



Master's in Bioethics: Life, Health, and Environment

The Master's program in Bioethics: Life, Health, and Environment examines current moral issues, principles, and categories in both medical and environmental ethics with special attention to their mutual relevance, support, conflict, and illumination. The goal is a broader Bioethics giving students a more comprehensive understanding of moral theory and practice in each field and their conjunction.

Based in Arts and Science, the program draws on courses and faculty in Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, Environmental and Clinical Medicine, Law, and Public Service.

REQUIRED COURSES

- Advanced Introduction to Bioethics
- Contemporary Debates in Environmental Ethics
- Practicum and Independent Research
- Electives: Clinical Ethics; Community Health & Medical Care; Contemporary Ethical Theory; Colloquium on Health, Medicine, Law, and Society; Comparative Health Care Systems; Cultures of Biomedicine; Environmental Values, Policies, and the Law; Foundations of Environmental Thought; Health Law; Global Health Governance and Management; Impacts of Technology; International Population and Family Health; Life and Death; Philosophical Problems of Medicine; Sociology of Medicine; Terrorism: Biological, Chemical & Psychological Warfare; Trauma: Theoretical and Clinical Perspectives

M.A. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A total of 32 credits, including course work, practicum, and independent research for a Master's essay based on a practicum, or internship with an environmental or medical organization in the greater New York area.

HOW TO APPLY

Visit bioethics.as.nyu.edu, click on "Graduate School Application Resource Center" and "Application for Admission."

SUMMARY OF ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- B.A. or B.S. in Medical, Professional, or Environmental Ethics; Political or Legal Philosophy; Ecology and Environmental Policy; Medical Anthropology or Sociology; or Health Care Administration, Law or Policy
- Alternatively, a certificate course in Medical Ethics, and/or service on a medical center bioethics committee or institutional review board is also suitable qualification for admission
- A curriculum vitae (c.v.) and official college transcript
- Three letters of recommendation, preferably from college faculty members
- Graduate Record Examination
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for non-native English speakers
- Two essays:
 1. An essay explaining your reasons for wanting to enroll in the Bioethics program; and
 2. An essay on a moral issue in medical or environmental practices or policies

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Email Professor William Ruddick at bioethics@nyu.edu

FAQs

Why pursue an M.A. degree in Bioethics at New York University?

It is the only degree program of its kind in the Greater New York area and has a widely known and respected faculty.

What are the strengths of the program?

The program is unique in its combination of medical and environmental ethics. Its wide range of elective courses draws on faculty and courses throughout the University. The program offers faculty-student workshops and public lectures.

What special resources offer students an enriched experience?

The NYU Medical Center and other New York City institutions (the American Museum of Natural History, Bronx River Alliance, Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment, ConEdison, Council on the Environment, Riverkeeper, Wildlife Conservation Society) offer an unparalleled variety of practicum, or internship possibilities.

Who teaches the courses?

Full-time NYU faculty members including:

Core Faculty:

William Ruddick, Director of Bioethics; Arthur Zitrin, Professor of Bioethics and Professor of Philosophy; Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry

Dale Jamieson, Director of Environmental Studies, Professor of Environmental Studies and Philosophy; Affiliated Professor of Law

Affiliated Faculty (partial listing):

Graduate School of Arts and Science:

Judie Alpert, Psychology; Troy Duster, Sociology; Emily Martin, Anthropology; Thomas Nagel, Philosophy;

Affiliated Faculty (continued):

Rayna Rapp, Anthropology; Sharon Street, Philosophy; Peter Unger, Philosophy; J. David Velleman, Philosophy; Tyler Volk, Biology

School of Law:

Sylvia Law; Liam Murphy; Richard Revesz

School of Medicine:

Hugh Evans; Lois Katz; Allan Keller; Elsa Reich; George Thurston; Michael Weitzman; Arthur Zitrin

Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, & Human Development:

Sally Guttmacher; Helen Nissenbaum

Wagner Graduate School of Public Service:

Victor Rodwin; Beth Weitzman; Rae Zimmerman

Who are the students?

Recent college graduates, medical students, practicing attorneys, nurses, physicians, and writers. Some students are considering subsequent careers or doctoral programs in related fields. Others want primarily a better grasp of some of the central, most pressing moral and social issues of our time.

Can I pursue the program as a part-time student?

Yes, at the rate of two or three courses a year. Many of the courses are given in the late afternoon or early evening to accommodate students otherwise employed.

Does the program offer financial aid?

No, although some employers and professional schools may provide tuition assistance.