

Special Major in Medical Anthropology (Fall 2019- Spring 2026)

Requirements, at least 10 credits:

1. [ANTH 001](#). Foundations: Culture, Power, Meaning
 2. one methods course in the SOAN department
 3. Senior Research Project (to be discussed with advisor and developed beginning with declaration of special major)
 4. Must complete at least one of the following two courses in the SOAN department:
 - [ANTH 043E](#). Culture, Health, and Illness
 - [ANTH 049B](#). Comparative Perspectives on the Body
 5. Five additional courses with a maximum of four credits outside of the department
- Additional recommended SOAN courses include:
 - [ANTH 002F](#). Anthropology of Childhood and the Family
 - [ANTH 003G](#). First-Year Seminar: Development and its Discontents
 - [ANTH 039C](#). Food and Culture
 - [ANTH 053B](#). Anthropology of Public Health
 - [ANTH 133](#). Anthropology of Biomedicine
 - [SOCI 001](#). Foundations: Self, Culture, and Society
 - [SOAN 035](#). Environmental Justice: Theory and Action
 - Up to four credits from outside of the department, may be included as part of the special major, with permission from SOAN. **Please note** that no more than one credit from any single department will be counted toward this special major. Students are encouraged to tailor their courses outside the department to their particular areas of interest. Some recommended courses at Swarthmore include:
 - [ECON 075](#). Health Economics
 - [ENGL 002M](#). Medical Writing and Rhetoric
 - [ENVS 035](#). Environmental Justice: Theory and Action
 - [HIST 066](#). The Social Construction of Diseases in the Modern World
 - [HIST 067T](#). The Pandemic of Cigarette Smoking: Habit, Addiction and Public Health in the Big Tobacco Archives
 - [HIST 080](#). History of the Body
 - [POLS 048](#). The Politics of Population
 - [POLS 068](#). Politics of Public Health
 - [PSYC 038](#). Clinical Psychology
 - [RELG 031](#). Healing Praxis and Social Justice
 - Additionally, students are encouraged to explore course offerings in the Tri-co Health Studies Program and at the Health & Societies program at the University of Pennsylvania. Studying abroad could also be a valuable opportunity for the study of medical anthropology. Please consult with your advisor for guidance on course selection beyond Swarthmore.
 - In putting together the special major, it is advisable that the student only designate ten courses as part of the major. That way there will be no problems with the 20-course rule.