

Master of Bioethics

Health care professionals and others professionally interested in medical ethics find themselves increasingly confronted with moral questions and dilemmas. Such complex issues challenge the people who have to deal with them every day. They require careful study and well-considered judgement, as well as rigorous questioning and thorough debate. With several European universities and institutes the master of bioethics offers a common, post-academic, complementary education in health care ethics with an effective and condensed learning trajectory.

Erasmus Mundus

The Master of Bioethics has been selected as an Erasmus Mundus master course. The Erasmus Mundus programme is a co-operation and mobility programme in the field of higher education which promotes the European Union as a centre of excellence in learning around the world. It supports European top-quality Masters Courses and enhances the visibility and attractiveness of European higher education in third countries. It also provides EU-funded scholarships for third country nationals participating in these Masters Courses.



Education and Culture

Erasmus Mundus



Useful addresses

CO-ORDINATOR ERASMUS MUNDUS
MASTER OF BIOETHICS:
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CO-ORDINATOR MASTER OF BIOETHICS:
In Leuven: Prof. Dr. Paul Schotsmans
In Nijmegen: Prof. Dr. Wim Dekkers
In Padova: Prof. Dr. Corrado Viafora and Prof. Dr. Renzo Zanotti

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K.U. Leuven

Radboud University Nijmegen



Medical Centre



University of Padova

www.masterbioethics.org

ERASMUS MUNDUS



MASTER OF
BIOETHICS

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Objectives

Specific objectives of the Master of Bioethics programme are:

- to familiarise participants with important traditions in health care ethics, with major contemporary movements, as well as conceptual, methodological and practical issues in different areas of health care ethics.
- to pay specifically attention to European traditions in philosophy, theology and ethics
- to offer a common European education on ethical issues in health care. Both the European integration and the exchange of experiences from different national realities will be fostered.
- to promote the debate and exchange of ideas and experiences among the participants and staff from various countries. The programme aims at offering the possibility of developing a network of contacts, which will comply with this.
- to educate to the participants the competences needed to conduct research in bioethics independently. It wants the students to participate in the scientific debate and literature in the domain of bioethics.
- to prepare the students to integrate their theoretical knowledge with requisite attitudes and skills, in order to be able to apply these in a predominantly clinical context. The students should be prepared to participate in clinical ethics committees or in research ethics committees.



Teaching methods

The courses consist of a series of introductory lectures, allowing ample time for questions and discussions. Various sessions will be devoted to small in-depth discussion groups on real-life cases. Specific attention will be paid to European traditions in philosophy, theology and ethics. Some sessions will be designed to shed new lights on questions arising from lectures and seminars with the use of for example film as a starting point. Visits to health care institutions, hospitals and laboratories will also form a key component of the training. Finally, the exchange of ideas and experiences among the participating European countries and among the intercultural group of participants is seen as one of the programme's major strengths.

Admission requirements and application

In order to be admitted to the Master of Bioethics, applicants should be holder of a master's degree (possible degrees are medicine, biology, nursing sciences, political sciences, theology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, economics...) and to show evidence of good English language skills, either by proving that some of their previous studies were successfully completed in English, or by submitting the results of a recognized language proficiency test, such as the IELTS or a TOEFL.



Fellowships

Nationals coming from **all countries** other than the 27 EU Member States (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, the UK, Sweden, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, **Bulgaria and Romania**), the EEA-EFTA states (Island, **Liechtenstein and Norway**) and the candidate countries for accession to the EU (presently Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Turkey), who are not residents of any of the above countries,

and who have not carried out their main activities (studies, work, etc.) for more than a total of 12 months over the last five years in any of the above countries can apply for the Erasmus Mundus (EM) fellowships. The EM fellowship consists of a grant of 5.000 euro and 10 monthly instalments of 1600 euro. Although EU students cannot apply for EM fellowships, the Master offers them a unique opportunity to study in an international environment at different EU institutes. The Master also offers fellowships to European students and supports applicants in finding financial assistance.

Programme

The Master of Bioethics consists of 60 ECTS credits. The courses are offered during one year in an integrated study programme. The programme is organised over three trimesters. The students start in September in Leuven (Belgium), in January in Nijmegen (the Netherlands) and in April in Padova (Italy) Some activities are interuniversity.

K.U.LEUVEN

Ethical theories & methods of ethics	(6 ECTS credits, 180 student working hours)
Ethics of reproductive technologies	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Choices in health care	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)

R.U.NIJMEGEN

Introduction into bioethics	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Human genetics and medical technology	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Palliative care	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Treatment decisions for vulnerable groups	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)

UNIVERSITY OF PADOVA

Religion and bioethics	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Research ethics	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Clinical bioethics	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)
Public health and prevention	(3 ECTS credits, 90 student working hours)

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Seminar Interdisciplinary Research in Bioethics	(6 ECTS credits, 180 student working hours)
Publishable paper	(18 ECTS credits, 540 student working hours)

TOTAL 60 ECTS CREDITS

PART-TIME PROGRAMME: The Master of Bioethics is a one year programme running from the end of September till the end of June. Students enrolled in this programme are full-time students. For those who want to combine work and studies, the Master of Bioethics offers a special programme that can be followed over a period of two or three years. These students are part-time students. Some courses will be regrouped in a short period so that participants can take courses without being absent too long from work. This will be combined with some papers that have to be elaborated at home. These part-time students will be housed together in an appropriate centre in the three participating cities. Part-time students cannot be considered for the Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

How to apply?

Application should occur through the online application form for international students (see website: www.masterbioethics.org).

Deadlines for application are January 15 (for all countries of third countries wanting to participate in the Master of Bioethics with an Erasmus Mundus fellowship),
March 1: for all nationals of third countries without Erasmus Mundus fellowship,
June 1: for all countries of the EEA.

Tuition fee

For full-time students, 6000 EUR will be charged to cover the tuition fee for the universities which host the student and deliver the degree. For part-time students, 3000 EUR will be charged every year.



K.U.Leuven

Situated at the heart of Western Europe, K.U.Leuven has been a centre of learning for almost six centuries. Founded in 1425 by Pope Martin V, K.U.Leuven bears the honour of being the oldest Catholic university in the world still in existence and the oldest university in the Low Countries. The University is located in Flanders, the Dutch-speaking northern part of Belgium. With the Dutch language's steady rise to renewed prominence, the university was eventually split in 1968 into two new universities. The French-speaking Université Catholique de Louvain moved to the newly built campus in Louvain-la-Neuve. The Dutch-speaking Katholieke Universiteit Leuven remained in the historic town of Leuven.

Such a rich history of nearly six hundred years has provided K.U.Leuven with its own dynamic international dimension. Today international co-operation is regarded as essential for a modern university. Top-level research is judged according to international standards and implies interaction, co-operation and exchange, both of researchers and results. One European survey ranks K.U.Leuven among the top ten European universities in terms of its scholarly output. Likewise with regard to teaching, several quality surveys demonstrate that K.U.Leuven stands on par with internationally respected institutions in a large number of fields.



University of Padova

Along with such universities as Bologna, Paris, Oxford and Cambridge, that of Padua was one of the first to exemplify the idea of a *Gymnasium Omnium Disciplinarum* - an educational model that can now be seen throughout the world. Though the university's year of foundation is generally given as 1222, that in fact only marks the date from which there are records of a "fixed and publicly recognised university established within the city" and so the actual foundation can be dated even earlier, to a period when a number of professors and students had left the University of Bologna as a result of "offences to academic freedom and the failure to observe the privileges that had been guaranteed to teachers and pupils".

Studying in Padua means enjoying Padua, taking advantage of a stimulating environment that combines art and science, modernity and tradition. Padua is growing constantly, and its commercial and industrial development in the last few decades have made it one of the main cities of North-East Italy. However, the place has managed to keep a lot of its medieval character intact: surrounded by sixteenth-century walls, the old city centre is a place of busy market squares, waterways and silent arcaded streets where one can find towers, churches, palaces and surprising secret gardens.



Radboud University Nijmegen

Strategically located in Europe, Radboud University Nijmegen is one of the leading academic communities in The Netherlands - a place with a personal touch where top-flight research and education take place on a beautiful green campus in modern buildings with state-of-the-art facilities. Radboud University Nijmegen is a student-oriented research university. Established in 1923, it now has over 17,000 students, eight faculties and over a hundred study programmes (45 Bachelor's and more than 70 Master's).

Working on a campus with a truly international atmosphere, scientists at Radboud University Nijmegen are at the heart of numerous global research networks. Some 250 members of faculty come from abroad, and each year over 1,300 students from around the world come to study in Nijmegen. Nijmegen, the oldest city of The Netherlands, has a population of 150,000. It's a safe and friendly city, brimming with culture and it has a buzzing social life. The city is situated on the river Waal, in the midst of an abundance of green tranquil nature. The lectures will take place in the Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre.