

MASTER OF HEALTH CARE

INNOVATION

CURRICULUM 2024–25*

The University of Pennsylvania’s Master of Health Care Innovation (MHCI) online degree program forges a diverse network of innovative thinkers and leaders passionate about improving health care. The multidisciplinary curriculum—taught by leading, active experts—builds students’ skills to face urgent needs and long-term challenges.

core courses

- ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY

KIMBERLY ARNOLD, PhD, MPH and KEVIN AHMAAD JENKINS, PhD

Examine the history and scope of health disparities, investigate the role of social determinants of health, and design strategies to improve health equity.
- THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

EZEKIEL J. EMANUEL, MD, PhD

Survey the complex background of the American health care system, how it shapes the present, and where it offers opportunities for innovation in health care policy, payment, quality, and access moving forward..
- BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS AND DECISION MAKING

KEVIN VOLPP, MD, PhD

Examine the key concepts of behavioral economics, choice environments, the design of incentive programs and use of social comparisons, and how to use behavioral economics in a policy context.
- HEALTH CARE OPERATIONS

CHRISTIAN TERWIESCH, PhD

Examine inefficiencies resulting from waste, variability, and inflexibility, and acquire methods to engage in the ongoing process of reducing these negative impacts without sacrificing quality of care.
- LEADING CHANGE IN HEALTH CARE

EZEKIEL J. EMANUEL, MD, PhD

Explore transformative practices in health care, the leadership techniques that have led to their success, and ways to direct change within your organization.
- TRANSLATING IDEAS INTO OUTCOMES

ROY ROSIN, MBA and SARAH ROTTENBERG, MA

Apply analytical and design thinking as this course guides you through developing innovation projects—generating ideas, defining problems, testing, and preparing for delivery—and defining strategies to solve health care problems.

lab courses

Delivered by health care professionals to expand networking.

- ADDRESSING CHALLENGES

Apply skills and knowledge to address an exigent health care challenge by investigating its context and analogues in other areas and fields; identifying areas for transformative change; and brainstorming, analyzing, and critiquing potential solutions.
- PITCHING INNOVATION

Construct a plan for an innovation project by reframing a problem to solve for specific metrics, investigating potential solutions, and developing a hypothesis that will become the kernel of your project. Create a portfolio of materials designed to build support, including an elevator pitch, 1-pager, pitch deck, and presentation.

electives

- CONNECTED HEALTH CARE

NICOLAJ SIGGELKOW, PhD and CHRISTIAN TERWIESCH, PhD

Explore connected strategies, frameworks, and delivery models to improve outcomes and competitive advantage, then apply them to creating a roadmap for your own organization or service.
- DIGITAL HEALTH

GEORGE DEMIRIS, PhD, FACMI and KEVIN JOHNSON, MD, MS, FAAP, FAMIA, FACMI

Examine how electronic health systems work, humans in the AI loop, patients and their data, and the types, sources, ethics, and regulation of data.
- HEALTH ECONOMICS

GUY DAVID, PhD

Survey the critical economic issues in producing, delivering, and financing health care, such as demand for medical care, the role of physicians in resource allocation, health insurance, and competition in medical care markets.
- LEADERSHIP AND LEGAL ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE

THEODORE W. RUGER, JD and MICHAEL USEEM, PhD

Survey the leadership skills and legal knowledge necessary to navigate the complexities of the health care industry at the highest levels.
- USING DATA FOR TRANSFORMATION

RAVI B. PARIKH, MD, MPP, FACP

Explore how to turn routine health care data into an algorithm, evaluate the validity of AI products, and understand liability and policy implications around algorithms in health care.
- VALUE AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

LEE A. FLEISHER, MD and NEHA PATEL, MD, MS

Discover the most pressing areas of opportunity for health care innovation by applying quality and measurement tools, and how to leverage quality improvement initiatives to drive value.