Our Program

The Department of Bioethics at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) began its advanced training program in Bioethics in 1995. The program has trained many students and professionals who go on to encounter bioethical issues in the course of their primary careers. The highly successful Master of Arts program in Bioethics emphasizes the multi- and interdisciplinary nature of the field.

The Master’s degree program reflects our values:

- To provide excellent education in Bioethics and Medical Humanities for students and professionals in the School of Medicine and throughout the University
- To contribute outstanding research and scholarship to the world literature in Bioethics, Medical Humanities, and related fields
- To provide local, regional, and national service to health professionals, policy makers, and the public
- To promote international bioethical dialogue through research collaborations, training programs, and institutional partnerships

Our program is supported by experienced faculty and practitioners. It includes international collaborations and expertise, stimulating discussions among our diverse student body, and clinical experience in one of four world-class medical centers.
Why pursue a Master’s Degree in Bioethics at CWRU?

An MA in Bioethics at CWRU is a great way to:

- Explore the ethical and social dimensions of health care and medical research
- Add value to a professional career in medicine, law, social work, nursing, public health, or other health-related fields
- Enrich your clinical understanding and prepare for further graduate study in medical humanities or social sciences
- Help choose a career path after completing undergraduate school. You will be taught by faculty representing medicine, law, nursing, philosophy, public health, anthropology, psychology, and women's studies—among others
- Enhance your credentials for getting into professional or graduate school

Thinking about taking a gap year? Don't take a year off. Take a year ON!

Come and spend a year with us learning and experiencing Bioethics and Medical Humanities.

MA Requirements

The Master of Arts in Bioethics requires 27 credit hours of coursework. It can be earned full-time in one year or part-time in a maximum of three years. All students in the program will complete:

- Foundations of Bioethics: An interdisciplinary 2-semester course of 12 credits that covers essential topic areas in Bioethics and Medical Humanities
- Clinical Ethics Rotations: Students are exposed to clinical, psychological, socio-cultural, professional, and institutional contexts in which ethical issues arise
- Twelve credit hours of electives chosen from courses offered across the University

Dual Degrees*

Our Program has partnered with departments around CWRU to offer a number of dual degrees, including:

- Bioethics and Social Work (MA/MSSA)
- Bioethics and Public Health (MA/MPH)
- Bioethics and Law (MA/JD)
- Bioethics and Medicine (MA/MD)
- Bioethics and Human Genetics (MA/PhD)
- Bioethics and Nursing (MA/MSN)
- Bioethics and Genetic Counseling (MA/MS)

* Students must apply and be accepted to each program to qualify.

Study Abroad

Around the world, ethical issues in medicine and the life sciences are addressed in different ways, reflecting different cultural traditions and social systems. Gaining an appreciation for this international diversity is critical to students of bioethics around the world, and can be an illuminating intellectual experience.

To help address this need, the Department of Bioethics at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio (USA) has developed study abroad partnerships with a number of academic institutions in other countries. These 3-credit courses are open to all undergraduate and graduate students.
Visit us in person or online.

Case Western Reserve University
Department of Bioethics
School of Medicine, TA200
10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland OH 44106-4976
p: 216.368.6196

Apply Now!

Visit case.edu/medicine/bioethics/ for more information and to apply online.