Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care & Bioethics (HCB)

Graduate Program Director
Stephen G. Post, HSC Level 3, Room 80, (631) 444-9797

Degree Awarded
Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care & Bioethics

Website
http://stonybrook.edu/bioethics/masters

Masters in Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care & Bioethics (HCB)

Our Program devotes equal attention to the mutually enhancing themes of bioethics, medical humanities, and the dynamic of compassionate care in a time when both patients and healthcare professionals find the healthcare system dehumanizing. Recognizing the need for an interdisciplinary approach to education, our faculty includes experts in Medicine, Ethics, History, Law, Literature, Philosophy, Religious Studies, the Social Sciences and Disability Studies. Our clinical faculty integrate perspectives from the humanities with their experience as health-care providers.

Those who should consider applying for the program include:

1.) current MDs, RNs, JDs, PhDs, and other professionals seeking further expertise and career development;
2.) medical students and others pursuing professional degrees in fields such as health care, health sciences, humanities, pastoral care, law, business, social work, and journalism; and
3.) post-baccalaureate students in transition from the BA or BS to a professional degree who wish to expand their knowledge.

Admission
Requirements for admission to the MA in Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care & Bioethics include:

1. The admissions requirements of the Graduate School.
2. Writing Sample: A personal statement describing the applicant’s relevant academic and work experience, and immediate and long-term goals.
3. Letter of Recommendation: Three letters of recommendation. At least two need to be from professors/instructors.

Note: Students who do not meet the above requirements may be admitted conditionally. Their status will be reviewed after the first semester of graduate study.

Make sure to check the program website for more the latest instructions, http://stonybrook.edu/bioethics/apply

Requirements for the MA Degree in Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care & Bioethics

The program requires students to complete 30 credit hours (10 courses) and can be completed in one to three years. Five core courses, including our capstone course, are required. For the remaining five elective courses, students must take at least three with our Center faculty and may take the remaining two either from our own courses or from select courses across campus that meet the criteria for credit in the program.

For a list of required courses, elective courses and course descriptions please visit our website.

Required Courses
HCB 501 Compassionate Care, Medical Humanities, and the Illness Experience
HCB 502 Landmark Cases in Bioethics and Law
HCB 503 Traditions and Values in Bioethical Conflicts
HCB 504 Special Topic in Biotechnology
HCB 599 Capstone Course

Electives
HCB 510 Literature, Compassion, and Medical Care
HCB 511 Bioethics, Disability & Community
HCB 512 Altruism and Bioethics
HCB 513 Disease and Society
HCB 514 Global Bioethics
HCB 515 Health Policy, History & Ethics
HCB 516 Ethical Issues in Human Reproduction
HCB 517 The Problem of Evil: Philosophical, Biological, and Social Dimensions
HCB 518 Empirical Bioethics
HCB 519 Public Health Law

**Program Faculty**

**Director**  
Stephen G. Post, PhD
Center Director
History of Bioethics; Geriatrics; Dementia; Religion; Healthcare; Compassion and Altruism

**Research & Teaching Faculty**

**Maria A. Basile, M.D.**  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Human Values and Medicine; Literature and Medicine; Medical Professionalism; Medical Education; Leadership

**Richard A. Bronson, M.D.**  
Professor of Obstetrics/Gynecology and Pathology  
Reproductive Medicine; Poetry; Narrative in Medicine; Medical Education

**John L. Coulehan, MD, MPH**  
Director Emeritus  
Literature and Medicine, Empathy, Narrative, Clinical Ethics

**Brooke Ellison, Ph. D.**  
Research Assistant Professor  
Hope and Medical Ethics, Stem Cell Research, Sociology and Healthcare

**Lynn Hallarman, MD**  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Cancer Pain Management, Medical-Legal Issues at End of Life

**S. Van McCrary, PhD, JD, MPH**  
Associate Professor  
Clinical Biomedical Ethics (Neonatal and Adult)  
Health Law and Policy, Medical Decision Making, Psychiatric Issues in Bioethics

**Carla Keirns, MD, PhD, MSc.**  
Assistant Professor  
Clinical Ethics, History of Medicine, Sociology of Medicine, Health Services Research

**Craig Malbon, PhD, MDiv**  
Leading Professor of Pharmacology  
Medical Ethics, Social Justice, End-of-Life Ethical Issues

**Dylan Smith, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor  
Quality of Life Measurement (Ecological Momentary Assessment, Day Reconstruction Method); Psychology of and Emotional Adaption to Illness and Disability

**Michael Vetrano, PhD**  
Associate Course Director, Medicine in Contemporary Society  
Clinical Ethics and Decision Making, Doctor-Patient Communication, Spirituality and Health Care  
Religion and Bioethics

*NOTE: The course descriptions for this program can be found in the corresponding program PDF or at COURSE SEARCH.*