

BIOETHICS MINOR

Director: Nicholas R. Brown

Objectives

The Bioethics minor supports Loyola Marymount University's mission: the commitment to intellectual rigor, the education of the whole person, and the openness to ultimate questions of justice, human dignity, and the meaning of life experiences. As a recently emerged field of study, bioethics surveys in a systematic fashion ethical issues in the life sciences and medicine. In the Bioethics minor, students engage in philosophical reflection with an interdisciplinary focus. They will address ethical challenges at the beginning and at the end of life, together with those in the areas of genetics, brain research, transplantation, and regenerative medicine, to name but a few. More broadly, the Bioethics minor offers students the opportunity to think and write critically about the goals of medicine, the responsibility of science, and the relevance of public debate in a democratic society. Because of its professional relevance, the minor is especially recommended for students who envisage a career in health care or the law. Furthermore, with its emphasis on ethical reflection, it complements the curricular offerings of other majors in the humanities, such as Philosophy, Theological Studies, Psychology, and English.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Understand the main ethical theories in bioethics, together with the wider philosophical and theological grounding of bioethical questions
- Appreciate the “complexity” entailed by moral decision-making in bioethics, and the importance of dialogue among different moral positions
- Understand the importance of interdisciplinary dialogue between science and the humanities, relative to the ethical assessment of technological advances and therapeutic applications
- Understand the link between ethical reflection, personal moral commitment, and the relevance of social collaboration in the quest for a better world

Requirements

18-20 semester hours

For successful completion of this minor, an average grade of C (2.0) must be obtained in these courses.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Bioethics Core Classes		
BIOE 1000	Introduction to Bioethics	4
BIOE 3000	Advanced Topics Seminar	4
Subtotal		8
General Core Classes		
Select two of the following:		8
FFYS 1000	First Year Seminar (Biotechnology Issues)	
FFYS 1000	First Year Seminar (Health Psychology: Where Mind and Body Meet)	
PHIL 3100	Ethics	
PHIL 3105	Ethics of Love and Marriage	
PHIL 3110	Environmental Ethics	

PHIL 3115	Ethics for Engineering and Science	
PHIL 3145	Topics in Applied Ethics	
PHIL 3998	Special Studies (Race, Sex, and Gender)	
PHIL 3998	Special Studies (Science and Religion)	
JWST 4370	Nazi Germany and Questions of Conscience	
THST 3238	Theology and Science	
Subtotal		8
Electives		
Select one of the following:		2-4
AFAM 3998	Special Studies	
or HEAS 3998	Special Studies	
BIOL 585	Issues in Biotechnology Seminar	
HIST 4433	Health and Disease in American Culture	
PHIL 3200	Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 4210	Science and Religion	
or CATH 4210	Science & Religion	
PHIL 4830	Philosophy of Mind	
POLS 3350	Elderly and the Law	
PHIL 3998	Special Studies (Philosophy of Disability)	
SCEM 398	Special Studies (Healthcare and Humanities)	
SOCL 3250	Health and Social Justice	
SOCL 3150	Sociology of Health and Illness	
PSYC 3998	Special Studies (Science and Religion: Psychological Perspectives)	
Subtotal		2-4
Total Semester Hours		18-20

Note:

Other courses may be approved with the consent of the minor Director.

1. An average grade of C (2.0) must be maintained in minor courses.
2. If related to a bioethics topic.
3. This course is currently a 2.00 unit course. Enrollment in this course is subject to availability and is at the discretion of the Instructor.
4. Course availability will depend upon seat availability. Priority will be given to Health & Society minor students and history major/minors.