Urban Bioethics, M.A.

LEWIS KATZ SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (http://www.temple.edu/medicine)

About the Program

Urban Bioethics is a new and growing field that points a critical lens on the extreme inequalities of health and access to medical, legal, and other resources that leave many urban dwellers and communities distinctly disadvantaged, disenfranchised, and vulnerable. With its abundance of academic medical centers, Philadelphia should be one of the healthiest cities in the nation—yet health disparities persist in the city at levels surpassing national averages. Health status is especially troubling in North Philadelphia, where a disproportionately high number of residents suffer from preventable and treatable health conditions—and many battle chronic illnesses without health insurance. The interdisciplinary membership of Temple University’s Center for Bioethics, Urban Health, and Policy (CBUHP) includes community residents, faculty, students, and staff representing numerous schools within Temple University and the Temple University Health System, all working to improve health status for vulnerable urban populations and to position Temple University as a nationally recognized expert in the field of urban health and bioethics.

CBUHP is committed to defining and addressing the ethical challenges of urban health care, public health status, and policy. The M.A. in Urban Bioethics, offered through CBUHP, trains students in the ethics and values of health, health care delivery, and health law and policy underlying the urban context of density, diversity, and inequalities. Coursework is practical, methodological, and theoretical. The degree is designed for Temple graduate students and area professionals who face, or will soon face, the complexities and disparities of urban health, and want specialized training in the ethics, values, and politics of health care in our increasingly multi-dimensionally diverse society.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Health Sciences

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

Interdisciplinary Study: The degree is designed for Temple graduate students and area professionals who face, or will soon face, the complexities and disparities of urban health, and want specialized training in the ethics, values, and politics of health care in our increasingly multidimensionally diverse society. Dual-degree students can take advantage of the inherent interdisciplinary nature of a dual degree, while stand-alone M.A. students must take 15 credits of coursework from outside the Lewis Katz School of Medicine. Four dual-degree programs are currently offered:

- M.D./M.A. in Urban Bioethics within the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
- D.P.T. in Physical Therapy/M.A. in Urban Bioethics with the Temple University College of Public Health
- M.A. in Philosophy/M.A. in Urban Bioethics with the Temple University College of Liberal Arts
- Ph.D. in Philosophy/M.A. in Urban Bioethics with the Temple University College of Liberal Arts

Job Prospects: Students graduating with the M.A. in Urban Bioethics have the practical skills, including grant writing experience, and theoretical and methodological training to advance in their existing careers and compete more competitively for residencies, job placements, or other advanced graduate training programs.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students may register for courses after an interview with the Director, at which time they should present academic transcripts. Credit toward a subsequent degree program at Temple University is limited to 9 credits, unless the student enrolls in the Urban Bioethics graduate certificate program. All 14 credits required to complete the certificate are applicable to the Urban Bioethics M.A.

Financing Opportunities: Limited support is available for M.A. students concurrently enrolled in the M.D. program at Temple University.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: March 1
Spring: November 1
Summer: March 15

Late applications may be considered for admission, even as late as up to two weeks prior to the term's start date.

Dual-degree applicants should note that application deadlines for companion programs may be earlier than the deadlines for the Urban Bioethics, M.A. Please visit the companion program's description in the Graduate Bulletin for details.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 2-3
Students applying to the Urban Bioethics M.A. program must submit 3 letters of reference and original transcripts from all post-high school institutions attended. However, students already matriculated into a graduate program at Temple University who are applying for a dual degree may:

- upon permission of their recommenders and their home school, use their home school letters of recommendation for the Urban Bioethics M.A. application; and
- ask the Urban Bioethics program administrators to request a transcript from the home school.

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with your academic performance and/or from professional supervisors familiar with your professional experience, accomplishments, and potential for success in a graduate program.

Bachelor’s Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: While a baccalaureate degree is required for admission to the M.A. program, the major studied for the undergraduate degree is not specified.

Statement of Goals: Two to three double-spaced pages should address how you see the M.A. in Urban Bioethics as integral to your current educational goals and current/future career development.

Standardized Test Scores:
GRE: Required for applicants graduating from traditional undergraduate programs. Applicants for the dual degree and those already holding an advanced degree are not required to submit GRE scores. Other applicants should contact the Director of Education or the Program Coordinator for clarification about their need to submit GRE scores as part of the application.

TOEFL: 79 iBT or 550 PBT minimum

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:
Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 32

Required Courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 5001 Urban Bioethics 1 (Professional Students)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 5002 Urban Bioethics 2 (Professional Students)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 5022 Community Engagement I (Professional Students)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 5023 Community Engagement II (Professional Students)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 5031 The Values, Ethics, &amp; Economics of Health Care Delivery in Urban Communities (Professional Students)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 5041 Critical Social Science and Urban Bioethics (Professional Students)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UBTTH 9996 MA in Urban Bioethics Thesis (Graduate Students)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Total Credit Hours: 32

Culminating Events:
Thesis:
The thesis should make a novel contribution to the field. Toward this end, the student conducts an original research project, empirical or non-empirical, and produces a publishable paper. The research is undertaken with guidance from an approved thesis advisor from the Lewis Katz School of Medicine; the Center for Bioethics, Urban Health, and Policy; or a dual-degree student’s home department.

Contacts

Program Web Address:
https://medicine.temple.edu/departments-centers/research-centers/center-bioethics-urban-health-and-policy/educational-programs

Department Information:
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