

CTSC 5870

Social & Behavioral Foundations of Health in Health Sciences Research

Faculty: David T. Eton, Ph.D. and Carmen Radecki Breitkopf, Ph.D.

Credits: 1

Quarter: Spring

Prerequisites: None

Overview

This course is designed to help students develop a basic understanding of the role of social constructs and behavioral processes in health and interaction with the healthcare system. It is intended to provide insight into concepts and theories of social and health behavior. The underlying framework of the course is the bio psychosocial model of health; a perspective that health is influenced by biologic, social, behavioral, and environmental factors that frequently interacts with each other. Students will engage in discussion and give a presentation on an approved topic of their choosing about social and behavioral determinants in relationship to clinical and translational research.

Objectives

- To describe key concepts and theoretical frameworks associated with social and behavioral determinants of health
- To describe and critique ways in which social and behavioral factors influence the delivery of health care and impact human health
- To recognize the role of social-environmental factors and personal-individual resources in health
- To apply a theoretical orientation including at least one social or behavioral determinant of health to a specific health topic of interest and identify challenges in that domain or topic
- To describe specific causes and examples of socio-economic differences in health

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on their class participation, a mid-term exam, a presentation, and a final paper.

Students will be expected to spend two to four hours per week on this 1-credit course.

For specific dates and times this course is provided, please see the [quarterly detailed course schedule](#).