

# Health Sciences

## Program Overview

The [Health Sciences department](#) offers an interdisciplinary examination of health, illness, and disease in human communities. While Health Sciences builds upon the basic sciences, it also draws from other research-oriented fields such as psychology and economics.

Students may pursue a Diploma or Associate Degree in either an Arts or Science stream. After completing the program, students may also continue their studies at Simon Fraser University's Faculty of Health Sciences or pursue the University of Victoria's Bachelor of Health and Community Services, transferring seamlessly into third year.

## Self-Study

Health Sciences launched its program review in academic year 2024/25 with a Self-Study. The primary Self-Study writer was Catherine Glass, Department Chair of Health Sciences. Additional support was provided by:

- David Anderson (Dean, Faculty of Science)
- Patricia Aroca-Ouellette (Interim Dean, Faculty of Science)
- Sunita Wiebe (Director, Academic Excellence)
- Pennie Poon (Manager, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Elise Ng (Department Assistant, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Integrated Planning and Accountability analysts

Data sources for the Self-Study included:

- Integrated Planning and Accountability-compiled student administrative data (e.g., headcounts, retention, satisfaction)
- Student survey
- Alumni survey
- Faculty survey

The Self-Study was completed in April 2025.

## External Review

Health Sciences' external review took place on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The External Review Team consisted of:

- Stephanie Hummel, Assistant Department Chair, Department of English, Langara College (External Review Chair)
- Angela Brooks-Wilson, Dean of Science, Simon Fraser University, and Distinguished Scientist, Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Nienke van Houten, Director, Undergraduate Programs and Senior Lecturer, Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University
- Karen St. Clair, Administrative Supervisor, Pender Community Health Centre

## Action Plan Goals

In response to the Self-Study and External Review, Health Sciences created an Action Plan with these goals:

- Goal 1: Develop a clear, compelling brand identity and an engaging departmental website to attract and inform prospective students
- Goal 2: Develop (and expand upon) a standardized module for HSCI 1130 to further support student success and progression
- Goal 3: Maintain transfer pathway to SFU
- Goal 4: Enhance student academic success by encouraging the use of support services/resources and improving transparency/communications
- Goal 5: Consult with the Dean on Faculty Resources (when financially feasible)
- Goal 6: Create a multi-year plan to renew curriculum

### Examples of Post-Review Successes

Please contact Academic Quality Assurance.