to patient care environments. Students must complete 18 semester hours of graduate level study, all at SIU, with a C or above in all required courses which includes:

- MHA 510, 3 - Effective Health Care Operations (same as MHI 531)
- MHA 531, 3 - Human Resources in Healthcare (same as MHI 531)
- MHA 536, 3 - Strategic Leadership in Healthcare (same as MHI 536)
- MHA 566, 3 - Managing Health Information (same as MHI 566)
- MHA 580, 3 - Managerial Epidemiology and Evidence Based Management (same as MHI 580)
- MHA 585, 3 - Financial Issues in Healthcare (Same as MHI 585)

Students earning a grade lower than a C may retake individual courses only once. If a grade of C or higher is not received on the second attempt of an individual course, the student is removed from the certificate program due to academic performance.

For more information contact:

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Health Administration Courses

MHA510 - HC Operations 510-3 Effective Healthcare Operations. An investigation of the functions of HCOs compared to other business operations including logistics and supply chain control. Addresses excessive resource spending focusing on support systems and ineffective operational issues within constraints of highly regulated healthcare sector. eCommerce, hospital materials supply, inventory control of medical supplies/controlled substances, vendor collaboration, purchasing/receiving, and total value analysis explored with PERT/CPM, mathematical programming and quality controls. Restricted to School graduate majors.

MHA511 - Fundamentals HC Systems 511-3 Fundamentals of Health Care Systems. This course provides a multi-disciplinary analysis and is designed to provide students with information pertaining to the issues surrounding access to care, medical technology, and the complex financial structures of the healthcare system. Students will extensively examine aspects of the complex healthcare system such as managed care, Medicare, Medicaid, pharmaceuticals, health promotion and disease prevention, and the quality of care. Restricted to School graduate majors.

MHA520 - Healthcare Policy 520-3 Healthcare Policy. Explores the public policy interventions within the varying healthcare domains and defines the theoretical reasons for pursuing policy development in the presence of intense political, bureaucratic, and social environments within the healthcare industry. The effects, consequences, and social implications of policy decisions are evaluated through real-world case analysis of actual public health policies. Focus is placed on how policies impact patients and medical providers. Restricted to School graduate majors.

MHA531 - Human Resources in Health Care 531-3 Human Resources in Health Care. (Same as MHI 531) Describes the key human resource functions that play a significant role in the healthcare environment and focuses specifically on how those functions support management initiatives and Joint Commission accreditation and/or regulatory compliance. Extensive review of how the failure to systematically apply effective human resource strategies can result in organizational demise is
conducted. Explores the dynamic legal and regulatory environment and carefully examines how legislative changes influence the healthcare organization overall focusing particularly on those functions that are linked to patient satisfaction and balanced scorecards and/or benchmarking of provider performance.

**MHA536 - HC Leadership/Strategy** 536-3 Strategic Leadership in Healthcare. This course provides students with an examination of nature, function, and techniques of administration and supervision in HCOs. Topics include the ever-changing healthcare environment and trends impacting leadership competencies. Specific healthcare factors that influence organizing managing of varying health systems such as hospitals vs. ambulatory care. Focus will be given on the professional bureaucracy that is complex given regulatory issues, political factors, and the era of the informed patient. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA551 - HC Legal/Ethics** 551-3 Legal & Ethical Fundamentals in Healthcare. This course provides students with an analysis of the legal and ethical environment of the healthcare industry. Focused on the healthcare environment, the course closely examines the judicial process pertaining to torts, contracts, antitrust, corporate compliance, access to care, negligence, and professional liability. The nature of ethics in the multi-cultural healthcare environment is examined with analysis of the moral issues in healthcare. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA555 - HC Promotion and Evaluation** 555-3 Theories of Health Promotion and Evaluation. An exploration of the concepts, theories, and status of research in health promotion and disease prevention emphasizing varying methods used to modify the health-related behaviors of groups and individuals. This course examines methods of ascertaining health behaviors, the design and interpretation of behavioral intervention programs to modify behaviors, and current trends in the study of how lifestyle and preventive health practices the field of health care. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA556 - HC Research** 556-3 Individual Research in Healthcare. This course requires students to complete a research project in the field of healthcare based upon student interest and instructor approval. Each project will have a written paper as a final product and this paper will be submitted for publication, as approved by the instructor, in one of the professional journals within the field of healthcare. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA566 - Managing Health Information** 566-3 Managing Health Information. A detailed review of the components of an information system as utilized for the capture of health information. Focus is on EHR, HIPAA, and implementation of information systems in healthcare organizations. Classification systems, clinical terminology, and use of health information in terms of operational management and decision making will be explored. Emerging technologies related to the security of health information management are explored. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA575 - Current Events in HC** 575-3 Current Events Seminar in Healthcare. A current issues seminar course for the field of healthcare where students identify and analyze legislative changes/mandates, healthcare reform, governmental oversight, etc. Students conduct presentations and may participate in discussions with healthcare professionals via a variety of potential classroom methods including, but not limited to, live video conferencing, podcasts, and/or discussion postings, etc. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA580 - Epidemiology and EBM** 580-3 Managerial Epidemiology and Evidence Based Management. Epidemiological principles pertinent to the delivery, management, and marketing of healthcare services. Examines evidence- and population-based decisions which are critical to effective delivery of patient care. Utilizes evidence-based theories to prepare the students to identify management problems and develop related paths of focused inquiry. Restricted to School graduate majors.

**MHA582 - Healthcare Economics** 582-3 Healthcare Economics. Covers micro-economic theory focusing on patient demand for services and supply of services based on the complex regulatory environment in healthcare organizations. Students will learn to analyze health policies, as well as the behaviors of patients, insurers, and physicians in varying HCOs. Issues will be explored such as fee structuring; controversial policy issues, such as access to care and/or the medically under-insured or uninsured; the demand and mandate of health insurance; and the increased presence of governmental control that impacts healthcare economics. Restricted to School graduate majors and School advisor.
MHA585 - Financial Issues in Healthcare 585-3 Financial Issues in Healthcare. A macro-examination of the role of finance in healthcare. Emphasis is not on financial formulas, but rather on the application of financial information within the healthcare sector. Discussion of charge-masters, healthcare payment systems and sources of revenue, profit vs. duty, regulatory issues and profit maximization, provider payments and pricing in capitated-managed care markets, and IDS, etc. Case principles specifically related to the healthcare field are completed. Restricted to School graduate majors.

MHA593 - Adv Research/Residency 593-6 Advanced Research/Residency. Students choose research project or residency. Research option includes special project related to administration in the student's chosen field which meets Graduate School guidelines. Students selecting residency option must notify the academic advisor one year PRIOR to enrolling in MHA 593 to complete MOU process. Research option is the only available option if residency deadline missed. Residency sites are in healthcare facilities only and subject to approval of the instructor and University. 1 credit = 50 contact hours. 300 contact hours required. Hours/credit arranged individually. Restrictions may apply based on state-to-state rules. Restricted to School graduate majors and School advisor.

MHA601 - Continuing Enrollment 601-1 Continuing Enrollment. This course is required to satisfy the Graduate School's requirement of continuous enrollment and is intended for those students who are enrolled in the program but cannot take a core academic course during a given semester. Consent of SAH Academic Advisor.

Health Administration Faculty

Aydin, Serdar, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of South Carolina, 2018.
Collins, Sandra K., Professor, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2010.
Shaw, Thomas A., Associate Professor, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2005.

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Catalog Year Statement:
Students starting their collegiate training during the period of time covered by this catalog (see bottom of this page) are subject to the curricular requirements as specified herein. The requirements herein will extend for a seven calendar-year period from the date of entry for baccalaureate programs and three years for associate programs. Should the University change the course requirements contained herein subsequently, students are assured that necessary adjustments will be made so that no additional time is required of them.