

# Bioethics

**Master of Science**

New York City, Online, or Hybrid Option

The choices that will dictate the future of healthcare and biotechnology.

As advances in biotechnology and biomedicine gain momentum, so do issues concerning their ethical, legal, and social implications in the United States and around the world. From stem cell research to healthcare reform, these topics involve critical dilemmas at the intersections of law, society, culture, public policy, philosophy, religion, economics, and history.

The Master of Science in Bioethics grounds students in interdisciplinary approaches and models to address the most pressing bioethical challenges. The program prepares students to act as responsible and responsive leaders in this new and ever-growing field. It also includes a concentration in global bioethics – the first of its kind in the U.S.

## Program Features

### World-Class Multidisciplinary Study

Study with faculty from across the University, drawing on the extraordinary resources of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Mailman School of Public Health, and Columbia's Department of Psychiatry. Through elective coursework on campus, students may study with faculty from the schools of Law, Journalism, Nursing, International and Public Affairs, and Arts and Sciences.

### Careers in Bioethics

Hear from and network with noted bioethicists, academics, authors, and medical professionals during lectures, book readings, and panel discussions in the Careers in Bioethics campus lecture series.

### Accreditation

Obtain Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit as a participant in any of Columbia's courses in Bioethics.

### Clinical Experience

Attend New York City-area meetings of clinical ethics committees, research ethics committees, and Institutional Review Boards (IRB), or pursue for-credit coursework including an IRB internship or clinical ethics practicum.

### Master's Thesis

Conduct research and/or literature review and analysis to write an independent work of scholarship, in consultation with a faculty advisor.

## Broad Applicability

The study of bioethics can enhance careers in a range of fields, including:

- Business
- Law
- Medicine
- Pharma
- Pre-Med
- Public Affairs
- Journalism
- Nursing
- Science
- Education
- Social Work
- Health Care Consulting
- Health Care Policy
- Regulatory Compliance

## Sample Courses

The program is composed of a master's thesis, six electives chosen from among dozens across the University, and these five core courses:

Philosophy of Bioethics

Law and Bioethics

Introduction to Clinical Ethics

Global Ethics

Research Ethics



*"Bioethics should be an integral part of medical training from the beginning."*

**Dr. Seth Waldman | '19SPS, Bioethics**

Director, Division of Pain Management at Hospital for Special Surgery, NYC,  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology, Cornell University

Apply Online [sps.columbia.edu/bioethics](https://sps.columbia.edu/bioethics)

### Program Options

Program Option	Required Experience	Course Formats	Time Commitment
<b>Master of Science (full-time)</b>	Professional or academic experience or interest in healthcare, biotechnology, and related fields	On-campus* or Online*	3 terms Master's Thesis
<b>Master of Science (part-time)</b>	Professional or academic experience or interest in healthcare, biotechnology, and related fields	On-campus* or Online*	6 terms Master's Thesis
<b>Dual Degree in Bioethics and Public Health (full-time)</b>	Professional or academic experience or interest in healthcare, biotechnology, and public health	On-campus or Hybrid: On-campus and online	2 years
<b>Dual Degree in Bioethics and Public Health (part-time)</b>	Professional or academic experience or interest in healthcare, biotechnology, and public health	On-campus or Hybrid: On-campus and online	
<b>Certification of Professional Achievement</b>	Professional or academic experience or interest in healthcare, biotechnology, and related fields	Online	Up to 3 years, part-time
<b>Non-Credit Courses</b>	Professional or academic experience or interest in healthcare, biotechnology, and related fields	Online	Custom
<b>Executive Education</b>	Industry experience within pharmaceutical and biotechnology	On-campus	Custom

\* Switching between on-campus and online is possible with administrative approval.

### Who Should Apply

- Recent undergraduates who plan to work in healthcare or related fields
- Pre-med students
- Pre-law students
- Students interested in pursuing further graduate study (e.g., Ph.D.)
- Post-graduate students in fields such as medicine, science, business, law, public affairs, or journalism
- Professionals in healthcare, law, nursing, social work or related fields

### Application Requirements

- Application fee
- Transcripts
- Résumé
- Two letters of recommendation
- Statement of academic purpose
- Official GRE/LSAT/MCAT scores
- Admissions interview (may be required)

Please visit the program website for full application details.



*"We're fortunate that we're the only bioethics program in the world with direct involvement with top-10 schools of medicine, law, public health, business, journalism, and international and public affairs, and top-10 departments of philosophy and other disciplines." No other school has that."*

**Dr. Robert Klitzman**  
Academic Director, Master of Science in Bioethics program