



<p>1.0 Degree Title Please specify the two degrees for concurrent degree programs</p> <p><input type="text" value="Master of Science (M.Sc)"/></p> <p>1.1 Major (Subject/Discipline) (30-char. max.)</p> <p><input type="text" value="Bioethics"/></p> <p>1.2 Concentration (Option) (30 char. max.)</p> <p><input type="text" value="Non-Thesis"/></p> <p>1.3 Complete Program Title (info from boxes 1.0+1.1+1.2+5.2)</p> <p><input type="text" value="Master of Science (M.Sc); Bioethics"/></p>	<p>2.0 Administering Faculty or GPS</p> <p><input type="text" value="Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS)"/></p> <p>Offering Faculty & Department</p> <p><input type="text" value="FMHS / School of Population and Global Health"/></p> <p>3.0 Effective Term of Implementation (Ex. Sept. 2019 or 201909) Term</p> <p><input type="text" value="202409"/></p>
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4.0 Rationale and Admission Requirements for New Program/Concentration

5.0 Program Information
Indicate an "x" as appropriate

<p>5.1 Program Type</p> <p>Bachelor's Program</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master's</p> <p>M.Sc.(Applied) Program</p> <p>Dual Degree/Concurrent Program</p> <p>Certificate</p> <p>Diploma</p> <p>Graduate Certificate</p> <p>Graduate Diploma</p> <p>Professional Development Cert</p> <p>Ph.D. Program</p> <p>Doctorate Program (Other than Ph.D.)</p> <p>Self-Funded/Private Program</p> <p>Off-Campus Program</p> <p>Distance Education Program</p> <p>Other (Please specify)</p>	<p>5.2 Category</p> <p>Faculty Program (FP)</p> <p>Major</p> <p>Joint Major</p> <p>Major Concentration (CON)</p> <p>Minor</p> <p>Minor Concentration (CON)</p> <p>Honours (HON)</p> <p>Joint Honours Component (HC)</p> <p>Internship/Co-op</p> <p>Thesis (T)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Thesis (N)</p> <p>Other</p> <p>Please specify</p> <p><input type="text"/></p>	<p>5.3 Level</p> <p>Undergraduate</p> <p>Dentistry/Law/Medicine</p> <p>Continuing Studies (Non-Credit)</p> <p>Collegial</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Masters & Grad Dips & Certs</p> <p>Doctorate</p> <p>Post-Graduate Medicine/Dentistry</p> <p>Graduate Qualifying</p> <p>5.4 Requires Centrally-Funded Resources</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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6.0 Total Credits or CEUs (if latter, indicate "CEUs" in box)

7.0 Consultation with Related Units

Financial Consult	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Attach list of consultations.		

8.0 Program Description (Maximum 150 words)

The M.Sc. in Bioethics; Non-Thesis focuses on training in theories, methods, and practices in bioethics, including fundamental aspects and exposure to bioethical concerns. The program includes a project.

9.0 List of proposed new Program/Concentration

If new concentration (option) of existing program, a program layout (list of all courses) of existing program **must** be attached.

Proposed program (list courses as follows: Subj Code/Crse Num, Title, Credit Weight under the headings of: Required Courses, Complementary Courses, Elective Courses)

Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (48 credits)

Required Courses (30 credits)

BIOE 623 Healthcare Ethics (3 credits)
BIOE 680 Bioethical Theory (3 credits)
BIOE 695 Project 1 (6 Credits)
BIOE 696 Project 2 (6 credits)
BIOE 697 Project 3 (6 credits)
PHIL 643 Seminar: Medical Ethics (3 credits)
PPHS 624 Public Health Ethics and Policy (3 credits)

Complementary Courses (18 credits)

18 credits from the following:

BIOE 681 Bioethics Practicum (3 credits)
BIOE 683 Topics in Biomedical Ethics (3 credits)
BIOE 686 Directed Readings 1 (3 credits)
BIOE 687 Directed Readings 2 (3 credits)
CMPL 642 Law and Health Care (3 credits)
HGEN 660 Genetics and Bioethics (3 credits)
RELG 571 Ethics, Medicine and Religion (3 credits)

Or other courses at the 500 level or higher with permission of the supervisor and the School of Population and Global Health.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Box 4.0 Rationale and Admission Requirements for New Proposal

In conjunction with the MSc in Bioethics thesis option, we are proposing a new non-thesis MSc in Bioethics. The formation of the Department of Equity, Ethics and Policy (DEEP), which has absorbed BMEU, enables the School of Population and Global Health to offer a freestanding Bioethics Master's program. Through courses that BMEU was already offering and the development of new courses, the program will train students to conduct research on bioethics topics and critically consider timely and contemporary bioethical issues. This program will allow for a greater diversity of students, with different profiles and backgrounds to pursue a graduate degree and gain competencies in Bioethics. While the thesis MSc will primarily attract students interested in careers in research and academia, the non-thesis MSc will attract a broad range of students: medical and allied health professionals who wish to gain knowledge and experience in bioethics and those who wish to use the MSc as a terminal degree to pursue careers in research ethics oversight, health policy, clinical ethics and other related positions. It will also attract those who wish to pursue further education in the health professions (e.g., medical school, nursing school). Students will take the same (required and complementary) courses as the Thesis students, thereby creating a larger cohort of Master's students in Bioethics.

Admissions requirements:

Four members of DEEP will sit on the Admissions Committee. The Committee will consider applications upon receipt of the following documentation:

- Completed application form
- Non-refundable application fee
- Official copies of academic transcripts of post-secondary studies from all previously attended universities. Bioethics is an interdisciplinary arena, therefore we will consider applicants with Bachelor's degrees in any field.
- Curriculum vitae
- Two recent letters of recommendation
- A 1-2 page personal statement of interest
- CGPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 or GPA of 3.5 out of 4.0 for the last two years of study
- Proof of English proficiency for non-Canadian applicants whose mother tongue is not English and whose undergraduate education was not in English.

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) IBT (Internet-Based Test): 86 overall, no less than 20 in each of the four component scores


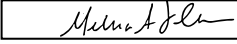
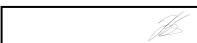
[IELTS](#) (International English Language Testing System): a band score of 6.5 or greater (Academic module)

The Admissions Committee's mandate is to decide whether: a) The applicant has the admission requirements to do graduate work, b) The Program is able to provide educational support for the applicant. After evaluation, the Committee will decide whether to recommend acceptance of the candidate to the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Box 7.0 List of Consultations

Experimental Medicine
Family Medicine
Human Genetics
Law
Philosophy
Religious Studies
Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Occupational Health and Public Health

See Appendix for consultations

10.0 Approvals			
Routing Sequence	Name	Signature	Meeting Date
Department	Tim Evans		
Curric/Acad Committee	Melissa Vollrath		Oct. 18 2022
Faculty 1	Farhan Bhanji		Oct 26, 2022
Faculty 2			
Faculty 3			
CGPS			
SCTP			
APC			
Senate			
Submitted by			
Name		To be completed by ES:	
Phone		CIP Code	
Email			
Submission Date			

REMINDERS:

*Box 5.4 – Must be completed; see section 6.5.4 within the New Program Guidelines at:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/sctp/guidelines>.

**All new program proposals must be accompanied by a 2-3 page support document.

BIOETHICS AT MCGILL-

The Non-Thesis Program

The School of Population and Global Health proposes to establish a MSc Bioethics Non-Thesis program at McGill, which will be offered alongside a MSc in Bioethics Thesis degree. The non-thesis option is intended for students for whom Bioethics is supplementary to their career. This might include physicians or nurses wishing to obtain training and credentials for Bioethics responsibilities in hospitals, or students who intend to subsequently pursue medical or law degrees.

The **non-thesis program** we propose will allow for a greater diversity of students, with different profiles and backgrounds to pursue a graduate degree and gain competencies in Bioethics. While the thesis MSc will primarily attract students interested in careers in research and academia, the non-thesis MSc will attract a broad range of students: medical and allied health professionals who wish to gain knowledge and experience in bioethics, and those who wish to use the MSc as a terminal degree to pursue careers in research ethics oversight, health policy, clinical ethics, and other related positions. It will also attract those who wish to pursue further education in the health professions (e.g., medical school, nursing school) after pursuing an MSc. Students in both programs will take the same (required and complementary) courses, thereby creating a larger cohort of Master's students in Bioethics. Although the creation of these programs has long been the desire of the Biomedical Ethics Unit, this degree program is now possible where it had not been previously. Since joining the School of Population and Global Health (SPGH), the Biomedical Ethics Unit (BMEU) is now incorporated into a new department: the Department of Equity, Ethics, and Policy (DEEP). It thus has status as a teaching unit to operate and offer an MSc program. Through this program, McGill will establish leadership in Bioethics training in Canada, while remaining apace with leading US academic medical centres. It will also establish training leadership in specific areas like research ethics, public health ethics, and empirical bioethics research—areas for which there is increasing student demand.

One of the key recommendations of the 2019 Cyclical Review of the BMEU was that it “be granted the institutional status and autonomy necessary to develop its own freestanding Master's level program in Bioethics. Doing so will enable it to set its own admission requirements and bioethics course content and will improve the quality of the experience for students.” Within the report, the reviewers note that “having control over a standalone program will enable the BMEU to appeal to a wider pool of students, especially from social science and humanities disciplines not represented in the current programs that accept students into the specialization in Bioethics. It would also allow the BMEU to develop a larger offering of bioethics courses that might be tailored more specifically to the needs of students pursuing a program in bioethics (as opposed to a different program with a ‘specialization’ in bioethics).” The current Graduate Program Director for the Bioethics Options fields dozens of inquiries each fall from students looking for an MSc in Bioethics, some of whom may find a non-thesis option more in line with their future goals.

After successfully coordinating the Bioethics Options since 1996 through six different departments, we are well prepared for this transition. The courses we have been teaching for more than 20 years will be updated and streamlined to form a cohesive base of required courses for our students. Complementary courses will continue to be provided by faculty affiliated with DEEP and by the departments that we have been working with for the Bioethics Options. All of the affiliated departments support this shift.

McGill would be one of four Canadian universities to offer a freestanding Bioethics Master's Program (the other three being Université de Montréal, University of Toronto, and Memorial University). The range of disciplinary expertise represented in the Department of Equity, Ethics and Policy (from epidemiology and economics through to moral philosophy) would make the McGill program stand out from others. Other stand out features include the international profile of many Department members, and the well-developed networks in the Global South that exist within McGill's School of Population and Global Health, and range of expertise would be unmatched by any of these programs. Within Québec, the Université de Montréal, through its École de santé publique, offers a few program options in bioethics. A research Master's [Maîtrise de recherche] is oriented towards research in bioethics, while a professional Master's [Maîtrise professionnelle] introduces students to the field of bioethics. These programs' success, the steady number of students in our Bioethics Options, and the number of student inquiries we receive and cannot currently accommodate indicates a need for greater graduate-level training capacity in Bioethics.

BMEU's merger with the Institute for Health and Social Policy to form DEEP will dramatically expand both the depth and breadth of offerings. In addition, the excellence of related programs at McGill, including programs in Epidemiology, Social Studies of Medicine, Neuroscience, as well as relationships with hospitals like the McGill University Hospital Centre and Jewish General Hospital, will offer students an extraordinary opportunity to develop a variety of skill sets, content knowledge, and professional training. For example, students can take electives and receive supervision from professors in other departments and enrolled in the practicum will have opportunities to observe clinical ethics consultation at one of Quebec's premier tertiary care facilities.

BIOETHICS CURRICULUM

The field of Bioethics is fundamentally interdisciplinary, drawing on theoretical work, primarily in philosophy, along with theory and research in other disciplines including sociology, history, clinical medicine, and health policy. Bioethics scholars use a variety of empirical, legal, and analytic approaches to provide practical guidance on contemporary ethical challenges in the life sciences, health care, health policy, and population health. Traditionally, this incorporates ethical concerns inherent in informed consent for healthcare, medical decision-making, human subjects research, resource allocation, and implementation of new biomedical interventions and technologies. Emergent challenges now being addressed by scholars in academic Bioethics

M.Sc Bioethics Non-Thesis (48 credits) Program Proposal
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY For Biomedical Curriculum Committee

programs include a broad range of ethical dilemmas, such as those posed by global health endeavours, climate change, food and food security, animal welfare, and artificial intelligence. Graduates of Bioethics programs go on to careers in clinical ethics, research oversight, health policy, medicine, law, and academia.

Given the diversity of intellectual influences and the range of potential careers, effective Bioethics training programs generally have three objectives, each of which will be met within our freestanding program. The first is to offer an overview of foundational theories and practices of bioethics through required core coursework. For instance, one key course, “Bioethical Theory,” will teach basic philosophical principles and theories underlying medical ethics (e.g., Principlism, Virtue Ethics, Feminist Ethics). This course will develop skills with various approaches to ethical analysis from a range of disciplinary traditions.

The second key objective is to develop content and methodological competencies around particular Bioethics problems. This will be achieved through three additional required courses offered by faculty members (i.e., Healthcare Ethics, Research Ethics, and Public Health Ethics). In addition, students will take courses on topics related to their capstone project through 6 complementary 3-credit courses.

The third key objective is to provide exposure to bioethics research and methods for students to develop critical thinking skills in bioethics through a Capstone Project. The Capstone Project will help the student to develop skills appropriate for negotiating ethical challenges that might arise in medicine, health care, health policy, and the life sciences. Students are expected to complete their coursework in Years 1 and 2, and spend a portion of Year 2 on their Capstone Project by working closely with a supervisor.

By the time students graduate with a non-Thesis M.Sc. in Bioethics, they should be conversant in recurring Bioethics controversies. They should also have developed critical thinking capacities in Bioethics, and a basic understanding of different research methods used in Bioethics, and in-depth exposure to at least one bioethical issue.

RELATED PROGRAMS AT MCGILL

Currently, Master’s Options in Bioethics are offered through the following Master’s programs: LLM in Law, MA in Philosophy, MA in Religious Studies, MSc in Experimental Medicine, MSc in Family Medicine, and MSc in Human Genetics. The Bioethics training and exposure that the Options students currently receive comes entirely from courses offered through the Biomedical Ethics Unit core or affiliated faculty.

The Master’s Bioethics Options currently offered require coordination with six participating academic entities across campus, each with their own admissions process and course and thesis requirements. This program has typically enrolled 6-12 students/year, and draws students from across North America, Europe, and various other regions. However, coordination through six departments has been challenging. BMEU has found it nearly impossible to run a cohesive

M.Sc Bioethics Non-Thesis (48 credits) Program Proposal
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY For Biomedical Curriculum Committee

program; in addition, it turns away numerous applicants who do not “fit” into any of these pre-established Master’s programs. These include students with backgrounds in the social sciences, social work, humanities, public health, political science, and public policy. Our plan is to shift most of the current Bioethics Options applicants to the MSc Bioethics programs. In particular, the MSc Experimental Medicine, Bioethics Option and MSc Family Medicine, Bioethics Option will be discontinued once the new programs are in place. Experimental Medicine, in particular, is eager to see this shift happen as soon as possible. The Bioethics Option in Experimental Medicine was established long ago out of expediency and not from a natural affinity. In fact, whether we have a new MSc program or not, the Bioethics Option in Experimental Medicine will be retired very soon.

A few students may continue to choose to apply for the other Master’s programs (Religious Studies, Philosophy, Genetics) with the Bioethics option attached (perhaps with an acceptance of one in each department/year), but the majority will likely opt instead for the new programming. One exception to this is the LLM Bioethics Option, which will continue and will continue to attract the same students it currently does.

Aside from the Bioethics Options currently in existence, there are no other closely related programs at McGill. The MSc in Public Health Non-Thesis offers interdisciplinary programming in global health, epidemiology, and health policy. However, it does not offer any program stream in ethics/bioethics. The ethics course currently offered to MScPH students on public health ethics is taught by a DEEP faculty member and will become one of the required courses for the Bioethics M.Sc. students. There are individual courses offered on campus related to bioethics and these will be offered as complementary courses to Bioethics students. However, there are no other Master’s programs related to our proposed program.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

We expect to see an initial cohort of 10 non-thesis students, in addition to enrolling two or three thesis degree students. We currently receive 35-45 applications for the Bioethics Options across the six departments. We expect that most of those will now apply for the MSc (thesis or non-thesis) in Bioethics instead (with the exception of those students applying for an LLM). In addition, we expect to attract new applicants who were not previously eligible (e.g., those with backgrounds in public health, bioethics, social sciences, political science, psychology). As the program becomes established, we hope to hire new faculty to accommodate more students in the future, with a goal of 20 students per cohort.

**CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

DATE: 5 April 2022

TO: Andrea Bjorklund, Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) – Faculty of Law

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

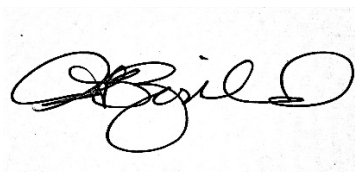
The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal. Specifically, a course *CMPL 642 Law and Health Care* taught by your department that has been included in the program's list of courses.

 X **NO OBJECTIONS** _____ **SOME OBJECTIONS**

COMMENTS:



Signature: _____

Date: 6 May 2022

APPENDIX 1

**CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

DATE: 10 May 2022

**TO: Dr. Rebecca Fuhrer
Chair - Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health (EBOH)**

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal. Specifically, a course *PPHS 624 Public Health Ethics and Policy* taught by your department that has been included in the program's list of courses.

 XX **NO OBJECTIONS** XX **SOME OBJECTIONS**

COMMENTS:

EBOH has no objections to the creation of the MSc in Bioethics. However, we are concerned about its impact on a course offered in our Department and anticipate that creation of a new Bioethics Master's will likely increase enrolment in PPHS 624 (a required course for Bioethics), a course that is heavily subscribed to by EBOH students and that has consistently earned praise from students in our program. As the Bioethics Master's program moves forward, it will be important for SPGH to anticipate administrative and budget arrangements to reflect the contributions of different departments to programs outside their department. This means that we strongly urge SPGH to anticipate administrative, budget, and teaching resources necessary to allow PPHS 624 to serve Bioethics Master's while continuing to play a vital role in the Epidemiology MSc and PhD programs and the MScPH program in EBOH.

Signature:  _____

Date: 12 May 2022

**CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

DATE: 5 November 2022

TO: Dr Anne-Marie Lauzon, Graduate Program Director – Division of Experimental Medicine

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal.

X

_____ **NO OBJECTIONS**

_____ **SOME OBJECTIONS**

COMMENTS:

Signature:



Date:

April 14, 2022

**CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

DATE: 5 April 2022

TO: Dr Isabelle Vedel, Graduate Program Director (MSc program)

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal.

X NO OBJECTIONS _____ SOME OBJECTIONS

COMMENTS:

Signature:

**Marion
Dove**

Digitally signed by Marion Dove
DN: cn=Marion Dove, o=McGill
University, ou=Department of
Family Medicine,
email=marion.dove@mcgill.ca, c=CA
Date: 2022.04.22 10:43:25 -04'00'

Date:

April 22, 2022

**CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

DATE: 5 November 2022

TO: Dr Eric Shoubridge, Chair – Human Genetics

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal. Specifically, a course *HGEN 660 Genetics and Bioethics* taught by your department that has been included in the program's list of courses.


XXXXX

NO OBJECTIONS

SOME OBJECTIONS

COMMENTS:

Signature:

_____  _____

Date:

_____ **3 November, 2022** _____

**CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

DATE: 5 April 2022

TO: Dr Ian Gold, Chair - Department of Philosophy

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal. Specifically, a course *PHIL 643 Seminar: Medical Ethics* taught by your department that has been included in the program's list of courses.

X NO OBJECTIONS

_____ **SOME OBJECTIONS**

COMMENTS:

Signature:



Date:

6 May 2022

CONSULTATION REPORT FORM
RE PROGRAM PROPOSALS

DATE: 5 April 2022

TO: Dr Garth Green, Director of School of Religious Studies

FROM: Dr Jennifer Fishman, Graduate Program Director – Biomedical Ethics Unit

The attached proposal has been submitted to the Curriculum Committee, and it has been decided that your department should be consulted.

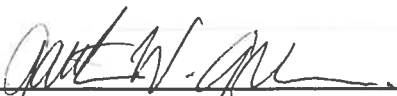
Program Title: Master of Science (M.Sc.) Bioethics (Non-Thesis)

Would you be good enough to review this proposal and let me know as soon as possible, on this form, whether or not your department has any objections to, or comments regarding, the proposal. Specifically, a course *RELG 571 Ethics Medicine and Religion* taught by your department that has been included in the program's list of courses.

 X NO OBJECTIONS SOME OBJECTIONS

COMMENTS:

I understand from program proposal documents shared with me that the proposed SSMU Bioethics MSc would not affect the SRS Bioethics MA. On that condition, I am glad to see its advent, and will be glad to see it run parallel with our degree. I further am encouraged that our core course will be employed therein.

Signature: 
Date: 3 May 2022