



**NORTHWESTERN
HEALTH SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY**

University Catalog Addendum
Summer 2026 Term

May 6th, 2026

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Academic Policy

Attendance and Absence Policy

Purpose

This policy establishes expectations for student attendance, academic engagement, and communication regarding absences. Engagement in all learning environments is essential to student learning, success, and compliance with institutional and federal requirements.

The policy outlines the shared responsibilities of students and faculty in managing absences, maintaining accurate records, and promoting student success in alignment with academic integrity and financial aid requirements.

This policy is not intended to replace the established academic accommodation process for documented disabilities or other forms of leave (e.g., military, pregnancy and childbirth). Students who wish to establish accommodation through the Disability Services Office should contact the Student Affairs office to initiate that process.

Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in all academic offerings.

Policy

Students are expected to meet the attendance requirements in the course syllabus and abide by the requirements of the Course Participation Policy for each course in which they are enrolled.

When absences occur or are anticipated, students are required to notify the instructor or clinic supervisor as soon as possible and follow the instructor's directions for missed work, assessments, or performance. The instructor or clinic supervisor has discretion to determine if and how missed coursework, labs, or clinical hours can be made up.

Absences that prevent a student from completing critical learning activities may necessitate additional action according to the relevant governing policy.

Effective: May 6th, 2026

Procedure

Definitions

Academic Offering

Any credit bearing or non-credit bearing synchronous, asynchronous, online, hybrid, hyflex, lab, or clinical experience for which a student is enrolled.

Tutorial

A structured instructional activity that supports course objectives through guided learning activities such as practice, discussion, problem-solving, or review.

- i. Instructors must establish and clearly communicate course-specific attendance and absence expectations in the course syllabus and/or clinic handbook.
- ii. The course syllabus must specify any associated penalties or grade impacts, procedures for making up missed assignments, assessments, or clinic hours, when permitted, and consequences for excessive or unexcused absences, which may include grade deductions, ineligibility to make up work, or administrative withdrawal from the course. Course and clinic attendance requirements must align with applicable, program- or clinic-specific requirements as outlined in the relevant Clinic Handbook.
- iii. Students who fail to participate in substantive course requirements according to the course syllabus, and without prior approval from the course instructor prior to census day may be subject to administrative drop.
- iv. Following the Add/Drop Period, faculty are responsible for monitoring student attendance and participation and for reporting students who are no longer engaged in academically related activities in accordance with institutional and federal financial aid requirements. Continued non-attendance or failure to respond to faculty outreach may result in administrative withdrawal from the course. Students will be notified when administrative withdrawal is pending and must respond promptly if they wish to remain enrolled in the course.
- v. Students who are unable to continue in a course are responsible for initiating official withdrawal prior to the published withdrawal deadline. A grade of "UF" is awarded to students who did not officially withdraw from the course, but who failed to participate in course activities through the end of the period. Withdrawal from a course may affect financial aid eligibility. Students should consult with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing to understand potential implications.

Curriculum Overview

Program Changes

Certificate in Shiatsu

Curriculum Overview

The Shiatsu Certificate provides massage therapy professionals with education in Chinese medicine and Shiatsu, supplying additional training that increases scope of practice as a healthcare professional. Clinical rotations provide opportunities to integrate both massage and Shiatsu techniques within treatment sessions. Shiatsu is therapeutic bodywork from Japan based on principles of Chinese Medicine combined with modern anatomy and physiology. Shiatsu is non-invasive, performed without oils through light, comfortable clothing, and uses soothing, kneading, pressing, tapping and stretching techniques. Shiatsu stimulates and harmonizes the flow of “Qi” (vital energy) throughout the body and has both preventative and therapeutic effects. It is beneficial for a wide range of internal and musculoskeletal conditions. Through the unique lens of Chinese medicine, students adopt a new view of the body: assessing and balancing the energetic system to contribute to overall health and well-being. Each Shiatsu session is specifically designed according to client indications, and students learn to integrate both massage therapy and Shiatsu therapy throughout their educational experience. Enrollment is open to graduates from an accredited massage therapy program, students concurrently enrolled in the NWSU healthcare programs, and other healthcare practitioners with qualifying experience and training.

Graduation Requirements

The Shiatsu Certificate is granted to those candidates who have:

- Completed the required curriculum with a grade of C or better.
- Completed the required 19 total credits.
- Demonstrated competency in clinic and completed internship and field experience requirements.
- Earned a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better.
- Successfully passed the written comprehensive exam.

Core Course Requirements:

MTSU-1100 FUNDAMENTALS OF CHINESE MEDICINE THEORY (3)

MTSU-1120 FOUNDATIONS OF SHIATSU THERAPY (3)

MTSU-1140 PATTERNS AND PATHOLOGY OF CHINESE MEDICINE THEORY (3)

MTSU-1160 SHIATSU TECHNIQUES AND APPLICATIONS 1 (3)

MTSU-1200 SHIATSU TECHNIQUES AND APPLICATIONS 2 (2)

MTSU-1220 SHIATSU CLINIC TRAINING AND SUMMARY SESSION (2)

MTSU-1240 SHIATSU STUDENT CLINIC (2)

Additional Course Requirement:

INCR-1001 FOUNDATIONS OF INTEGRATIVE CARE (1)

Total Credit Hours: 19

Bachelor of Science in Human Biology for Chiropractic Students

Curriculum Overview

The Bachelor of Science in Human Biology for Chiropractic Students allows students to complete the course requirements for a bachelor's degree. Students may either complete a bachelor's degree or earn a second bachelor's degree.

Statement of Purpose

There are both professional and practical reasons to complete your B.S. in Human Biology. In addition to the thorough grounding in the biological sciences offered by courses taken in the first four terms of the Doctor of Chiropractic program, the B.S. in Human Biology degree completion program offers these benefits:

Professionally, develop oral and written communication skills and understanding of the philosophical foundations for the scientific method.

Having a bachelor's degree will generally increase credibility to serve as an expert witness, if called to testify in court.

In general, a bachelor's degree increases professional credentials and provides the opportunity to excel in chiropractic practice.

An increasing number of states require a bachelor's degree for chiropractic licensure, and some managed care organizations show a preference for chiropractors with a bachelor's degree when making network inclusion decisions.

The B.S. in Human Biology will help with meeting licensure procedures in states that require a bachelor's degree prior to obtaining a license to practice. Some state licensing boards may require additional education upon beginning a chiropractic program. For more information, please consult with the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards at www.FCLB.org.

Entrance Requirements

Students may apply for the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree completion program at any time as a prospective student in the application process for the Chiropractic program or while currently enrolled in the College of Chiropractic. Please contact the Office of Admissions for more information.

In addition to meeting the qualifications of a student in the College of Health and Wellness, applicants to, or students currently enrolled in and continuing in, the College of Chiropractic must meet the following admissions requirements for the B.S. in Human Biology degree completion program:

- High school diploma or General Education Development diploma (GED)
- Successful completion of approximately 60 semester baccalaureate level credits at a regionally accredited institution

- Cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better
- Completion of pre-chiropractic entrance requirements
- Complete an admissions application

For more information or to review your eligibility for the B.S. in Human Biology degree completion program, contact the Office of the Registrar.

Graduation Requirements

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Biology for Chiropractic Students is granted to those candidates who have:

1. Successful completion of all courses with grade of C- or better.
2. Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better.
3. Completion of 120 credits.

Core Course Requirements

CFS-6000	SOMATIC STRUCTURAL STUDIES (6)
CFS-6100	FOUNDATIONAL PHYSIOLOGICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL STUDIES (5)
CFS-6200	VISCERAL STRUCTURAL STUDIES AND SOMATIC NEUROSCIENCE (6)
CFS-6250	INTEGRATIVE PATHOPHYSIOLOGY & MICROBIOLOGY (5)
CFS-6300	NEUROPHARMACOLOGY AND VISCERAL NEUROANATOMY (5)
CFS-6350	INTEGRATIVE VISCERAL PATHOPHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY (6)
CFS-7400	INTEGRATIVE NEUROLOGY, ENDOCRINOLOGY & VISCERAL PATHOPHYSIOLOGY 3 (5)

Total Credit Hours: 38

Foundational Science Requirements:

MTH-1010	PRECALCULUS (4)
CHE-1100	GENERAL CHEMISTRY 1 (4)
CHE-1200	GENERAL CHEMISTRY 2 (4)
CHE-2100	ORGANIC CHEMISTRY 1 (4)
CHE-2200	ORGANIC CHEMISTRY 2 (4)
PHY-1100	GENERAL PHYSICS 1: FUNDAMENTALS OF PHYSICS (4)
PHY-1200	GENERAL PHYSICS 2: ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM (4)

Total Credit Hours: 28

Health Professions Core Courses:

Choose 12 credits from the following list.

HPC-3000	EPISTEMOLOGY OF HEALTH (3)
HPC-3002	CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF BIOETHICAL ISSUES-WRITING INTENSIVE (3)
HPC-3150	HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE (3)
HPC-3010	COMMUNICATION FOR EFFECTIVE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (3)
PSY-3000	PSYCHOLOGY OF ADDICTION (3)
PSY-3100	PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS (3)
PSY-3200	LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (3)
PSY-3300	HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY (3)

Total Credit Hours: 12

General Education Requirements

Social Sciences (6 cr. required)

SOC-1001 Introduction to Sociology

SOC-1006 Sex & Gender

PSY-1001 General Psychology

Humanities (6 cr. required)

HUM-1200 Social Determinants of Health

HUM-1250 Culture & Health

PHIL-1100 Bioethics

Communications (6 cr. required)

ENG-1001 English Composition

COM-1100 Introduction to Communication in a Digital World

SPA-1000 Spanish for Health Professionals

Math and Natural Sciences (4 cr. required)

MTH-1001 College Algebra

MTH-1100 Statistics

ANP-1000 Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology

BIOL-2150 Anatomy and Physiology

BIOL-2300 Nutritional Biochemistry and Foundations

BIOL-4301 Directed Research (if not counted as major requirement, or repeated after fulfilling major requirement)

CHE-1000 Survey of Biological Chemistry

Open General Education Electives (additional credits to reach total of 30 General Education requirement credits)

Any General Education classes not used to fulfill another requirement.

MTH-1001	COLLEGE ALGEBRA (3)
MTH-1100	STATISTICS (4)
SOC-1001	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (3)
SOC-1006	SEX AND GENDER (3)
PSY-1001	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (3)
HUM-1200	SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH (3)
HUM-1250	CULTURE & HEALTH (3)
PHIL-1100	BIOETHICS (3)
ENG-1001	ENGLISH COMPOSITION (3)
COM-1100	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION IN A DIGITAL WORLD (3)
SPA-1000	SPANISH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (3)
BIOL-2300	NUTRITIONAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND FOUNDATIONS (3)
BIOL-2150	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1 (4)
ANP-1000	ESSENTIALS OF HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY (3)
CHE-1000	SURVEY OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY (1.5)

Total Credit Hours: 30

Additional Required Credits

Complete 12 additional undergraduate credits to meet total of 120 total credits for degree.

Total Credit Hours: 12

Total Credit Hours: 120

Course Changes

New Course

Course Name

PROFESSIONAL FOUNDATIONS: ETHICS, IDENTITY, AND WELL-BEING

Course ID	Credits
HCS-6110	3

Course Description

This foundational course introduces professional identity development through NWHSU's integrative, whole-person care model. Students explore the interconnectedness of physical, behavioral, socio-economic, and spiritual well-being. The course emphasizes person-centered care that prioritizes "what matters to you?" Students identify principles of ethical conduct and trauma-informed communication while developing cultural competency. Students also explore personal well-being strategies using health creation approaches and examine chiropractic's role in collaborative, evidence-based public health

Course Modification

Course Name

REFLEXOLOGY 1

Course ID

MTEL-1101

Credits

1.5

Course Description

Topics covered are basic technique, introductory history, theory, principles, zones, and contraindications. Detailed bony anatomy of the foot and lower leg is also studied. The goal is to prepare the student to use reflexology as in independent modality or as a complement to other therapies.