We're a society in constant change. New knowledge and technologies challenge our values, thinking, and actions. Biomedical advances, and the ethical implications of those developments, have effects across our society, not just in health care.

Professionals from fields intimately linked with society's well being—from nurses and doctors, to academics, journalists, clergy, chaplains, lawyers, clinical researchers, and policy makers—have an obligation to think critically and ethically about current and emerging developments in the life sciences in order to inform and help make the best decisions.

The Master of Bioethics (MBE) Degree Program at Harvard Medical School's Center for Bioethics integrates the theoretical underpinnings of ethics with practice in clinical, research, legal, and policy realms, and provides a mentored field experience culminating in a capstone project and presentation.

Whether you are curious about the moral aspects of clinical health practice, policy reform, advances in genomics, new pharmaceuticals, brain science, or surgical technologies, our bioethics program has something to offer.

Drawing on the rich intellectual resources of Harvard Medical School—the largest biomedical research community in the world—the MBE can expand opportunities, connections, and resources in your area of interest, no matter where you are in your career.

REBECCA WEINTRAUB BRENDEL, MD, JD
Master's Program Director, Center for Bioethics
Harvard Medical School

FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The Tools to Fulfill Your Potential

As science advances and expands, there is an increasing need for leaders who are able to think critically about pressing ethical issues. Master of bioethics students join the program from a range of educational and professional backgrounds, united by a commitment to developing expertise in bioethics through formal education. Many applicants hold a terminal or professional degree or are seeking to enhance their primary training in a related field.

HMS Faculty Associate Dean for Community Engagement in Medical Education Nancy Oriol, MD, (left) advised Manotri Chaubal, MBE '18, in her capstone project assessing community concerns about clinical trials.

"The MBE gave me the academic foundation and skill set, as well as a platform, to share my experiences as an effective bioethicist in Sub-Saharan Africa."
— GLORIA MASON, MBE '17, Coordinator, Liberian National Research Ethics Board/Partnership for Research on Ebola Vaccines in Liberia

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"This is a great mid-career program. The expertise that I gained in moral theory, conflict resolution, and U.S. health policy are vital to my work."
— YUSUKE MORI, PHD, MPA, MBE '17, Chief, Planning and Coordination Division, Bureau of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, Government of Japan

Global Community

Career-building and networking are important features of our program. Faculty collaborate with colleagues around the world, drawing students into their work and facilitating future connections. Alumni with Harvard MBEs work in the United States and more than a dozen other countries around the globe.

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Harvard Medical School
**Transformative Learning**

Harvard Medical School’s academics, biomedical research institutions, and teaching hospitals are world-renowned. In this dynamic environment, master’s students build expertise and experience, with learning tailored to their profession or area of interest.

The master of bioethics program equips students with foundational theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and the hands-on experience needed to engage in—and lead—the integration of ethics into meaningful work in their chosen field.

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Matthew Riley III, MDiv, studies issues at the intersection of theology and emerging biotechnology.

See course offerings and curriculum at bioethics.hms.harvard.edu.
The Capstone Experience

The capstone experience combines mentored fieldwork with a weekly seminar to discuss the ethics of bioethics with faculty, peers, and role models.

Students apply theory and analytic tools in real-world settings, developing the skills to participate fully in shaping moral discourse in their primary fields.

Elizabeth Siliski, CCRN, MBE ‘18, uses her bioethics education to affect change at the bedside and beyond. Read more at bioethics.hms.harvard.edu/news/nurse-ethicist.

Areas of field experience include:

- Clinical Bioethics
- Research Bioethics
- Public Policy
- Organizational Ethics

“T’m in a job I love, doing work I find meaningful and exciting, and I got this position through working with my capstone mentor during the MBE program.”

—SARAH BATES, MBE ‘17, Government Relations and Research Analyst, Massachusetts Medical Society

Read our students’ capstone project abstracts at bioethics.hms.harvard.edu/education/capstone-experience.
Learning Alongside Leaders

Each student is matched with a Harvard faculty advisor and a capstone mentor, who guide the student’s learning in the classroom, in the field, and as they transition into bioethics practice.

The Center holds weekly consortia on policy, clinical, research, and organizational ethics, annual conferences on current topics in bioethics, and meetings with authors. Students interact with bioethics leaders, discuss emerging ideas in the field, participate in peer review, and build life-long collegial relationships.

Boston and Beyond

Boston is home to many of the world’s leading hospitals, educational and research institutions, and bioscience industries. A short walk from the Center are fine arts museums and Fenway Park. From theaters, symphony, arts and sports, Boston has it all. Beaches, ski areas, nature trails and other cities to explore are a short trip from Boston’s historic hub.
“Together, students and faculty at the Center explore the expectations, conflicts, and new responsibilities of working in the field of bioethics.”

—CHRISTINE MITCHELL, RN, MS, MTS, Executive Director, Center for Bioethics

### Course of Study
*Individually Tailored Curriculum with 36 Credits*

One-Year Full-Time or Two-Year Part Time:
- Research Ethics
- Introduction to Clinical Ethics
- Ethics in Genomics
- Global Health Ethics
- Ethics in Reproductive Medicine and Women’s Health
- Health Law, Policy and Bioethics
- Neuroethics
- Methods in Bioethics
- And More

### Faculty
*From Harvard Medical School’s vast faculty and 16 Harvard-Affiliated Teaching Hospitals, More than 100 Center for Bioethics Faculty and Mentors Include:*
- Academicians
- Attorneys
- Journalists
- Nurses
- Philosophers
- Physicians
- Researchers
- Theologians
- Scientists
- Social Workers

### Harvard’s Bioethics Community
- Harvard Catalyst: The Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Center
- Harvard Ethics Leaders Group (HELG)
- Harvard University Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics
- Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School
- Program on Regulation, Therapeutics and Law at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital (PORTAL)
Global Community

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We seek applicants:

• Who care about responsibilities for patients, clients, and the public
• Who exhibit intellectual curiosity and humility
• Who are from a variety of professional fields and bioscience industries
• Who are eager to address complex moral challenges
• Who think ethically and critically about emerging issues in the life sciences
• Who care about social justice

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