

## **Summer Preceptorship Course Introduction to Medical Humanities IMH 1050**

The Preceptorship will explore the various disciplines that make up the medical humanities and explain how each offers a unique perspective for understanding issues in health care. Students will develop creative, critical, analytic, and reflective thinking and problem solving skills to produce reasoned arguments that incorporate multiple viewpoints and differing contexts. Learning the skills of self-awareness, a deeper understanding of the varieties of human experience, and cultural sensitivity will enable students to nurture attitudes important for the clinical practice of medicine in a social context.

*Introduction to Medical Humanities* will provide an anchoring experience for the proposed SOM Track in Medical Humanities that could also be of value in the Global Health and Public Health tracks. Please note, however, that this elective is available to all SOM students; there is no requirement that a student be part of the Track in Medical Humanities to enroll.

Participants will apply the perspectives of the disciplines represented by the IMH faculty to three concrete case studies: a clinical ethics case; a policy case relating to U.S. health reform; and a case involving global health and public health.

The course will consist of Independent reading and study plus three 2-hour course sessions per week, conducted in seminar/ group discussion format and with assigned readings for each. The first two class sessions will provide a course introduction and overview and a summary of the history and content of the medical humanities. The next nine sessions will be presented by individual IMH or associated faculty, each covering an individual topic:

- clinical and research ethics
- theoretical ethics and philosophy of medicine
- history of medicine
- literature and medicine
- religion and medicine
- visual arts/ theater and medicine
- law, policy and medicine
- global and cross-cultural issues from a humanities perspective
- public health issues from a humanities perspective

The course director will attend all these sessions to provide continuity. The three case studies will be presented in the first two sessions and faculty will refer to these case studies to illustrate the materials presented in the following sessions. The final session will be a wrap-up and integration session with student oral presentations based on one of the three case studies. Students will also be expected to attend any IMH presentations, grand rounds, colloquia, etc., offered during the month of the elective. For more information please see:

<http://meded.utmb.edu/SummerPreceptorships/brochure.asp>