

MSHC Program Closure

Dear MSHC students,

We are writing to inform you of a significant change to our Master of Science in Health Communication (MSHC) program and its potential implications for you as a current student.

After much consideration and deliberation, the Northwestern University School of Communication, in consultation with the University administration, has decided to close the MSHC program over the next few years. While health communication remains a vital and thriving field, we have chosen to consolidate our degree programs and concluded that, unfortunately, this necessitates the winding-down of the MSHC program.

Please know that in this academic year, the MSHC program will continue to run as it has in years past, and our staff will work with you to access the courses you need to complete your degree. After August 31, 2022, we do expect to be making some academic adjustments, including exploring independent study options for certain courses should they become underenrolled. And the decision to close the MSHC program could create some questions for those of you who might not finish the MSHC program by the end of this term, August 2022. If you do not complete your MSHC degree requirements by the regular graduation date in August 2022, we encourage you to work with our staff to find the times to enroll in the courses that you need to complete the MSHC degree. Please be assured that we are committed to the field of health communication and will continue to offer courses required for completion of the MSHC program for two additional years, until December 2024.

As we navigate this transition, please know that the MSHC program remains accredited, and we will do everything we can to provide a positive experience during your remaining time at Northwestern. Please reach out to MSHC Associate Director Laura Kitson laura.kitson@northwestern.edu or Associate Director of Career Management Kimberley Cornwell k-cornwell@northwestern.edu with any questions. Thank you for your commitment to the University and to the MSHC program.

Sincerely,

E. Patrick Johnson
Dean, School of Communication
Annenberg University Professor

Rick Morris

