

St George's, University of London

**MA Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities
PGDip Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities
PGCert Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities**

**PROGRAMME REGULATIONS - For students entering the programme from 2023
onwards
Approved by Senate**

Degree Title

1. The programme of study shall lead to the award of MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities.

Awarding body

2. The awarding body is St George's Hospital Medical School, a constituent college of the University of London.

Intermediate awards

3. The following intermediate awards are available with the MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities programme:
 - 3.1. PGCert in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities.
 - 3.2. PGDip in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities.
4. Applicants can apply for the PGCert and PGDip. In these Regulations, MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities is used to refer collectively to awards of PGCert, PGDip and MA unless it is otherwise stated.
5. Some constituent modules available within the programme may be taken as stand-alone modules.

Responsible Committee

6. The Course Committee is responsible for the delivery of MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities. The Course Committee is responsible to the Taught Postgraduate Courses Committee (TPCC) for quality monitoring.

Entrance Requirements

Academic

7. Applicants who have obtained a higher degree from a UK or Republic of Ireland university are required to have been awarded this at a minimum of 2:2 honours.
8. An Honours degree equivalent to a 2:2 or above from an approved institution of higher education outside the UK and Republic of Ireland will be accepted. Advice on equivalence of overseas awards will be obtained from the National Recognition and Information Centre for the UK (NARIC).

9. The procedure for application will also include:
 - 9.1. Submission of a personal statement
 - 9.2. Two satisfactory references. One of these should be a recent academic reference and the other should be either a second academic reference or a professional/employer reference. For those unable to provide an academic referee a second professional/employer reference will be permitted.

Applications for stand-alone modules

10. Applications for stand-alone modules will be subject to entry requirements 7. and 8. as described above. Applicants with non-standard qualifications will be encouraged to consider taking a stand-alone module prior to registering for a longer degree. The deadline for application will be one month before the start date of the module and suitable applicants would be admitted on a first-come first served basis until the maximum capacity for that module was reached.

IELTS

11. If English is not the applicant's first language, he or she must sit and pass the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a score of 7 overall and no less than 6.5 in each component, or an equivalent test and scores as approved by SGUL.
12. Test certificates should be dated within the last two years to be considered valid. Applicants will only be permitted to submit two test attempts undertaken within a 12-month period.

Non-standard applicants

13. Applications will be considered from non-standard applicants who can demonstrate that they have the capacity to achieve the learning outcomes for the programme.
14. The admissions policy for the MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities will include a procedure for considering non-standard applicants. This procedure may include inter alia:
 - 14.1. Submission of a personal statement
 - 14.2. Two satisfactory references. One of these should be a recent academic reference and the other should be either a second academic reference or a professional/employer reference. For those unable to provide an academic referee a second professional/employer reference will be permitted.
15. Non-standard applicants may register for a stand-alone module with an entitlement to transfer to the MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities if they complete a stand-alone module successfully.

Admissions Policy

16. The Course Committee shall agree, and from time to time prescribe changes to, the admissions policy. The admissions tutor is responsible for determining who is eligible for admission to the programme within this policy.

17. The admissions policy shall be made in accordance with St George's Equal Opportunities Policy and Statement on Students with Disabilities.

Recognition of Prior Learning

18. Recognition of Prior Learning is not permitted for the programme.

Period of Study

19. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 17 above, the minimum and maximum periods of study required are:

	Full-time		Part-time	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
MSc	1 year	3 years	2 years	4 years
PgDip	1 year	3 years	2 years	4 years
PgCert	1 year	3 years	2 years	4 years

20. A student who wishes to request an extension to the maximum period of study shall do so in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Senate (see 4.13 *General Regulations*).

Programmes Structure

21. The structure of the programme is as follows:

MA Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities (180 credits)

Students will complete all compulsory taught modules (60 credits in total), a selection of optional taught modules (60 credits in total), and a 60 credit Research Project

Core module (compulsory):

Medical Ethics and Law	(15 credits)
History of Medicine	(15 credits)
Introduction to Medical Humanities	(15 credits)
Future of Medicine Ethics	(15 credits)
Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities Research Project	(60 credits)

Optional Modules

Clinical Ethics and Law	(15 credits)
Research Ethics and Law	(15 credits)
Neuroethics	(15 credits)
Global Health Ethics and Law	(30 credits)
Culture and Mental Health	(15 credits)
Humanitarian Action and Ethics	(15 credits)
Global Health Humanities	(15 credits)

Imagining the Other	(15 credits)
Finding a Leg to Stand on	(30 credits)

Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities (120 credits)

Students must complete the core taught modules (a total of 60 credits) and a specific selection of optional taught modules (a total of 60 credits).

In order to ensure that programme learning outcomes are assessed, student will need to select from a specific combination of optional modules for the MA as follows:

- At least 30 credits of humanities-focussed module(s)
- At least 30 credits of module(s) primarily focussed on ethics and law (i.e. from this selection of modules: CEL; REL; GHLE; HAE)

Postgraduate Certificate in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities (60 credits)

Students must complete the core taught modules (total of 60 credits).

In order to ensure that programme learning outcomes are assessed, student will need to select from a specific combination of optional modules for the PgDip as follows:

- At least 15 credits of module(s) primarily focussed on the humanities (i.e. from this selection of modules: GHH; CMH; ITO; FALTSO, NE)
- At least 15 credits of module(s) primarily focussed on ethics and law (i.e. from this selection of modules: CEL; REL; GHLE; HAE)

Assessment

22. A combination of course work assignments, examination, and research dissertation are prescribed for the core and optional modules and will be detailed in the module descriptors and relevant module handbooks.
23. The dissertation will take the form of a report on the research project conducted during the course. The 60-credit research project has a word limit of 10,000.
24. Generic criteria for marking academic assessments will be made available to students.
25. Candidates will be given a single final percentage mark for each module, taking into account the weightings of the elements prescribed in the module descriptors. The pass mark for each assessment will be 50%.
26. The Course Committee shall agree, and from time to time make changes to, the Scheme of Assessment for the course. The Scheme of Assessment shall be approved by the Taught Postgraduate Courses Committee.

27. Students are required to make a serious attempt at all the summative assessments. Coursework must be submitted by the deadlines specified in the relevant module handbook unless written permission for an extension is given.
28. The Board of Examiners will determine whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit the award of credit for each module completed.
29. The Board of Examiners will determine at the end of the year whether a part-time student's progress in first year assessments is sufficient to permit continuation to the second year of the programme. Examiners will determine at the end of the programme whether a student's progress is sufficient to merit the award of the qualification for which the student has registered.
30. Examiners will determine whether MA students successfully completing module credits, but not completing the whole degree, are eligible for the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate.
31. Examiners will determine whether Postgraduate Diploma students successfully completing module credits, but not completing the whole Diploma, are eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate.

Re-Entry to Assessments

32. Students are entitled to two attempts at each assessment.
33. Course work assignments must normally be resubmitted within four weeks of receiving an initial fail mark. Marks for any module that involves a resubmission or resit will be capped overall at 50%. Students are required to pass each core module and a sufficient number of optional modules to complete the course. Students who persistently fail to submit course work by the deadlines specified may have their registration terminated.
34. Students who fail the dissertation at the first attempt will be permitted to resubmit the dissertation on one occasion at a date determined by the Board of Examiners. Marks for the re-submission of the dissertation will be limited to a bare pass (50%). Students who fail the dissertation at the second attempt will fail the MSc but may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma at the Examiners' discretion if they have successfully completed 120 credits at level 7.

Awards

35. Candidates for the award of MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities must obtain a pass in all modules undertaken within the maximum registration period specified.
36. Candidates for the award of Postgraduate Diploma in MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities must obtain a pass in all modules undertaken within the maximum registration period specified.

37. Candidates for the award of Postgraduate Certificate in MA in Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities must obtain a pass in all modules undertaken within the maximum registration period specified.

Distinctions and Merits

38. Criteria for the award of distinctions and merits will be specified in the scheme of assessment. Outright distinctions will be awarded to MA candidates obtaining an overall average assessment mark of $\geq 69.5\%$. The award of merit will be given to MSc/MA candidates obtaining an overall average assessment mark falling in the range 59.5-69.4%. There is no award of merit or distinction for the postgraduate diploma or for the postgraduate certificate.

Date of award

39. The date of award of the qualification for successful students will be the date of the Board of Examiners' meeting at which their final result is determined.

Board of Examiners

40. A Board of Examiners shall be appointed annually to serve from 1 October – 30 September with membership agreed by the Course Committee and approved by Senate. This membership shall include the SGUL Course Director, Chair of the Board (who shall not be the Course Director) and at least three other internal examiners (as defined in General Regulations 8.2.1.) deemed appropriate. At least one external examiner will be appointed each year as a member of the Board. Assessors may be invited to attend the Board where appropriate. The Director of Academic Administration (Postgraduate) or his/her nominee shall act as secretary to the Board.
41. The Board of Examiners shall have the power to determine all final marks awarded to students, to decide on students' progression within the course, to decide on the award of degrees, diplomas, certificates, merits and distinctions, and to make recommendations concerning changes to the Scheme of Assessment where necessary. The Board of Examiners shall meet at least once a year to fulfil these purposes.
42. Students enrolled on this programme are bound by the General Regulations in force at the time.