

BIOETHICS, MDIV/MA JOINT DEGREE

The goal of the Master of Divinity/Master of Arts in Bioethics (MDiv/MA Bioethics) joint degree program is to facilitate an interdisciplinary conversation between theology and bioethics and to provide resources for students whose vocational aims require knowledge and/or competence in both disciplines.

Requirements Plan of Study and Requirements

A student typically will first complete two and one-half years of work (five semesters, 61-65 credit hours) primarily in the School of Divinity. This joint degree is designed to be completed in seven semesters. The final two semesters will be completed in the bioethics program but with some electives taken in the School of Divinity. Shared courses will be joint degree appropriate, selected from a list of courses agreed upon by the School of Divinity and the bioethics program. Students will complete a total of 91 credit hours in order to earn the joint degree. An outline of a typical MDiv/MA seven semester schedule is shown below.

Typical Joint Degree Program Outline

Year	Fall	Spring
Year One	Mainly Divinity (13)	Mainly Divinity (13)
Year Two	Mainly Divinity (13)	Mainly Divinity (13)
Year Three	Mainly Divinity (13)	Mainly Bioethics (13)
Year Four	Mainly Bioethics (13)	

Students are required to complete 61 hours toward the Master of Divinity Degree.

Code	Title	Hours
Biblical Studies		
BIB 521	Old Testament Interpretation I	3
BIB 522	Old Testament Interpretation II	3
BIB 541	Introduction to New Testament	3
BIB 542	Interpreting New Testament Letters	3
or BIB 543	Interpreting New Testament Gospels	3
Biblical Studies elective		3
Historical and Theological Studies		
HIS 501	History of Christianity	3
HIS 502	History of Christianity II	3
THS 501	Christian Theology	3
Theology elective		3
THS 521	Foundations of Christian Ethics	3
or THS 522	History of Theological Ethics	3
Ministerial Studies		
MIN 501	Art of Ministry I: Introduction to the Life and Work of Ministry	2
MIN 602A	Internship Reflection Seminar	1.5
MIN 602B	Internship Reflection Seminar	1.5
Two 200-hour ministry internship placements (as described in the Art of Ministry Program section above)		1.5
MIN 705	Third Year Capstone	1.5

Proclamation *	3
Relational Care *	3
Community Building *	3
Formation *	3

Divinity Electives

General Elective	3
One Divinity Ethics elective	3
Select five hours from the following:	5
MIN 636A Clinical Pastoral Education I	
Any Pastoral Care elective	
Any Theology elective	

Shared Electives

Elective credit hours chosen from either program	4
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* Courses fulfilling these requirements are offered each semester.

MA Bioethics Required Courses (26 hours)

Bioethics Requirements: (18h), including the bioethics thesis (6h). The joint degree program will utilize the current courses offered through both the bioethics program (<https://graduatebioethics.wfu.edu/courses/>) and the School of Divinity (<https://divinity.wfu.edu/academics/academic-resources/>).

Policies and Procedures Advising

Every student in the joint program will be assigned a faculty adviser from each school with whom they are expected to meet regularly throughout the duration of the program. Students are required to follow the student handbook of the school through which they are enrolled.

Continuing Eligibility

To continue in the program, the Graduate School requires that a student maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5.

This requirement applies to the MA component of the joint degree program. A student who fails to satisfy this requirement will be placed on academic probation and will have one semester to bring their GPA to 2.5 or greater; otherwise, the student may be dismissed from the program. The minimum grade point average required for successful completion of the MA portion of the degree is 3.0. Continuing eligibility in the Master of Divinity program is outlined in the School of Divinity's Continuing Eligibility Policy.