

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ONLINE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN HEALTH CARE ETHICS IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors establish a new Graduate Certificate in Health Care Ethics, to be offered by the Department of Philosophy in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, effective Fall 2020.

Background

There is a continuing and crucial need for health care and public health policy to respect and embody ethical considerations. The current pandemic has made this need especially clear by forcing us all to address especially complicated ethical issues at the intersection of health care and public policy, such as the rationing of scarce health care resources, proposed restrictions on immigration, and proposals for health-based differences in legal status (such as among people without or without antibodies). We are likely to face such ethical issues into the foreseeable future. The proposed Certificate Program is intended to further this aim by being an add-on to other training. The program is intended to supplement the credentials and other training of students in ways that will further their professional and educational development.

Program Description

The Graduate Certificate in Health Care Ethics provides grounding in the essentials of bioethical reasoning and practice, including its application to issues in the domains of medicine, law, and public policy. Online course offerings will help participants further existing career and education plans, facilitate changes in career and education plans, or help choose suitable careers, as well as further personal development.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the program is contingent upon acceptance to the Wayne State University Graduate School. Applicants must submit:

- (a) Transcript of an undergraduate or graduate degree in a field allied with health, law, or philosophy, with a minimum GPA of 3.0 ('B' average).
- (b) A personal statement describing the applicants reasons for pursuing this certificate as well as career plans or goals.

Curriculum Requirements

Students in the Certificate Program must complete four courses for 16 credit-hours total from the following list of courses. The courses completed must include at least one of courses 1 and 2 (and may include both).

1. Ethics, Law, and Health (PHI 6xxx) (new course)
2. Justice, Rights, and Health Care (PHI 6250)
3. History of Ethics (PHI 6280)
4. Foundations of Ethics (PHI 6300)
5. Freedom and Moral Responsibility (PHI 6290)

Submitted by: Keith E. Whitfield, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

6. Certificate Essay (PHI 6999)

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete the 4 courses in a maximum of 3 calendar years and with an overall GPA of 3.0 or better. Courses in which students receive grades of C or lower will not count toward the Certificate.

Program Administration

The Certificate Program will be housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and administered by the Department of Philosophy, its director of graduate studies, and its department chair. This administration includes program assessment. The director of graduate studies will act as the program adviser, assisting students with course selection and plans of work, and monitoring student progress.

Federal Student Aid Eligibility

The program is not seeking Title IV federal student aid eligibility. Students seeking the certificate will need to self-fund.

Budget and Resource Requirements

No additional budgetary resources are required for the Certificate Program. Courses will be taught by full-time faculty in the philosophy department, and the program will be administered by its director of graduate studies and department chair.

Accreditation

No specialized accreditation is required.

Approvals

The proposal was approved by the faculty and chair of the Department of Philosophy, the faculty council and dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Graduate Council, and the Provost.