

# Bioethics & Society MSc

2018 entry

Duration: full-time: one year, part-time: two years

Study mode: full-time, part-time

[www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught-courses/bioethics-and-society-msc.aspx](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught-courses/bioethics-and-society-msc.aspx)



Advances in biomedicine, neuroscience, and public health raise some of the most difficult ethical and societal questions today. The Bioethics & Society course allows you to study these questions drawing on concepts, theories, and methods from philosophy and the social sciences. This will enable you to understand how bioethics influences the world, and how you can make an impact in the world.

## Key benefits

- The only UK course based in a social science department.
- Taught at King's College London, one of the top-25 schools in the world (QS World University Rankings 2016).
- Taught in the heart of London, at King's College Strand Campus.
- Offers a thoroughly interdisciplinary approach to bioethics that draws from key concepts, theories, methods and findings from philosophy and the social sciences.
- Lectures and seminars are given by internationally recognized faculty who consult for the World Health Organization, the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, and the U.K. Parliament Office of Science & Technology, among others.
- Collaborates with other departments at King's to serve students' individual needs and interests and create exciting career streams of optional modules.

- Offers a rigorous methods training in qualitative and quantitative research methods and critical policy research.
- Provides skilled supervision to develop competence in executing a small-scale independent dissertation research project.
- Offers a rich programme of guest lectures and seminars, including the KCL/UCL Joint Bioethics Colloquium, and the GHSM Seminar Series.
- Offers individualised career support to build a strong CV, helping students to identify opportunities to present their work, do internships, and secure funding.
- Collaborates closely with King's College Careers & Employability Office to enhance the employability of our students with targeted sessions.

## Course details

The course is taught in the heart of London, with immediate access to King's hospitals and laboratories, and close to government, health policy think-tanks, patient advocacy groups, medical and scientific societies, and the private health sector. We offer a unique 'real-world' approach to bioethics, allowing students to understand the social and political contexts in which bioethical controversies arise and proposed solutions are developed. In the course of their studies, students are equipped with essential knowledge and skills to make a contribution to resolving bioethical problems. In addition, internship opportunities enable students to gather practical insights and to build professional networks.

### Teaching

The following table will give you an idea of what a typical academic workload might look like as you progress through your studies:

Year or module	Lectures, seminars and feedback	Self-study (hours)
Per 15-credit module	15 hours (usually 1.5 hours of lectures/seminars per week over a 10 week term)	135
Dissertation module	6 half-hour supervisory sessions and 3 x 2-hour workshops	591

Typically, one credit equates to 10 hours of work.

### Assessment

The department assesses students on a combination of essays, written examinations, oral presentations and the dissertation. The nature of assessment varies by module.

### Regulating body

King's College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.



### Course structure

Courses are divided into modules, and students on this course take modules totalling 180 credits.

#### Required modules

You are required to take the following modules:

- Dissertation in Bioethics and Society (60 credits)
- Foundations in Global Health & Social Medicine (30 credits)
- Critical Bioethics (30 credits)

You are also required to take one of the following modules:

- Designing Quantitative Research for Social Science & Health (15 credits)
- Designing Qualitative Research for Social Science & Health (15 credits)
- Critical Policy Research for Health & Medicine (15 credits)

#### Optional modules

In addition, you are required to take 45 credits from a range of optional modules. It is strongly suggested you take at least one 15 credit ethics module. Optional modules may typically include:

- Global Health Ethics (15 credits)
- Ethics of Clinical Research (15 credits)
- Empirical Bioethics (15 credits)
- Pharmaceuticals & Society (15 credits)
- Researching Vulnerable Populations (15 credits)
- Ethics & Law in Medicine & Sport
- Any Level 7 module offered by King's, subject to approval from the module convenor and the programme director

You may opt to take an additional Internship module which will increase your total credits to 200 for the degree.

Part-time students will be expected to take Critical Bioethics, one research methods module and one optional module in Year 1, with the remaining required and optional modules taken in Year 2.

King's College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis to provide up-to-date, innovative and relevant courses of study. Therefore, modules offered may change. We suggest you keep an eye on the course finder on our website for updates.

### Location

This course is primarily taught at the King's College London Strand Campus. Please note that locations are determined by where each module is taught and may vary.

### Career prospects

Graduates from this course have gone onto the following destinations:

- healthcare consultant
- internal medicine physician
- research worker
- specialist registrar (old-age psychiatry)



## Fees and funding

### Full-time and part-time tuition fees – UK

The UK tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King's terms and conditions.

### Full-time and part-time tuition fees – EU

Current regulations allow some students to pay UK tuition fees on the basis of their EU citizenship or residency. Until these eligibility criteria are changed, the EU tuition fee will remain the same as the UK tuition fee.

The UK tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King's terms and conditions.

### Full-time and part-time tuition fees – International

The International tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King's terms and conditions.

### Deposit

When you receive an offer for this course you will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit to secure your place. The deposit will be credited towards your total fee payment.

The UK/EU deposit is £500.

The International deposit is £2,000.

For further information, please visit the fees and funding section of our website: [www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees-and-funding/index.aspx](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees-and-funding/index.aspx)

### Additional costs

In addition to your tuition fees, you can also expect to pay for:

- books if you choose to buy your own copies
- library fees and fines
- personal photocopies
- printing course handouts
- society membership fees
- stationery
- travel costs for travel around London and between campuses
- graduation costs.

### Disclaimer

This PDF was produced in August 2017. Although it was up-to-date at the time it was produced, please make sure you check our website [www.kcl.ac.uk/study](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study) or contact us directly for the very latest information before you commit yourself to any of our courses.

### Contact us

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