

Joint PhD in Theology and Health Care Ethics

Students interested in both bioethics and theological ethics that wish to write a dissertation on bioethics from a theological perspective should consider the Joint PhD in Theology and Health Care Ethics, offered by the Center for Health Care Ethics and the Department of Theological Studies. Unlike a dual degree, this program offers one degree: a PhD in Theology and Health Care Ethics. The degree consists of 60 credit hours; 27 hours in health care ethics, 21 hours in theology and 12 dissertation 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:

HCE 6010: Philosophical Methods in HCE (3 credit hours)

HCE 6020: Religious Methods in HCE (3 credit hours)

HCE 6040: Interdisciplinary Methods in HCE (3 credit hours)

HCE 6070: Foundations of Catholic Morality (3 credit hours) OR THEO 5620: Fundamental Moral Theology

HCE 6110: Medicine for Ethicists (1 credit hour)

HCE 6120: Bioethics and the Law (2 credit hours)

HCE 6130: Clinical Ethics (3 credit hours)

HCE 6140: Research Ethics (3 credit hours)

HCE 6150: Practicum (3 credit hours)

HCE 6310: Catholic Health Care Ethics (3 credit hours)

Theological Studies:

-9 credit hours in Historical Theology (specific courses chosen in consultation with faculty)

-9 credit hours in Constructive Theology (specific courses chosen in consultation with faculty)

-Theology Elective (3 credit hours)

Dissertation Research:

THEO 6990 (6 credit hours)

HCE 6990 (6 credit hours)

Non-Course Requirements

-Research Tools Requirements (Statistics and Study Design, Library Research Skills, Medical Terminology)

-Reading comprehension of French or German (or another language with approval of faculty)

-Written and Oral Comprehensive Exams