

# BIOETHICS (MA)

NYSED: 31438 HEGIS: 0499.00 CIP: 26.9999

## Program Description

Founded through NYU's Center for Bioethics (<https://wp.nyu.edu/centerforbioethics/>), the Master of Arts in Bioethics degree at GPH is one of the first programs in the world to promote a broad conception of bioethics encompassing both medical and environmental ethics. You'll develop concepts and analytical skills that enable you to think critically about pressing challenges in the broad field of bioethics, and you'll also have the opportunity to focus your studies through flexible curriculum options and the one-on-one guidance of your advisor.

## Admissions

All applicants are required to submit the following:

- SOPHAS application form, select *MA in Bioethics* from the list of active NYU GPH programs
- BA, BS, RN, MD, JD, or other professional degrees, preferably with one or more courses in medical, professional, or environmental ethics; philosophy; medical anthropology; history or sociology; health care administration, law, or policy; ecology and environmental policy
- Official transcripts from each institution attended (or an evaluation of your credentials if you graduated from a foreign institution)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Resume/CV
- English language proficiency exam (TOEFL iBT or IELTS Academic) results for all applicants whose native language is not English and who did not receive the equivalent of a US bachelor's degree at an institution where English is the primary language of instruction.
  - International students requiring a visa to attend NYU must complete the IELTS exam in person at an authorized test center. If you are required to take the exam but will not need it for visa purposes you may choose to take it online or at a test center.

## Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
GPH-GU 5170	Introduction to Public Health	0
GPH-GU 1005	Advanced Introduction to Bioethics	3
GPH-GU 1006 or GPH-GU 1230	Advanced Introduction to Environmental Ethics Advanced Introduction to Public Health Ethics	3
GPH-GU 3555	Bioethics Practicum	2-4
<b>Electives</b>		
Select the remaining credits from electives chosen from the following 22-24 areas: Ethical Theory, Clinical Ethics, Legal and Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Biology and Medicine, Environmental Law, Health Law, Anthropology and Sociology of Medicine, Health Economics, Public Health, International and Community Health, and Health Policy		

**Total Credits** 32

## Bioethics Electives

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Bioethics Electives</b>		
GPH-GU 2085	Autonomy, Capacity, and Consent	3
GPH-GU 2033	Advanced Introduction to Ethics of Technology	3
GPH-GU 1230	Advanced Introduction to Public Health Ethics	3
GPH-GU 2222	Clinical Ethics	3
GPH-GU 2029	Controversies & Politics <sup>1</sup>	4
GPH-GU 2032	End of Life <sup>1</sup>	4
GPH-GU 2086	Ethics of Privacy	3
GPH-GU 2017	Ethics, Technology, and the Future	3
GPH-GU 1210	Justice in Health & Healthcare	3
GPH-GU 2027	Moral Indeterminacy <sup>1</sup>	4
GPH-GU 2026	Neuroethics	4
GPH-GU 2028	Nonconsequentialism <sup>1</sup>	4
GPH-GU 2025	Reproductive Ethics	4
GPH-GU 1165	Research Ethics	3
GPH-GU 2019	Technology, Public Policy and Health	3
GPH-GU 2105	Thinking Critically and Ethically in Public Health	1.5
<b>Non-Bioethics GPH Electives</b>		
GPH-GU 2435	Advanced Health & Human Rights	3
GPH-GU 2995 or GPH-GU 5995	Biostatistics for Public Health Biostatistics for Public Health	3
GPH-GU 2265	Climate Change and Global Public Health	3
GPH-GU 3260	Complex Systems, Disasters, and the Social Ecology of Health	3
GPH-GU 2242	Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication	3
GPH-GU 2106 or GPH-GU 5106	Epidemiology Epidemiology	3
GPH-GU 2217	Food Policy for Public Health	3
GPH-GU 2153 or GPH-GU 5153	Global Environmental Health Global Environmental Health	3
GPH-GU 2130 or GPH-GU 9130	Global Health Diplomacy Global Health Diplomacy	3
GPH-GU 9202	Aging, Health, and the Environment: A Global Perspective	3
GPH-GU 9224	Introduction to Urban Health and Equity	3
GPH-GU 9500	Topics in Public Health: Current Issues in Latino Health	3
GPH-GU 9265	Climate Change and Global Public Health	3
GPH-GU 9211	Environmental Injustice: From Local to Global	3
GPH-GU 5380	Data-Driven Decision-Making in Global Public Health	3
GPH-GU 5292	Public Health Law	3
GPH-GU 5250	Health & Human Rights	3
GPH-GU 5210	Global Health Disaster Preparedness & Response	3
GPH-GU 3353	Regression I: Linear Regression and Modeling	3
GPH-GU 3354	Regression II: Categorical Data Analysis	3
GPH-GU 3338	Machine Learning in Public Health	3

GPH-GU 2140 or GPH-GU 5140	Global Issues in Social & Behavioral Health Global Issues in Social and Behavioral Health	3	<b>Steinhardt Electives</b>
GPH-GU 5312	Global Perspectives in Reproductive Health & Human Rights	3	ENYC-GE 2019 Fundamentals of Environmental Thought 3 ENYC-GE 2021 Environmental Politics 3 ENYC-GE 2070 Urban Ecology 3
GPH-GU 2285 or GPH-GU 9285	Global Women's Health Programs - Analyzing Evidence to Improve Women's Lives Global Women's Health Programs: Analyzing Evidence to Improve Women's Lives	3	OT-GE 2764 Ethics & Analytical Reasoning 3 MCC-GE 2423 AI & Society 4
GPH-GU 2250 or GPH-GU 5250	Health and Human Rights Health & Human Rights	3	<b>Law School Electives<sup>1</sup></b>
GPH-GU 2110 or GPH-GU 5110	Health Care Policy Health Care Policy	2	LAW-LW 11551 Animal Law Seminar 2 LAW-LW 10211/ BIOE-GA 1211 Health Policy Seminar 2 LAW-LW 10387 Ethical and Legal Challenges in the Modern Corporation 2
GPH-GU 3185	Health Services and Policy Research	3	LAW-LW 11772 Global Environmental Law, Science, and Governance Seminar: Writing Credit 1
GPH-GU 2357	LGBTQ Health Disparities	3	LAW-LW 12991 A.I. and the Criminal Legal System: Aligning A.I. Tools w/Social & Democratic Values Simulation 3
GPH-GU 2158	Pandemics: History, Ethics, Politics, and Policy	3	LAW-LW 12980 Environmental and Climate Justice Lab 2
GPH-GU 5288	Perspectives in Migrant Health & Human Rights	3	LAW-LW 12968 Current Topics in Criminal Justice Reform Seminar 1 - Writing Credit
GPH-GU 9345	Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response: A Global Perspective	3	LAW-LW 12943 Introduction to Law and Society Seminar: Writing Credit 1
GPH-GU 2292 or GPH-GU 5292	Public Health Law Public Health Law	3	LAW-LW 12944 Law, Gender and Political Economy Seminar: Writing Credit 1
GPH-GU 2112 or GPH-GU 5112	Public Health Management and Leadership Public Health Management and Leadership	2	<b>Wagner Graduate School of Public Service Electives</b>
GPH-GU 2353	Regression I: Linear Regression and Modeling	3	HPAM-GP 2244 Global Health Governance and Management 3
GPH-GU 2182	Statistical Programming in R	3	HPAM-GP 2825 Continuous Quality Improvement 3 HPAM-GP 2836 Topics in Health Policy: Policy, Politics, and Power 3
<sup>1</sup> Prior to Spring 2023, these courses were previously Topics courses under course number GPH-GU 1008.			HPAM-GP 2839 Strategic Agility in Healthcare Delivery 3 HPAM-GP 2846 The Realities of Managing Complex Health Systems 3
			HPAM-GP 2852 Comparative Health Systems 3 HPAM-GP 4820 Digital Revolution of Healthcare 1.5 HPAM-GP 4822 Healthcare Information Technology: Public Policy and Management 1.5
			HPAM-GP 4851 Healthcare Emergency Management 1.5 HPAM-GP 4852 Ethical Issues in Healthcare Management 1.5
			PADM-GP 2472 Climate Economics 3 PADM-GP 2204 Development Assistance Accountability and Effectiveness 3
<b>GSAS Electives</b>		<b>Credits</b>	
EHSC-GA 1005	Ecotoxicology: Hudson River Case Study	4	PADM-GP 2213 Immigration Politics and Policy - Past and Present 3
EHSC-GA 1006	Toxicology	4	PADM-GP 4212 Managing Humanitarian Challenges 1.5
EHSC-GA 1010	Global Climate Change, Air Pollution, and Health	4	PADM-GP 2138 Macroeconomics: Policy Challenges for the US & Global Economy 3
EHSC-GA 2033	Aerosol Science of Particulate Air Pollution	4	URPL-GP 1603 Urban Planning Methods and Practice 3
POL-GA 3500	Seminar Comparative Politics:	4	URPL-GP 2624 Environmental Planning: Communities, Fairness, and Beyond 3
PHIL-GA 1002	Topics in Ethics & Pol Philosophy	4	URPL-GP 2631 Transportation, Land Use and Urban Form 3
PHIL-GA 3010	Topics in Philosophy of Mind	4	URPL-GP 2645 Planning for Emergencies and Disasters 3
PHIL-GA 2320	History of Philosophy: Selected Topics	4	URPL-GP 4632 Planning Healthy Neighborhoods 1.5
PHIL-GA 2294	Philosophy of Mind	4	URPL-GP 1605 Land Use Law: The Planning Perspective 3
PHIL-GA 2296	Philosophy of Language	4	URPL-GP 2612 Smart, Sustainable Planning in Amsterdam 3
PHIL-GA 2280	Political Philosophy	4	URPL-GP 2625 Environmental Infrastructure for Sustainable Cities 3
POL-GA 3550	Comparative Politics Workshop	2	URPL-GP 2641 Urban Transportation Planning 3
PHIL-GA 1104	Adv Introduction to The Philosophy of Science	4	
PHIL-GA 2285	Ethics: Selected Topics	4	
ANTH-GA 3993	Research in Anthropology	1-4	

URPL-GP 2665	Decentralized Development Planning and Policy Reform in Developing Countries	3
URPL-GP 2666	Water Sourcing and Climate Change	3

## Law School and Philosophy Department Courses

Courses within the Philosophy Department and the Law School require additional approval between the student, their advisor, and the instructor of the course.

### Law School Courses

NYU non-Law graduate students may request a Law course by submitting the Law Course Registration Request for Non-Law NYU Students (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/academicservices/forms/>) form to the Law Registrar Service Desk. The link to the Law Registrar Service Desk can be found in the lower right corner of [courses.law.nyu.edu](http://courses.law.nyu.edu) (<http://courses.law.nyu.edu/>). The form requires permission from the professor and the home school before submission to the academic services office. If a request is approved, the Office of Record and Registration works with the University Registrar to register the student.

### Philosophy Department Courses

Graduate courses (intended for PhD students) are by request only, and require permission of the Bioethics Center & the Philosophy course instructor. An application form is involved; be prepared to share a CV & Writing Sample. (Please plan ahead and allow plenty of time if requesting one of these courses for an upcoming semester). If you are interested in taking a Philosophy course (starting in your second semester), the form can be found here: [Philosophy Course Request Form](https://wp.nyu.edu/centerforbioethics/graduate-courses/) (<https://wp.nyu.edu/centerforbioethics/graduate-courses/>)

## Practicum

The culmination of your MA in Bioethics degree in your final semester is a hands-on practicum in a health or environmental organization, studying and reporting on the ethical issues that are addressed or overlooked, such as:

- Shadowing a hospital palliative care physician to examine moral and epistemic issues involving patient care
- Investigating environmental health responsibilities around a green roof promotion project in a city neighborhood
- Working with public health advocates to develop educational and policy responses to confusion about vaccines

You may choose to work in the field right here in the greater New York area, or you may choose to put your skills to work at another location across the globe. By the end of your experience, you'll have applied experience in real-life ethical issues in medical and environmental settings, making you stand out to potential employers.

### Practicum Sites

You'll have the resources and assistance of your advisors and members of the Center for Bioethics (<https://wp.nyu.edu/centerforbioethics/>) to connect with appropriate institutions to arrange a practicum that suits your interests. Previous sites have included Doctors Without Borders, Mount Sinai Hospital, and The President's Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues.

When you begin looking for practicum opportunities, we strongly advise you to periodically consult the practicum list (<https://nyu.box.com/s/al5qfqjqa84xg7n8lc0ea1y8r1jbt3573/>), as well as check our student research blog for various paid and unpaid opportunities that satisfy the practicum requirements. All sites must be approved by the practicum

advisor before you can commit yourself to the work. Once the practicum site is finalized, you should complete a practicum prospectus form and submit it to their advisor.

**Note:** Students are allowed to participate in paid practicum positions provided that the practicum is approved by their program advisors and not within NYU.

### For More Information

For more detailed information about practicum requirements, expectations, assignments, seminar, etc., please consult the Bioethics Practicum Information Sheet (<https://wp.nyu.edu/centerforbioethics/wp-content/uploads/sites/2771/2019/07/Bioethics-Practicum-Onesheet.pdf>). If you still have questions after reviewing this information, feel free to contact us at [bioethics@nyu.edu](mailto:bioethics@nyu.edu).

### Practicum Been Approved?

If your practicum site has been finalized, please complete a practicum prospectus form (<https://wp.nyu.edu/centerforbioethics/wp-content/uploads/sites/2771/2019/07/Bioethics-Practicum-Prospectus.pdf>) and submit it to your adviser.

## Sample Plan of Study

**Note:** This is a sample sequence; electives may vary, as will credits.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
GPH-GU 1005	Advanced Introduction to Bioethics	3
GPH-GU 1210	Justice in Health & Healthcare	3
GPH-GU 2025	Reproductive Ethics	4
GPH-GU 1165	Research Ethics	3
<b>Credits</b>		13
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
GPH-GU 5170	Introduction to Public Health	0
GPH-GU 1006	Advanced Introduction to Environmental Ethics	3
GPH-GU 2222	Clinical Ethics	3
GPH-GU 2032	End of Life	4
PHIL-GA 2320	History of Philosophy: Selected Topics	4
<b>Credits</b>		14
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
GPH-GU 1230	Advanced Introduction to Public Health Ethics	3
GPH-GU 3555	Bioethics Practicum	2
<b>Credits</b>		5
<b>Total Credits</b>		32

## Learning Outcomes

Students in the Bioethics program will obtain the following competencies upon completion of the program:

- Understand the normative philosophical theories that underlie bioethics, clinical practice, research, neuroethics, the ethics of new biotechnologies, the ethics of global public health, and ethics of animals and the environment;
- Grasp key ethical issues and questions that arise in bioethics, clinical practice, research, neuroethics, the ethics of new biotechnologies, the ethics of global public health, and ethics of animals and the environment;
- Analyze and put forward original ideas and arguments that engage with scholarly work and public policy in bioethics;

4. Understand how ethical issues are addressed in practical, medical and environmental settings.

In addition, students will be able to:

1. Identify the background literature for a particular bioethical issue;
2. Understand the relevant positions, distinctions, and arguments in a particular bioethical debate;
3. Analyze existing arguments;
4. Put forward original ideas and arguments;
5. Provide empirical and theoretical support for one's arguments;
6. Explain why the considerations put forward support one's arguments;
7. Anticipate and respond to actual or possible objections to one's arguments;
8. Write in a clear, succinct, and analytic manner
9. Identify ethical issues that arise in a professional setting and communicate those issues to a general audience.

## **Policies**

### **NYU Policies**

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

### **School of Global Public Health Policies**

A list of related academic policies can be found on the School of Global Public Health academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/global-public-health/academic-policies/>).