

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTHCARE QUALITY & SAFETY (MSHQS)

Sample Curriculum Sequence

1st Fall Term (8 hours)	Credit Hours
HQS 600: Introduction to Clinical Quality Improvement Clinical quality improvement theory; classes of outcomes; process management; management tools and modeling techniques for improvement of clinical processes and decision-making.	4
HQS 610: Quantitative Methods, Measurement, and Tools for Quality Improvement Statistical process control techniques applied to clinical and patient service processes, including Lean and Six Sigma methodologies; data system design concepts applied to clinical and financial data for managing health care business processes.	4
1st Spring Term (7 hours)	Credit Hours
HQS 625: Fundamentals of Patient Safety Nature and science of patient error; strategies for design of safety-critical systems; hazard analysis and risk assessment in health care organizations; design elements of safety program and high reliability systems.	4
HQS 630: Leadership of High Reliability Organizations Applying concepts of high reliability organizations to create an organizational culture that supports strong, functional, and safe patient care environments resulting in quality clinical care and patient satisfaction.	3
1st Summer Term (3 hours)	Credit Hours
HA 650: Management and Leadership for Clinical Professionals Leadership concepts and management principles as employed by clinical professionals in health care organizations. Focus on effective approaches to communication, change and conflict management, performance and financial management, and cultural competence.	2
Elective (may be taken any term)	3
2nd Fall Term (6 hours)	Credit Hours
HQS 612: Analytics for Perf. Improvement HIM role in data analysis and use of comparative data from internal and external sources for improving performance measures in health care organizations; benchmarking performance measures; public reporting of data; methods used to improve quality scores.	4
HQS 635: Healthcare Policy and Regulation External drivers for quality and safety improvement in healthcare organizations, particularly policies and regulations affecting reimbursement. Discussion and analysis of key federal legislation and regulations promulgated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Joint Commission.	3
2nd Spring Term (6 hours)	Credit Hours
HQS 615: Collaborative Analytics for Quality and Safety Improvement Survey of clinical enterprise data, information, and analytics employed by quality improvement teams, including data capture/collection, archiving and retrieval systems, and database structure. Emphasis on conceptual understanding of statistical and analytical approaches to investigate and resolve organizational quality and safety issues in a team environment.	3
HQS 675: Evaluating and Designing Quality Improvement Models Application of analytical and decision tools to determine appropriate enterprise models for quality improvement, including problem identification, selection of metrics, analytical approaches, prioritization criteria, and post-implementation evaluation.	3
2nd Summer Term (3 hours)	Credit Hours
HQS 698: Integrative Capstone Experience / Non-thesis Project Investigation of a process or safety improvement opportunity in a healthcare organization to propose a solution; application of the concepts and tools presented in the program courses. A written project report is required.	3
Total Credit Hours Earned for Degree	36