

Joint PhD in Philosophy and Health Care Ethics

Students interested in both bioethics and philosophy that wish to write a dissertation on bioethics from a philosophical perspective should consider the joint PhD in Philosophy and Health Care Ethics, offered by the Center for Health Care Ethics and the Department of Philosophy. Unlike a dual degree, this program offers one degree: a PhD in Philosophy and Health Care Ethics. The degree consists of 66 credit-hours; 21-24 hours in health care ethics, 30-33 credit-hours in philosophy, and 12 dissertation credit-hours. Pre-comprehensive exam coursework can usually be completed in six semesters (nine credit-hours each fall and spring semester).

Course Requirements

Health Care Ethics:

Foundations of Health Care Ethics

HCE 6010 / PHIL 6300: Philosophical Methods in Health Care Ethics / Bioethics (3 cr.)

HCE 6020: Religious Methods in Health Care Ethics (3 cr.)

HCE 6040: Interdisciplinary Methods in Health Care Ethics (3 cr.)

HCE 6050: Philosophical Foundations in Ethics OR PHIL Ethics seminar* (3 cr.)

Context of Health Care

HCE 6110: Medicine for Ethicists (1 cr.)

HCE 6120: Bioethics and the Law (2 cr.)

HCE 6130: Clinical Ethics (3 cr.)

HCE 6140: Research Ethics (3 cr.)

HCE 6150: Practicum (3 cr.)

TOTAL: 24 cr.

Philosophy:

PHIL 6220: Advanced Logic (3 cr.)

History of Philosophy (12 cr.)

Ancient Philosophy (3 cr.)

Medieval Philosophy (3 cr.)

Modern Philosophy (3 cr.)

History Elective (3 cr.)

*Topics – 9 cr. covering at least two of the following areas

Metaphysics

Epistemology

Social/Political

* Courses fulfilling these distribution requirements must be approved by both the Department of Philosophy and the Center for Health Care Ethics.

TOTAL: 30 cr.

Dissertation Research

PHIL 6990 (6 cr.)

HCE 6990 (6 cr.)

TOTAL for Degree: 66 cr.

Non-Course Requirements

Research Tools: Statistics and Study Design, Library Research Skills, Medical Terminology

CHCE Oral Comprehensive Exam

PHIL Prospectus Defense or HCE Written Comprehensive Exam**

**Students complete the written requirement based on their original program of admission.