

## **Health Sciences**

Honours Health Sciences Program 2025

## SUPPLEMENTARY APPLICATION QUESTIONS

for Level 1 and 2 Applicants

Level 1 Applicants will receive instructions for accessing the online submission site in early February 2025.

Level 2 Transfer Applicants will receive instructions for accessing the online submission site in early May 2025.

All Applicants are asked to answer TWO of the prompts: choose ONE of the three options given for Question 1, and ONE of the three options given for Question 2.

Your responses will be limited to 1500 characters for each question, including punctuation and spaces.

Your responses to these questions must be prepared entirely by you.

Posting answers on the internet, working with others to prepare your responses, or use of generative AI to write the response are *not* permitted, and may result in removal from the applicant pool.

Proofreading and feedback from people and technological tools are acceptable, but the writing itself must be your own work.

**For more details** (including complete application requirements, deadline dates, frequently asked questions, information about how to submit your application, and other details about the program and our admissions process) see our website.

## **QUESTION 1 — Answer 1 of the following 3 prompts:**



**OPTION A:** Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) has been a topic of much discussion in higher education in recent years, with both excitement about its possibilities a tool to enhance learning, while at the same time there are concerns that students are using GenAI in ways that are simply a shortcut to bypass substantial intellectual engagement and effort. The Honours Health Sciences Program makes extensive use of inquiry-based learning, in which students must be willing to undertake deep cognitive engagement and intellectual effort in support of their learning. (image from the Rochester Institute of Technology and created using generative AI)

How have you shown your own personal commitment to cognitive engagement and intellectual effort in the age of GenAI?

- OR -

**OPTION B:** Variations of the Seven Grandfather Teachings have been traditionally passed down in Anishinaabe and other North American Indigenous cultures from generation to generation to guide people in living in harmony with creation. These are the values of Truth (Debwewin – represented by the turtle), Humility (Dbaadendiziwin – represented by the wolf), Respect (Mnaadendimowin – represented by the buffalo), Love (Zaagidwin – represented by the eagle), Honesty (Gwekwaadziwin – represented by the raven), Bravery (Aakwa'ode'ewin – represented by the bear), and Wisdom (Nbwaakaawin – represented by the beaver). (Image from the Native Women's Association of Canada)



Do some reading about these Teachings, tell us which of them is the hardest for you to put into action, and how you might build your capacity in that area.





**OPTION C:** Harvard professor and Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen wrote, "while I am interested both in economics and in philosophy, the union of my interests in the two fields far exceeds their intersection." (image from the Harvard Gazette)

What non-health sciences area interests you most, and how do you think that might synergize with your interest in health?

## **QUESTION 2 — Answer 1 of the following 3 prompts:**

**OPTION A:** You may have read Supp App questions for the Honours Health Sciences Program from previous years — try your hand at it! (image from Microsoft Office stock images)

Develop a Supp App question that you think would prompt applicants to display something of value for the selection process, and explain why you think it is a good question for this purpose.



- OR -



**OPTION B:** In 1972, NASA launched the unmanned *Pioneer 10* probe on a mission to capture data about the planet Jupiter. After its encounter with Jupiter, the spacecraft's trajectory continued to the outer reaches of our solar system and beyond. NASA engineers knew that the probe would eventually lose power but would continue on into the depths of space indefinitely. Astronomer Carl Sagan was asked to design a plaque to be affixed to the probe to serve as "a message from mankind" in case the probe was ever intercepted by intelligent extraterrestrial beings. (public domain image from NASA)

If you had the opportunity to travel back in time and add ONE element to the Pioneer Plaque (text or image), what would you add and why?

- OR -

**OPTION C:** You have been appointed as the first director of admissions for an exciting and innovative new interdisciplinary program at Mashuhuri University. You are chairing the committee that will determine the admissions process, and you've done research on what similar programs at other top universities are doing:

ADMISSIONS MODELS	University	Standardized Tests	High School Grades	Individual Essay	Interviews	Reference Letters
	Afdil	10%	10%	10%	30%	50%
	Behtareen	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	El Mejor	0%	40%	0%	40%	20%
	Jianding	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
	Kalyteros	25%	25%	50%	0%	0%
	Your Proposal for Mashuhuri:	?	?	?	?	?

The University's senior leaders have asked you to come to their next meeting to make a presentation about how you think the new Program should make admissions decisions. **How would you distribute the weighting among the 5 components, and why?**