
BIOETHICS

Director: Suzanne Holland, *John B. Magee Professor of Science & Values, Religious Studies and Honors*

Advisory Committee: Kristin Johnson, *Science, Technology, & Society*; Jung Kim, *Exercise Science*; Benjamin Lewin, *Sociology and Anthropology*; Siddharth Ramakrishnan, *Biology/Neuroscience*; Leslie Saucedo, *Biology*; Ariela Tubert, *Philosophy*.

About the Program

The interdisciplinary program in Bioethics (BIOE) is unique at Puget Sound, and rare among liberal arts colleges. This program of study encompasses work in the fields of biology, natural science, neuroscience, religion, philosophy, literature, sociology, psychology, politics, economics, and business. It enables students to study topics at the intersection of the life sciences and the humanities (broadly conceived) such as: regenerative medicine and human stem cell research, global health, race, culture, gender and health care, global warming, human and animal experimentation, genetic screening and gene therapy, human population growth, genetics, embryology, reproduction, death and dying, disability studies, neuroscience, and human/animal psychology. The program prepares students for analyzing and understanding the ethical, moral, cultural and historical dimensions of problems at the nexus of these topics. Faculty drawn from several disciplines and departments provide the unique cross-disciplinary perspective that is the hallmark of this concentration.

The Bioethics Program at Puget Sound helps students to analyze, understand, and integrate the challenging issues facing society as a result of advances in medicine, health and science. In keeping with its interdisciplinary nature the Program in Bioethics, through its design and course work, highlights the following University of Puget Sound curricular goals: *An understanding of the interrelationship of knowledge; familiarity with diverse fields of knowledge; the ability to think logically and analytically; the ability to communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing; informed appreciation of self and others as part of a broader humanity in the world environment; an acknowledged set of personal values.*

The interdisciplinary emphasis program in Bioethics helps to prepare students for a broad range of future careers, or for advanced study in medicine and the health professions, the sciences, research, teaching, law, journalism, public policy, hospital chaplaincy, biotechnology, social work, clinical ethics consultation, genetic counseling, and Master's programs in Bioethics. Students who successfully complete the program receive a designation on the transcript of "Emphasis in Bioethics."

Requirements for the Interdisciplinary Emphasis in Bioethics

Completion of six units to include:

- BIOL 101 or 111. *These courses can satisfy the Natural Scientific Core requirement.*
- BIOE/REL 292 or BIOE/PHIL 292.
- Three elective units at the 200-level or above drawn from at least two of the three elective categories: Scientific, Ethical, and Humanities & Social Sciences. Elective options are listed below.
- BIOE 400 Bioethics Integration Seminar.

Scientific

BIOL 212 Cell Biology
BIOL 213 Genetics
BIOL 362 Nanobiology
BIOL 370 Conservation Biology

BIOL 375 Developmental Biology
BIOL 404 Molecular Biology
BIOL 441 Cancer Biology
EXSC 331 Scientific Writing in Exercise Science
NRSC 201 Foundations of Neuroscience
NRSC 350 Methods in Neuroscience
NRSC 450 Seminar in Neuroscience
PSYC 312 Applied Psychological Measurement
PSYC 320 Psychological Disorders
PSYC 371 Cognition and Aging

Ethical

CONN 393 The Cognitive Foundations of Morality and Religion*
PHIL 105 Neuroethics and Human Enhancement
PHIL 228 Philosophy of Mind
PHIL 280 Social & Political Philosophy
PHIL 281 Moral Philosophy
PHIL 285 Environmental Ethics
PHIL 378 Philosophy of Law
REL 265 Thinking Ethically
STS 333 Evolution and Ethics*

Humanities & Social Sciences

BUS 478 Environmental Law
COMM 252 Health Communication Campaigns
CONN 303 Art-Science: Inquiry into the Intersection of Art, Science, and Technology*
CONN 320 Health and Medicine*
CONN 357 Animal Minds*
CONN 387 Never-Never Land*
CONN 478 Animals, Law, and Society*
ECON 225 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
ENGL 348 Illness and Narrative: Discourses of Disease
IPE 331 The International Political Economy of Food and Hunger
IPE 389 Global Struggles Over Intellectual Property*
SOAN 225 Asian Medical Systems
SOAN 360 Sociology of Health and Medicine
SOAN 365 Global Health
SOAN 370 Disability, Identity, and Power
STS 301 Technology and Culture
STS 318 Science and Gender*
STS 366 History of Medicine

* *Can also satisfy the Connections core requirement.*

For complete descriptions of the elective courses, please consult the relevant departments in which these courses appear.

Notes

- BIOE/REL 292 or BIOE/PHIL 292 is a prerequisite for BIOE 400.
- For students with a major in science (any major in Biology, Chemistry, Exercise Science, Geology, Physics, and Psychology departments, including the Natural Science majors) only one scientific elective may count unless special exception is granted from the Advisory Committee.
- Students who study abroad may apply one approved course toward the elective requirement unless an exception is granted by the Program Director.

Course Offerings

292 Basics of Bioethics (Version cross-listed as REL 292.) This course is an examination of Western philosophical and religious understandings of moral issues brought on by advances in health care, science and technolo-

gy. In this course, students will learn the “Principles approach” to bioethics, as well as other ethical approaches to the difficult moral issues raised by contemporary medical science and its clinical applications. To that end, case analysis will be used extensively in this course. The course is designed to help facilitate connections for students between medical/scientific advances, ethics, religious values, and American public policy about technology and health care. Each class session will alternate between theoretical and medical/scientific considerations, and the concreteness of bioethical case analyses. *Cross-listed as REL 292. Students may not receive credit for both BIOE/REL 292 and BIOE/PHIL 292. Offered frequently.*

292 Basics of Bioethics (Version cross-listed as PHIL 292.) This course is an examination of Western philosophical understandings of moral issues brought on by advances in health care, science and technology. In this course, students will learn the “Principles approach” to bioethics, as well as other ethical approaches to the difficult moral issues raised by contemporary medical science and its clinical applications. *Cross-listed as PHIL 292. Students may not receive credit for both BIOE/PHIL 292 and BIOE/REL 292. Offered frequently.*

392 Practicum: Clinical Bioethics This course is an experiential learning course that focuses on the practical application of ethical principles and philosophical reasoning in a clinical health care setting. This course provides the opportunity for students to learn how to identify ethical issues and properly to address them in the clinical setting, as well as to learn the practical approach to real-life clinical issues. Students split time between the classroom and the on-site hospital setting, taking information learned in different clinical settings and learning how to work through ethics issues. Students also learn typical duties of a clinical bioethicist including: consultations, education, and policy development/review. *Prerequisite: BIOE/REL 292 or BIOE/PHIL 292 and permission of instructor. Course alternates between on-campus and off-campus locations each week.*

400 Bioethics Integration Seminar This is the capstone course required of all students who aim to attain the interdisciplinary curricular designation of Emphasis in Bioethics. In this senior seminar students pull together the ethical implications of the courses they have taken toward the BIOE designation. Students individually or collaboratively examine a bioethical case issue from the variety of disciplinary perspectives that comprise the program in an attempt to understand the full complexity of the issue. The course rotates among Bioethics core faculty from different disciplines, who help model for students the challenges and promises of cross-disciplinary integration on particular issues of relevance. The following themes serve as semester-long focal points depending on which of the core faculty is teaching the course in any given year: Moral Philosophy, Ethics of Research, Narrative Medicine, Health Inequalities, Patient/Physician Interactions, Animal Models in Science & Art, Emerging Technologies in Science & Ethics. *Prerequisite: BIOE/REL 292 or BIOE/PHIL 292. Offered frequently.*