

# HEALTH ADVOCACY

## Online Program

*The first Health Advocacy master's program in New England to develop a new generation of professionals who help people navigate the healthcare system.*



GRADUATE STUDIES  
ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

Light the way.



“The Health Advocacy program gave me exactly what I needed to advance.”

– HANNAH BYLUND, M.A. '15

SENIOR NAVIGATOR  
NAVICARE/FALLON HEALTH

“It really was the best of both worlds. I acquired fantastic tools to apply immediately in my current work, as well as high-level expertise to achieve my goal of advancing into Health Advocacy operations management. I can’t say enough about the professors, personally and professionally. They are wonderful.

It was a great fit for my hectic life. The program is designed for students who are working full time in healthcare or other fields. Instructors were empathetic about the demands on our lives and did everything they could to help.”

## What is a Patient Advocate?

A Patient Advocate is a professional who provides services to patients and those supporting them who are navigating the complex healthcare continuum. Advocates work directly with clients (or with legal representatives) to ensure they have a voice in their care and information to promote informed decision making. Advocates may work independently or in medical or other organization settings. They serve individuals, communities, disease-specific populations, and family caregivers. Synonyms may include health advocate, healthcare advocate, healthcare advocacy consultant, healthcare consumer advocate, and other phrases that imply this role. ([www.pacboard.org](http://www.pacboard.org))

## Launch a Career of Boundless Opportunity

### MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.) IN HEALTH ADVOCACY

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN PATIENT ADVOCACY

On behalf of the Health Advocacy program, I welcome you to Assumption College. Our mission is to prepare professional patient advocates who champion the well-being of the healthcare consumers they empower and represent with competence and compassion. Our program prepares students in the fundamentals of health advocacy with individuals and within and across organizations. This program integrates key elements of ethics, law, advocacy, management, human services, and social and health sciences to become effective professional advocates. Health Advocacy graduates enter a path in the healthcare field that is an alternative to clinical study. It also offers healthcare practitioners who are licensed in clinical fields a complementary education in advocacy and navigation.

You’ll benefit from distinct Assumption advantages that help advance your career:

- The program’s online format has been designed with working professionals in mind.
- Learn from expert instructors who are seasoned professionals in the healthcare and counseling fields.
- Enjoy personal attention from accessible faculty whose primary mission is to see you succeed in whatever Health Advocacy role you pursue.
- The curriculum combines a broad-based understanding of the field with essential practical expertise that can be applied immediately. As such, it is valuable to seasoned healthcare professionals as well as early career healthcare advocates.
- The program aligns with the National Association of Healthcare Advocacy (NAHAC) standards and best practices.
- Courses are designed to prepare students for the certification exam to become a Board Certified Patient Advocate (BCPA).
- Affiliated with national and regional associations such as the Alliance for Professional Health Advocates, National Association of Healthcare Advocacy, and Massachusetts Health Care Advocates.
- It is the first Master of Arts in Health Advocacy offered in the region.



As a graduate of the program, you will be fully prepared to take advantage of the diverse opportunities in the wide range of work settings in the field. Students who already have experience in the field will be groomed to move into operations management roles or for independent practice. We wish you happiness and success during this exciting journey.

**LEA CHRISTO, MSW, LICSW, BCPA**

DIRECTOR, GRADUATE HEALTH ADVOCACY PROGRAM

# A Noble and Compassionate Career as a Health Advocate

## The healthcare system is influenced by many factors. Government legislation, changing economics, healthcare insurance providers, and other issues all play a role.

Healthcare-providing entities are scrambling to make sense of this changing landscape while striving to offer effective and cost-efficient care. Meanwhile, healthcare consumers are confused.

Enter the healthcare advocate.

## Make a Difference. Become a Trusted Voice for Patients.

This growing profession makes a real difference by helping patients, families and providers make efficient use of the system. There are opportunities for professionals from many backgrounds to enter or to extend their expertise in the field: recent undergraduates working in a related field, career-changers, and existing healthcare and counseling professionals, both clinical and non-clinical. Settings include hospitals, medical offices, nursing agencies, community clinics, insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies, nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies and private practice.

Most importantly, you'll fill a void where there is a great societal need for thoughtful, inspired and compassionate professionals who escort people challenged by disease, disability, and injury, lost and confused in the labyrinthian healthcare system.

## Gain the Knowledge, Expertise and Habits of Mind Necessary to Pursue This High-Impact Career.

The curriculum integrates key elements of management, social sciences, human services and health science through a multifaceted approach that prepares students to become effective professional patient advocates. Graduates from the Health Advocacy program operate from a strengths-based, culturally sensitive framework that respects and empowers clients/patients and enhances healthcare organizations and the system as a whole.

## Acquire Vital Real-World Competencies.

The program equips students to understand, appreciate and demonstrate relevant real-world competency at the personal/patient level as well as the systemic/organizational level. Students develop the skills, knowledge and competencies to help clients/patients:

- receive healthcare that meets best practices;
- protect their ethical rights in the system;
- receive culturally sensitive healthcare;
- access preventative health services;
- receive appropriate behavioral health;
- transition safely to community-based healthcare.

## Enjoy the Convenience of an Online Program.

This program has been developed to allow the flexibility to take classes on a schedule that works with your professional and personal responsibilities.



# The Health Advocacy Programs

## The *online* Health Advocacy Program at Assumption College is built on a set of competencies in five major domains:

1. Competence in applying ethical principles to guide professional practice for person centered healthcare and policy initiatives.
2. Competence in identifying and implementing best practices for healthcare quality and delivery.
3. Cultural competence in case advocacy and policy advocacy.
4. Interpersonal competence to collaborate, negotiate and influence people, teams, and systems in the service of healthcare improvement.
5. Competence in critical thinking and communication that informs and shapes healthcare practice and service delivery across the continuum of care.

Our online courses are enriched through resources provided by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Open School. IHI Open School brings essential training and tools in an online, educational community to help healthcare professionals deliver excellent, safe care.

## The Master of Arts in Health Advocacy Online

The master's program is a 12 course, 36 credit, course sequence that can be completed on a full- or part-time basis. Students generally complete the master's program in 2-3 years and have up to five years to complete matriculation. After the first half of the courses are successfully completed, students have the option to matriculate through to complete the Master's degree or take leave with a Certificate in Patient Advocacy to negotiate employment transitions. Students who are able to apply their acquiring skills while working in healthcare are best positioned for academic and professional advancement.

## The Professional Certificate in Patient Advocacy Online

The Certificate in Patient Advocacy is a six course, 18 credit, course sequence. The curriculum of the graduate certificate program is identical to the first year of study in the master's program and provides the essential foundation for entry-level work in health advocacy. Most students complete the Certificate in Patient Advocacy program in one year. It is designed for students who already possess a bachelor's degree, and addresses understanding the health care system, key features of advocacy, health care ethics, case management of disease/disabilities, and related psychosocial dynamics. Credits successfully earned in the certificate program may all be applied to the Master of Arts program when completed within five years. Some courses may also be applied to the MBA in Healthcare Management program.



“The ideal master’s for the non-clinical management career I’m pursuing.”

– REGINA WHITE, M.A. '15

SENIOR MANAGER,  
MARKETPLACE PARTNERSHIPS  
ATHENAHEALTH

“I looked at a number of graduate degrees, including an M.S.W. and M.P.H. Ultimately, this program presented the perfect opportunity to pursue my management ambitions and my deeper passion to help people in need navigate the system.

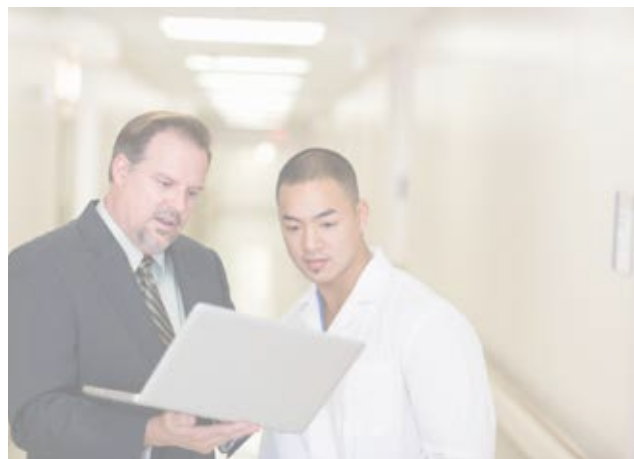
The healthcare field is dynamic and evolving, with careers leading down many roads. Students in the program build broad-based interdisciplinary expertise, taught by expert professionals - an ideal forum for forging your own path.”

“From my perspective the Board Certified Patient Advocate (BCPA) certification exam was directly related to all that is taught through the HAP courses. I was well prepared for it and felt confident in what the results would be when I completed it.”

– DIANE DRISCOLL, BCPA

### Board Certified Patient Advocate (BCPA) certification

Graduates of our master's program in Health Advocacy and our Certificate of Patient Advocacy are invited to take a national credentialing exam in Patient Advocacy. The national Board Certified Patient Advocate (BCPA) certification exam captures the professional knowledge domains and competencies required to competently assist patients and caregivers in accessing family-centered healthcare. Assumption's Health Advocacy students study and integrate the ethical standards and best practices iterated by Patient Advocacy Certification Board to prepare them for the BCPA exam and professional competence thereafter.



## Applying to the Certificate of Master of Arts (M.A.) Programs

You must possess a bachelor's degree to gain admission to any of our Health Advocacy programs. The admissions committee takes a holistic approach to each candidate's application in assessing their potential to successfully complete the graduate Health Advocacy program. Students who are able to apply their acquiring skills while working in healthcare are best positioned for academic and professional advancement. A minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better is recommended. Your application file will consist of the following:

- Graduate Application
- Application Fee – waived for Assumption students and alumni
- Official College Transcripts, undergraduate and graduate
- Three Letters of Recommendation – academic and/or professional
- Current Resume
- A personal essay describing the academic preparation, work experiences, and skills that the candidate brings to this graduate program, what he or she hopes to accomplish academically, and his or her professional goals
- An Admissions interview is required. Video or phone interviews are considered for applicants who do not reside in New England.
- NOTE: The GRE is not required

Students utilizing financial aid must be enrolled in at least six credits (two courses) per semester.

You may register for up to two courses as a non-matriculating student. This will help to mutually assess the fit between your professional goals and the program's academic standards. Should you demonstrate passing grades in these course and you are subsequently accepted into the program, the course credits will apply toward earning your certificate or degree. Non-matriculating students are not eligible for financial aid.

To apply, visit [www.assumption.edu/graduate](http://www.assumption.edu/graduate).

## Meet the Health Advocacy Program Faculty

### Kola A. Akindele

*M.S., University of Massachusetts, Lowell, Health Informatics & Management*

*Graduate Certificate, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, Health Policy*

*J.D., Northeastern University School of Law, Boston*

*B.A., University of Massachusetts, Boston, Economics & Political Science*

Kola Akindele is currently the Senior Director of Community and Government Relations at UMass Medical School. Immediately prior to joining UMMS, Akindele was the community relations manager at Hartford Hospital. From 2010 to 2013, he served as a community relations associate in the Office of Community and Government Relations at UMMS. He has been involved with many local community organizations, including the American Red Cross, Veteran's Inc., the Worcester County Bar Association and the YMCA of Central Massachusetts. He is also an assistant professor in the Healthcare Administration program at Worcester State University as well as an adjunct faculty member in Assumption's Health Advocacy program.

### Travis M. Gagen

*M.P.H. University of Massachusetts, Amherst*

*Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst Health Policy & Management*

Travis Gagen is an Assistant Professor in the Health Science program at Assumption College and serves as a program developer and instructor for the graduate-level Public Health Aging Certificate Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Travis is a mixed-methods researcher with a specialization in health care systems, aging policy, and public health. His research focuses on home-and-community-based aging policy, including reforms of the Center for Medicare & Medicaid, as well as mechanisms to strengthen the local public health service delivery of health promotion services to community-dwelling older adults and smart home technologies that can assist older adults in maintaining independence to avoid institutional long-term care. Travis has experience in international and community-based public health partnerships with a track-record of initiating and overseeing multiple community-based programs in developing nations and domestic United States.

### Mike Hebert

*M.S., Nursing, St. Joseph's College*

*M.B.A., Fitchburg State University*

*M.S., Clinical Social Work, Boston University*

*B.S., Fitchburg State University*

Mike Hebert is the Senior Director UM of Care Management & Geriatrics at Reliant Medical Group. Mike holds three advanced degrees in nursing, business, and social work. Mike Hebert joined Reliant Medical Group in 2007, bringing many years of direct care experience within the healthcare industry. Prior to joining Reliant, Mike held several positions for both Davita as well as Montachusett Home Care Corporation. Mike's experience includes program development, operational design/integration and day-to-day business operations. During the span of Mike's career, he has worked on a variety of projects through various settings including primary care, mental health and specialty care management. Mike has played a key role in many key strategic organizational objects including implementation of infrastructure necessary to take on full risk and UM/CM health plan delegation.



“The instructors have a depth of experience and training that benefits students immensely.”

– LAURIN BLOOM

OWNER/MANAGER

PATIENT AND FAMILY ADVOCATES, LLC,  
LANCASTER, PA

“They engage and challenge learners on a variety of levels, ensuring students are prepared for careers in Health Advocacy. The Health Advocacy Program compliments my work as an independent Health Advocate. Not a day goes by that I don't apply something from my school work to my professional work.”

## Meet the Health Advocacy Program Faculty

### Patrick J. Malone

*J.D. Massachusetts School of Law,  
Andover, MA*

*B.S. Economics (Business Minor),  
Fitchburg State University*

Patrick Malone is an adjunct faculty in both the MBA and Human Services departments. Patrick is currently a consultant for Wheel Chair Sales and Service, Inc. of New Lenox, IL, as well as a Clerk Magistrate in the Massachusetts Trial Court. He was the President and Treasurer of Global Medical Supply, Inc. in Leominster MA, from 2004 through 2016. Patrick holds his Juris Doctor from Massachusetts School of Law and his Bachelors of Science in Economics from Fitchburg State University. Professor Malone also serves on the board of directors at both Bay State Logistics as well as the Bernardian Foundation.

### Godwin 'O. Orkeh

*Medicine and Surgery Degree, University  
of Benin, Nigeria*

*International Public Policy, Touro University  
International and Global Education  
Institute, Geneva, Switzerland*

Godwin Orkeh is a physician with an interest in International Health and Development. He has worked extensively in disaster relief and humanitarian assistance internationally, including in Pakistan (Kashmir, Frontier Province & Federal Administered Tribal Areas at the Pakistan/Afghan Border), Somalia, Kenya, Sudan (multiple postings to the troubled Darfur Region; Abyei protocol area & newly independent South Sudan), to Nigeria, Congo (African Regional program) and in Latin America.

As a fellow of the International Human Rights Consortium (2002-2003), Dr. Godwin Orkeh traveled widely in Central America, researching rights to

health and other socio-demographic and economic considerations affecting access to health. He is a recipient of the *2018 Ralph Bunche International Medal of Excellence*. He has considerable experience in the field of health policy, disaster relief and humanitarian assistance in complex settings. He serves with specialized agencies of the United Nations and is active in the NGO/non-profit sector. He is retained as an emergency public health specialist in the Global Health Cluster (WHO).

### Christine Sawicki

*MBA, Anna Maria College*

*B.S. in Pharmacy, Massachusetts College  
of Pharmacy*

*B.A. Chemistry, Assumption College*

Christine Sawicki holds a B.A. in Chemistry from Assumption College where she is also an adjunct faculty for MBA and Health Advocacy programs, Pharmacy Degree from MCPHSU, MBA from Anna Maria College, Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt from Villanova University, and Pharmacoeconomic Certification from the University of South Carolina. Christine has been with CVS Health for over 25 years and is currently leads the team that identifies and introduces solutions to improve patient experience, enhance clinical care, and provide cost-effective service solutions to deliver the highest level of clinical care.



### Beverly Erikson Stewart

*MA/CAGS in Rehabilitation Counseling  
from Assumption College*

*C.A.G.S., Assumption College*

*M.A., Assumption college*

*B.A., Clark University*

Beverly Stewart received her MA/CAGS in Rehabilitation Counseling from Assumption College and has been a rehabilitation practitioner, case manager, and manager/mentor of rehabilitation counselors and case managers for many years. Professor Stewart was previously the Director of Clinical and Vocational Resources at Unum group. She is the past chair of the Board of Directors at NEADS- dog for deaf and disabled Americans. She now volunteers at NEADS in the early Learning Center.

### Shannon Thibault

*M.H.A. Healthcare Administration,  
Worcester State University*

*M.B.A. with concentration in Operations  
Management, Nichols College*

*B.S. Business Administration, concentration  
in management, Nichols College*

*Certified Medical Assistant, The Salter School*

Shannon Thibault is the Project Management Office at BlackBox Corporation where she focuses her efforts on Real Time Locating Workflow Solutions as well as leading IT Implementation teams on various healthcare projects. Shannon is a certified medical assistant and holds a master's degree in Healthcare Administration as well as an MBA. She is currently a professor in Assumption's MBA in Healthcare Management department.

## Course Descriptions 2018-19

### REQUIRED COURSES:

#### HAP 505: A Systems Approach to Delivering Health Care in America

This course will take a systemic approach to health care delivery in the United States. An overview of health care delivery along with chronicling the evolution of health care delivery in the United States will be covered. The course will provide students with an understanding of the law, the legal system, and the policy-making process as it relates to healthcare. Individual and patient rights in healthcare and public health initiatives will be addressed in addition to public health institutions and systems. Critical policy issues and issues related to specific patient populations such as long-term care, medical technology, government health insurance programs and health service financing will be addressed in this course. The course will culminate with a critical look at the future of health care and health-care delivery systems. **Credits: 3**

#### HAP 515: Frameworks for Patient and Policy Advocacy in Health Care

This course will solidify the role of patient and policy advocacy in the United States health care system. A framework for patient and policy advocacy practice will be covered with an emphasis on tasks, skills and action. The specific skills of patient advocacy will be addressed with a focus on protecting the ethical rights of patients, improving patient quality of life and developing culturally competent advocacy skills. Advocacy knowledge and skills will be emphasized to promote prevention and assist patients to finance health care. Mental health service and community-based care advocacy will be addressed. Policy advocacy in healthcare, community and government settings will be covered. **Credits: 3**

#### HAP 525: Critical Issues in Health Care Ethics

This course will address the significant and critical ethical issues evident in current healthcare practice and systems. The course will provide a strong foundation in the principles and theory in healthcare. Healthcare disparities will be addressed with a focus on populations with inadequate access to healthcare. Critical ethical issues related to healthcare will be identified and studied including areas such as physician-assisted death, domestic violence, human cloning and spirituality. Ethical considerations related to older adults such as long-term care and assisted living will be covered. The ethics of healthcare reform will be studied in an effort to look toward the future of healthcare and potential ethical issues. **Credits: 3**

#### HAP 530: A Strengths Based Approach to Supporting Consumers Through the Psychosocial Aspects of Health Care

This course provides an understanding of the psychosocial issues that are present in the context of healthcare and healthcare delivery. The course will address patient-professional relationships and provide the necessary knowledge and skill for working effectively with patients in the healthcare environment. Students will learn and practice the basic helping skills that support patients' movement through healthcare systems. The course employs developmental and strengths-based frameworks to understand the psychosocial aspects of illness, disability and chronic conditions. Culture and spirituality will be covered as critical components of understanding patients and their healthcare needs. The significance of cultivating and recognizing support systems will be addressed related to recovery, coping, loss and grief. **Credits: 3**

#### HAP 535: Medical Aspects of Chronic Disease and Disability

This course will provide students with an understanding of chronic disease and disability. A review of basic anatomy, physiology and body systems will provide context for studying the characteristics, functional limitations and individual implications that specific disabilities and chronic diseases have on individuals. Students will gain knowledge of medical terminology and medical specialty areas utilized for treatment of disability and chronic disease. A comprehensive overview of health conditions, diseases, disabilities and disorders will be covered. This course will use a person-in-context approach to understand functional abilities and the impact of disease and disability on activities and participation in all aspects of an individual's life. **Credits: 3**

#### HAP 545: Psychiatric Disabilities and Mental Health System Navigation

This course will provide an overview of psychiatric disorders using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM 5). In the United States, the DSM serves as the universal authority for diagnosing psychiatric disorders and is used to determine payment by healthcare providers. This course will also provide students with an understanding of mental health service delivery systems. Historical trends leading toward community mental health systems will be covered along with the ecological theoretical models on which community mental health services are based. Prevention programs and crisis intervention will be addressed as important components to the community mental health system. Future trends in community mental health services will be covered with specific attention paid to the growing older adult population and behavioral healthcare. **Credits: 3**

# Course Descriptions 2018-19

## HAP 555: Core Curriculum for Case Management in Health Care

This course will provide the foundational core curriculum for case management in healthcare settings. The history and evolution of case management will be covered to provide a context for the role of the case manager in healthcare settings. The preparation of case managers will be addressed specifying the necessary education, training and certification for effective practice. The case management process will be delineated and studied with attention paid to the role of the case manager in the process. Specific settings for case managers such as palliative care, hospice, acute care, home care and rehabilitation will be covered. Case management for life care planning, workers' compensation, disability and occupational health, disease management, geriatrics and behavioral health will be addressed to provide a comprehensive understanding of case management in healthcare. Legal and ethical issues related to the practice of case management will be covered. **Credits: 3**

## HAP 600: Management and Supervision for Health Care Professionals

This course will provide an overview of basic management functions and the leadership skills necessary for effective healthcare supervision. Topics covered will span the vast knowledge and skill areas associated with effective healthcare business management and leadership. Management functions such as position descriptions, personnel recruitment, training and orientation, safety and workplace violence, motivation, reward and recognition, and conflict resolution will be covered. Cultural diversity within the workplace will be addressed. Practical management functions such as time management, decision making, effective meetings, delegation and coping with stress and burnout will be covered. The course is a practical and skill-based approach to management within healthcare organizations. **Credits: 3**

## HAP 610: Research in an Evidence-Based Health Care Environment

This course will address the translation of research evidence to quality healthcare practices, programs, systems, policies and initiatives. An overview of evidence-based practice models to understand the process of combining the best available research evidence with knowledge and skill to make effective decisions within the context of healthcare will be covered. The critical appraisal of research as a systematic, unbiased, careful examination of a study to determine its merits, limitations, meaning and value will be emphasized. The course will cover quantitative research, qualitative research, mixed methods research, data analysis and institutional review board procedure. **Credits: 3**

## HAP 620: Health Advocacy Practicum and Seminar

This is the first part of a two-part supervised professional field placement experience. Students will complete 100 hours on-site in an approved healthcare setting where they will integrate theory, knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. Students will begin to develop a professional identity as a healthcare advocate and understand the various contexts of advocacy. Students will demonstrate skills, knowledge and attitudes consistent with strengths-based, culturally competent, evidence-based, person-in-context and systems frameworks of practice. Students will participate in group supervision as part of the practicum experience. **Credits: 3**

## HAP 621: Advanced Health Advocacy Practicum and Seminar

This is the second part of a two-part supervised professional field placement experience. Students will complete 100 hours on-site in an approved healthcare setting where they will integrate theory, knowledge, and skills learned in the classroom. Students will continue to develop a professional identity as a healthcare advocate and understand the various contexts of advocacy. Students will continue

to demonstrate skills, knowledge and attitudes consistent with strengths-based, culturally competent, evidence-based, person-in-context and systems frameworks of practice. Students will participate in group supervision as part of the practicum experience. **Credits: 3**

## HAP 630: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Health Policy Analysis

This course will provide an in-depth analysis of healthcare policy. Healthcare policy will be framed from multiple perspectives, specifically economics, political science, management, technology, communications and public health. The policy analysis process will be delineated to provide a framework for critically analyzing and assessing past and current healthcare policy. The policy analysis process will be used to consider health technology assessment, evidence-based medicine, political feasibility, economic feasibility and values. Analysis of past and current healthcare policy will occur along with identifying alternatives for future policy. The course will examine the role and function that healthcare providers and leaders can bring to the policy-making process. **Credits: 3**

## HAP 631: Evidence-Based Health Advocacy Research Symposium

This course will address the translation of research evidence to quality healthcare practices, programs, systems, policies and initiatives. Students will develop a healthcare model, initiative, program, system, intervention, legislative initiative or policy utilizing relevant scholarly research and by employing the process of securing research-based evidence to support scholarly practice. Students will identify a problem or need area in healthcare, conduct a literature review, choose a research design, collect data, analyze and utilize data to develop their final project. The course will culminate with students presenting their final projects to faculty, graduate students and selected healthcare professionals. **Credits: 3**

## Related Programs

You may also be interested in these related graduate programs offered by Assumption College.

### MBA in Healthcare Management

The MBA in Healthcare Management is preparing leaders in the healthcare industry who are passionate about improving healthcare quality, access, and outcomes for all. The program, developed in consultation with local healthcare experts, provides essential business administration skills and knowledge along with a deep understanding of the healthcare system.

*Learn more at [www.assumption.edu/healthcare-mba](http://www.assumption.edu/healthcare-mba).*

### Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (C.A.G.S.) in Healthcare Management

The Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Healthcare Management imparts the knowledge, skills, competencies, and critical thinking necessary for aspiring and established healthcare professionals to secure high-impact careers in healthcare management. The Program is designed to provide MBA graduates with advanced knowledge of management in the healthcare context to prepare them to meet the demands and opportunities confronting healthcare organizations and systems.

*Learn more at [www.assumption.edu/healthcare-mba](http://www.assumption.edu/healthcare-mba).*

### Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (C.A.G.S.) and Certificate of Graduate Study (C.G.S.) in Resiliency in the Helping Professions

The Resiliency program has broad professional applicability and is targeted to increase professional effectiveness for professionals who are Rehabilitation Counselors, School Counselors, Educators, Social Workers, Mental Health Counselors and health and wellness advocates. *Learn more at [www.assumption.edu/resiliency](http://www.assumption.edu/resiliency).*

“A special niche of expertise in an exciting field.”

– JACK MOURAD, M.A. '15

DIRECTOR OF PATIENT ADVOCACY  
MEDBLOB

“I wouldn't be where I am today without my master's degree in Health Advocacy. This degree has opened so many doors for me. My practicum at the March of Dimes aligned me with a job offer 6 months after graduation and my research thesis focusing on oral health during pregnancy is still being used to help dental companies realize the link between poor oral health and adverse birth outcomes.”



## COLLEGE ACCREDITATION

Accredited by:

- **New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)**
- **Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education**
- **Council on Rehabilitation Education**

## ASSUMPTION COLLEGE NATIONAL RECOGNITION

- Recognized as one of the best colleges in the U.S. according to The *Princeton Review* in its annual “Best 384 Colleges” listing.
- Ranked in the top tier of U.S. News & World Report’s “2019 Best Colleges” ratings of approximately 200 universities in the north that offer bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

## COLLEGE’S MISSION

Assumption College, rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition, strives to form graduates known for critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship and compassionate service. We pursue these ambitious goals through a curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and extending to the domain of professional studies. Enlivened by the Catholic affirmation of the harmony of faith and reason, we aim, by the pursuit of the truth, to transform the minds and hearts of students. Assumption favors diversity and ecumenically welcomes all who share its goals.

“The Health Advocacy program fits seamlessly into the mission of Assumption College. The range of competencies and habits of mind that students will acquire through the program are not only in sync with the compassionate service and critical thinking of the College’s mission statement; they also embody the spirit of Emmanuel D’Alzon, the founder of the Assumptionists, who read the sign of his own time and sought to promote the common good through the education of competent and dedicated lay people.”

– **FR. DENNIS GALLAGHER, AA**



**GRADUATE STUDIES**  
**ASSUMPTION COLLEGE**

Light the way.

Graduate Studies Office  
Assumption College  
500 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609  
p 508.767.7387 f 508.767.4412 e-mail: [graduate@assumption.edu](mailto:graduate@assumption.edu)  
[www.assumption.edu/graduate](http://www.assumption.edu/graduate)

NOTE: The College reserves the right to withdraw or modify any of the courses or programs listed in this viewbook, or to cancel any course or program for which it deems the registration insufficient, or to make any course or regulation change it considers necessary. The College further reserves the right to suspend the acceptance of applications in particular programs.