

Health Equity Science - Graduate Certificate

The graduate Certificate in Health Equity Science (CHES) is administered through the College of Human Sciences (CHS) under the purview of the Health Disparities Research Initiative (HDRI). The graduate CHES is part of the training mission of HDRI, which is aimed at cultivating scholarship on health ecology and equity, and developing leaders committed to address health inequities. This is achieved by helping students acquire a strong foundation of knowledge on health ecology and equity issues. In addition, the graduate CHES exposes students to a breadth of advanced topics in health ecology and equity and facilitates gaining depth of knowledge on specialized topics. Graduate students completing this certificate will have a strong understanding of the role of social context in generating disease risks and disparities in health between groups; and also learn how this corpus of knowledge can be translated into health-promoting policies and community-level interventions. Beyond the certificate, students also have the opportunity to gain skills in research on specific health equity topics through thesis or dissertation research.

HDFS 6930	Society and Health	3
HDFS 6950	Seminar on Health Ecology and Equity	3
Three (3) additional semester hours through elective courses ¹ :		
HDFS 6300	HDFS and Social Policy	3
Total Hours		9

¹ Elective courses relevant to the certificate vary from year to year. Courses are likely to qualify if the majority of their content is focused on health equity science or social inequality. Please email course syllabus to Dr. Thomas Fuller-Rowell (tfr1@auburn.edu) to obtain approval for a course to count towards the certificate.

Steps to Obtain the Certificate:

1. Submit an application for the certificate program through [ApplyYourself](#), choosing “Graduate Certificate in Health Equity Science program” as the course of study, and then email Tom Fuller-Rowell (tfr1@auburn.edu) and Stephen Erath (sae0001@auburn.edu) to let them know that you have applied. Note that Auburn University employees and current graduate students are exempted from the application fee requirement.
2. Complete the course requirements that are specified in the certificate description and obtain a grade of B or better in all courses. Note that it is okay to complete some of the course requirements before applying for the certificate.
3. During the semester before you complete the last course required for the certificate (e.g., the fall semester if you will complete the last course in the spring semester), submit a Graduation Application through AU Access (AU Access > My Academics > Grad Application).