Medicine — M.D. with Bioethics — M.A.

Program director, Bioethics, School of Religion
Zdravko Plantak

Program liaison, School of Medicine
Henry H. Lamberton

Faculty
The faculty for the combined degrees Bioethics with Medicine Program is drawn from Loma Linda University’s School of Religion and School of Medicine.

Admissions
Students are selected through a competitive process led by the School of Medicine in conjunction with the Bioethics Program. Selection is based upon the standard admission criteria for the M.A. degree in bioethics minus the GRE because the MCAT includes a critical-thinking component.

The program
An M.A. degree in bioethics taken as a stand-alone degree requires 48 units in bioethics courses. However, the M.A./M.D. combined degrees student is able to reduce the total units required by sharing 18 units between the two programs in the following manner.

1. 12 units from three courses in the medical curriculum count as credit toward the M.A. degree in bioethics: a) MDCJ 538 Medical Neuroscience, b) PSYT 526 Psychopathology, and c) PRVM 517 Lifestyle and Preventive Medicine. Acceptance of these courses for M.A. degree credit requires an integrative, supplemental eight-page paper that relates the courses’ content to bioethics. The rationale: These three courses in medicine have sufficiently relevant content to bioethics that they academically warrant being applied to the M.A. degree in bioethics requirements.

2. 4 units come from three School of Religion courses: a) RELE 704 Medicine and Ethics, b) RELE 714 Advanced Medical Ethics, and c) the deletion of one RELT course from the medical student’s combined degrees curriculum because its content is substantively duplicated in the Bioethics Program. (Students are informed of the combined degrees option at the beginning of their freshman year and are encouraged not to take RELE 704 Medicine and Ethics during Autumn Quarter if they are contemplating the combined degrees program. The School of Medicine’s determination about student acceptability for the combined degrees program can be made immediately after Autumn Quarter grades are posted.)

M.A. degree requirements
The following courses from the M.D. curriculum will be double counted for the M.A. degree in bioethics once the supplemental papers, noted above, are approved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDCJ 538</td>
<td>Medical Neuroscience</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRVM 517</td>
<td>Lifestyle and Preventive Medicine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYT 526</td>
<td>Psychopathology</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELE 704</td>
<td>Medicine and Ethics</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELE 714</td>
<td>Advanced Medical Ethics</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
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A model curriculum of bioethics course work taken throughout the four years of medical school

First Year
Winter Quarter
RELE 588 Explorers of the Moral Life 3

Second Year
Summer Quarter
RELE 524 Bioethics and Society 4
RELE 568 Bioethics and the Law 3

Autumn Quarter
RELE 589 Biblical Ethics 3

Winter Quarter
RELE 554 Clinical Ethics Practicum I 4

Fourth Year
Winter Quarter
RELE 598 Master’s Seminar I 3

Spring Quarter
RELE 566 Heroes of Health Care 3
RELE 555 Clinical Ethics Practicum II 4
RELE 565 The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Moral Aspects of Art and Illness 3
RELE 599 Master’s Seminar II 2

Total Units: 32