



**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Julio Frenk  
University President

**From:** Linda L. Neider  
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Neider', is written over the 'From:' field.

**Date:** August 31, 2021

**Subject:** Faculty Senate Legislation #2021-06(B) – Creation of a Dual MD/Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics Degree, College of Arts and Sciences, Department, Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Miller School of Medicine, Department of Medicine

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The Faculty Senate, at its August 25, 2021, meeting, had no objections to the approval of the creation of a dual MD/Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics degree, in the College of Arts and Sciences, Department, Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Miller School of Medicine, Department of Medicine as outlined on the enclosed proposal.

The proposal is enclosed for your reference.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

LLN/rh

Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey Duerk, Executive Vice President and Provost  
Leonidas Bachas, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences  
Henri Ford, Dean, Miller School of Medicine  
Maryann Tobin, Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences  
Daniel Pals, Professor, College of Arts and Sciences  
Kenneth Goodman, Professor, Miller School of Medicine

**CAPSULE:** Faculty Senate Legislation #2021-06(B) – Creation of a Dual MD/Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics, College of Arts and Sciences, Department, Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Miller School of Medicine, Department of Medicine

**PRESIDENT’S RESPONSE**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 9/17/21  
(President’s Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Leonidas Bachas, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences  
Henri Ford, Dean, Miller School of Medicine

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY  
(pending any additional approval by the Board of Trustees)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): \_\_\_\_\_

# Program Change Request

## New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: 04/09/21 9:31 am

Viewing: **MD//MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics Dual**

**Degree Program :**

Last edit: 04/26/21 1:10 pm

Changes proposed by: Maryann Tobin (m.tatum)

*Please list the authors of this proposal including name, rank/title, program/department, and school.*

**Proposer(s) Name**

Daniel Pals, Ph.D.

Professor, Religious Studies and History

Director of the MALS Program

College of Arts & Sciences

Maryann Tobin, Ph.D.

Assistant Dean

College of Arts & Sciences

Career Dual Career

Dual Listed Career Graduate  
Medicine (MD)

**Academic Structure**

| School/ College              | Department                 |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| College of Arts and Sciences | Master of Arts Liberal Sci |
| Miller School of Medicine    | Medicine                   |

Plan Type Dual/Joint Degree

Proposed Plan Code MDHM\_MA

Proposed CIP Code 24.0101 - Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies.

Plan Name MD//MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics Dual Degree Program

Will there be any subcomponents within the program such as concentrations, specializations, thesis/non-thesis options, or tracks?

No

Effective Term Spring 2022

First Term Valid Spring 2022

Program Instruction Mode In Person

### In Workflow

1. **PG Initial Review**
2. **PG MLS GR Director**
3. **PG AS Assoc Dean**
4. **PG AS GR Sr Assoc Dean**
5. **PG AS Faculty**
6. **PG AS Dean**
7. **PG University Accreditation**
8. **PG GR School**
9. **PG Graduate Council**
10. **PG GR Dean**
11. **Maryann Tobin**
12. **PG University Accreditation**
13. **PG FS Office for GWC**
14. PG FS GWC
15. PG Faculty Senate
16. PG FS for President
17. PG FS President Approved
18. PG Registrar

### Approval Path

1. 04/08/21 4:20 pm  
Patty Murphy (pxm491): Rollback to Initiator
2. 04/09/21 10:19 am  
Patty Murphy (pxm491): Approved for PG Initial Review
3. 04/09/21 10:48 am  
Daniel Pals (dpals): Approved for PG MLS GR Director
4. 04/09/21 11:16 am  
Charles Mallery (cmallery): Approved for PG AS Assoc Dean
5. 04/09/21 11:18 am  
Kenneth Voss

Where is the program offered?

| Location            | Please provide the % of instruction at each location. |
|---------------------|---|
| Coral Gables Campus | 20  |
| Medical Campus      | 80  |

Program Length (Years) 5

Total Credits 166

**To Be Published in the Academic Bulletin**

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- (voss): Approved for PG AS GR Sr Assoc Dean
- 6. 04/09/21 12:06 pm Maryann Tobin (m.tatum): Approved for PG AS Faculty
- 7. 04/12/21 2:52 pm Leonidas Bachas (l.bachas): Approved for PG AS Dean
- 8. 04/12/21 5:14 pm Patty Murphy (pxm491): Approved for PG University Accreditation
- 9. 04/15/21 11:00 am Tiffany Plantan (tplantan): Approved for PG GR School
- 10. 04/23/21 4:00 pm Tiffany Plantan (tplantan): Approved for PG Graduate Council
- 11. 04/25/21 11:18 am Guillermo Prado (gprado): Approved for PG GR Dean
- 12. 04/26/21 1:11 pm Maryann Tobin (m.tatum): Approved for m.tatum
- 13. 05/06/21 5:23 pm Patty Murphy (pxm491): Approved for PG University Accreditation

## Program Overview

The College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) is proposing the establishment of a new Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics (MedHum) as a joint degree option for medical students in the Miller School of Medicine's MD program as part of their NextGenMD curriculum.

This program allows for current MD students enrolled at the Miller School of Medicine the opportunity to achieve a companion Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics in which they examine the ethical implications of medicine, public health and other health professions from a variety of cultural, historical, and religious perspectives.

The Miller School's Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy will partner in offering a course in Bioethics and the Bioethics practicum, including opportunities for dual degree students to participate in Bioethics advisory boards variety of community, government, religious and other organizations, and special events for students in the MD//MA in Medical Humanities and Bioethics program. Faculty affiliates of the Institute who will assist in overseeing practice for dual degree students have provided expertise to the state's Department of Corrections, Department of Children and Families, and Department of Health, and to a variety of community health organizations. Through the Bioethics practicum, MD students will have the opportunity to collaborate with a range of government and community organizations.

## Program Mission Statement

The NextGenMD curriculum, in this partnership with the College of Arts & Sciences, strives to empower learners to transform lives and inspire learners to serve the global community.

To that end, the Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics is established on an interdisciplinary approach to issues and questions central to the history and development of narrative medicine. It is designed to provide a broad understanding of these issues and questions through a focused and systematic program of study drawing upon faculty from various disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Students in the dual MD//MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics program considered themes important to the physician of the future, such as clinical skills, health system science, social determinants of health, public health, and nutrition. Interdisciplinary study of values-oriented social sciences, bioethics, and the nature of human culture and communication were determined to be an essential part of career development for future practitioners.

## Program Goals

The goal of the dual MD//MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics program is to provide a rigorous master's level education in the legal, historical, philosophical, and cultural contexts of medicine.

## Student Learning Outcomes

*Effective programs focus on the design and improvement of educational experiences to enhance student learning. Expected student learning outcomes specify the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes students are expected to attain in the program. Please include an educational mission statement for the program, educational goals/objectives for the program, and specific student learning outcomes that you will use to assess the program. Student learning outcomes should start with "Students will be able to..." or "Students will demonstrate..." or similar phrasing.*

## MD Program

Students will demonstrate master of biomedical knowledge (i.e.. anatomy, biochemistry, immunology, etc.) required to practice clinical medicine.

Students will demonstrate clinical skills proficiency, such as performing a complete physical examination. Student competency in performing a physical examination and in clinical skills is evaluated by student performance on end of year 1 and 2 competency exercises.

Students will demonstrate application of knowledge and skills to clinical decision-making and the practice of medicine, including formulating differential diagnoses, and a diagnostic and therapeutic plan. Student competency in organizing clinical data, synthesizing clinical information and formulating management plans is demonstrated by performance on the United States Medical Licensing Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination.

## MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics Program

Acquire knowledge of concepts, methods and subject materials from core humanities disciplines (literature, ethics, history, and visual arts) in relation to current problems and issues in healthcare.

Consider multiple perspectives from humanities disciplines on ethical 'caring for the patient', with particular focus on the patient and provider as persons in social and cultural contexts that shape their knowledge, behaviors and attitude.

Develop skills and tools from humanities-based knowledge about patients, providers, and practices that can be applied in clinical practice, studied in scholarly research, and taught in healthcare education.

## Curriculum Requirements

## Dual MD/MA in Medical Humanities &amp; Bioethics

## Integrated Dual Degree Curriculum

## MD Requirements

## Phase 1: Pre-Clerkship

|                         |  |   |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| <a href="#">MDR 550</a> | Introduction to the Medical Profession | 3 |
| <a href="#">MDR 526</a> | Biomedical Principles of Health I      | 5 |
| <a href="#">MDR 527</a> | Biomedical Principles of Health II     | 5 |
| <a href="#">MDR 531</a> | Medicine as a Profession 1             | 4 |
| <a href="#">MDR 532</a> | Medicine as a Profession 2             | 4 |
| <a href="#">MDR 533</a> | Medicine as a Profession 3             | 1 |
| <a href="#">MDR 520</a> | Symptoms, Signs, and Disease 1         | 3 |
| <a href="#">MDR 521</a> | Symptoms, Signs, and Disease 2         | 4 |
| <a href="#">MDR 522</a> | Symptoms, Signs, and Disease 3         | 6 |
| <a href="#">MDR 523</a> | Symptoms, Signs, and Disease 4         | 3 |
| <a href="#">MDR 524</a> | Symptoms, Signs, and Disease 5         | 6 |
| <a href="#">MDR 525</a> | Symptoms, Signs, and Disease 6         | 5 |

## Phase 2: Integrated Clerkships

|                         |  |    |
|-------------------------|--|----|
| MDR ###                 | Transition to Clerkships                                   | 1  |
| <a href="#">MDR 715</a> | Integrated Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology        | 12 |
| <a href="#">MDR 716</a> | Integrated Surgery, Emergency Medicine, and Anesthesiology | 12 |
| <a href="#">MDR 717</a> | Integrated Medicine  | 12 |
| <a href="#">MDR 718</a> | Integrated Psychiatry, Neurology, and Family Medicine      | 12 |

MDR ### Medicine as a Profession Clerkships 1

1

MDR ### Medicine as a Profession Clerkships 2

3

MDR ### Medicine as a Profession Clerkships 3

2

## Phase 3: Advanced

|           |                               |    |
|-----------|-------------------------------|----|
| MDR ###   | Sub-Internship                | 4  |
| MDR ###   | Clinical Selective            | 4  |
| MDR ###   | Integrative Science Selective | 4  |
| MDR ###   | Critical Care Selective       | 2  |
| MDR ###   | Transition to Residency       | 2  |
| MDR ###   | Specialty Boot Camp           | 2  |
| Electives |                               | 14 |

MA in Medical Humanities &amp; Bioethics Requirements (30 credits)

|                            |   |     |
|----------------------------|---|-----|
| <a href="#">MLS 601</a>    | Aspects of Creative and Reflective Thought                    | 3   |
| <a href="#">MLS 602</a>    | Perspectives on Human Nature                                  | 3   |
| MLS 604                    | Survey of Medical Humanities and Health Sciences (new course) | 3   |
| MDR ###                    | Bioethics (new course)  | 3   |
| Electives                  |   | 12  |
| <a href="#">MLS 696</a>    | Directed Readings   | 3   |
| or <a href="#">MLS 697</a> | Directed Readings   |     |
| MDR ###                    | Medical Humanities and Bioethics Practicum (new course)       | 3   |
| Total Credit Hours         |   | 166 |

## Plan of Study



**Empower to Transform, Inspire to Serve**

**PRE-CLERKSHIP PHASE**

|                                  |     |  |     |     |     |   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>1A: Inspire &amp; Empower</b> |     | <b>1B: Foundations Biomedical Sciences</b> |     |     |     | <b>1C: Examine Human Disease through Symptoms</b> |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| AUG                              | SEP | OCT  | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB   | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP |

**CLERKSHIP PHASE: Integrated Clerkships**

|  |     |     |     |                             |     |     |     |                              |     |     |     |              |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-----|-----|
| <b>CLERKSHIP PHASE: Integrated Clerkships</b>                                  |     |     |     |                             |     |     |     |                              |     |     |     | <b>USMLE</b> |     |     |
| OCT  | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB                         | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN                          | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT          | NOV | DEC |
| <b>Mind, Matter, and Medicine   Health through the Lifespan   Interessions</b> |     |     |     | <b>Practice of Medicine</b> |     |     |     | <b>From the ER to the OR</b> |     |     |     |              |     |     |

**ADVANCED PHASE: Pathways & Capstones**

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| JAN   | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY |
| <b>Sub-internship   Electives   Pathways and Dual Degrees   Specialty Selectives   Integrated Science Capstones</b> |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**Medicine as a Profession (Longitudinal)**  
Clinical Skills | Professionalism | Communication Skills | Population Health | Health System Sciences | Nutrition & Wellness | Personal Development

**Scholarly Concentration (Longitudinal)**

<http://www.med.miami.edu/education>

## Dual MD//MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics Plan of Study

MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics courses are integrated into the NextGenMD curriculum to allow for MD students to complete both degree programs simultaneously.

### Plan of Study Grid

Year One

Spring Credit Hours

|  |   |
|--|---|
| M.D. Pre-Clerkship Phase 1C  |   |
| MLS 604 Survey of Medical Humanities & Bioethics (new course)      | 3 |
| <a href="#">MLS 601</a> Aspects of Creative and Reflective Thought | 3 |
| Credit Hours   | 6 |

Summer I

|   |   |
|---|---|
| M.D. Pre-Clerkship Phase 1C                       |   |
| <a href="#">MLS 611</a> Studies in the Humanities | 3 |
| MDR ### Bioethics (new course)                    | 3 |
| Credit Hours                                      | 6 |

Summer II

|   |   |
|---|---|
| M.D. Pre-Clerkship Phase 1C                       |   |
| <a href="#">MLS 621</a> Studies in the Humanities | 3 |
| <a href="#">MLS 631</a> Studies in the Humanities | 3 |
| Credit Hours                                      | 6 |

Year Two

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Fall  |   |
| M.D. Pre-Clerkship Phase 1C/Clerkship Phase |   |
| <a href="#">MLS 696</a> Directed Readings   | 3 |
| Credit Hours                                | 3 |

Year Three

Spring

M.D. Advanced Phase

|                         |   |    |
|-------------------------|---|----|
| <a href="#">MLS 602</a> | Perspectives on Human Nature                            | 3  |
| <a href="#">MLS 625</a> | Special Topics  | 3  |
| MDR ###                 | Medical Humanities and Bioethics Practicum (new course) | 3  |
|                         | Credit Hours  | 9  |
|                         | Total Credit Hours                                      | 30 |

Admission Requirements

Students must first be accepted to the University of Miami's MD Program. First year MD students should then apply separately to the MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics program through this process:

Completed application for admission submitted through CollegeNet

Statement of purpose

A current resume

Official transcripts from each post-secondary institution attended (may be duplicates from the student's MD application)

An official TOEFL or IELTS score is required as proof of English proficiency for international applicants who did not receive a degree in the United States or a foreign country where English is the primary language. The following minimum score is required for admission to a graduate business degree program.

TOEFL - 94 or above (iBT only)

IELTS - 7.0 or above

Upon receipt of the student's application, an admissions interview will be scheduled with the MA director or another designee from the MA program.

**QUESTIONS?**

Please contact the College of Arts & Sciences' Office of Interdisciplinary and Professional Studies at (305) 284-8783 or by email at ipsoffice@miami.edu.

## Rationale

### Rationale

In May 2019, Miller School of Medicine Dean Henri R. Ford, issued a bold challenge to the faculty of the Medical School to imagine a multi-phase redesign of the M.D. curriculum, allowing students to develop a personalized pathway in a specialized area of interest, consisting of scholarly or joint degree pursuits. To that end, the College of Arts & Sciences (A&S) was approached to consider the development of a graduate program for medical students and medical professionals.

The College of Arts & Sciences' Center for the Humanities assembled a task force to survey the courses offered in the medical humanities (at both graduate and undergraduate levels) as well as the many faculty working in that field. The result was a robust list of classes and faculty across multiple departments of the College able to offer tailored special topics classes through the MALS program for this unique degree offering. A&S already offers minors in Medical Humanities and Social Sciences & Medicine, and master's degrees in Global Health and Society, Medical Anthropology, Latin American Studies, and Liberal Studies, all of which are taught by faculty able to teach graduate courses in the medical humanities.

The Medical School's "Medicine as a Profession" team emphasized that skills and attitudes such as leadership, teamwork, communication, and empathy must be part of what counts in the evaluation of students. Therefore, as the College of Arts & Sciences' launches a stand-alone M.A. in Medical Humanities & Bioethics, we are also requesting approval for a dual MD/M.A. in Medical Humanities and Bioethics degree program. Graduates of this unique dual degree program will be able to use their multidisciplinary understanding of medicine in their teaching, advising, and ethical decision making. At the core of this program are the humanities, the art of medicine, and understanding the cultures and religious beliefs essential to patient interactions. Essential to this degree program is the acquisition of a breadth of knowledge to help in developing clinical empathy, an increased fluency of the interpersonal dynamics between physicians, patients, and their families, and the larger social contexts of care. Students will have the opportunity to design an individualized plan of study using the various courses available through the College of Arts & Sciences., similar to the program established at Northwestern, Duke, and Emory Universities.



## Market Demand

There are examples of MD joint degrees in the humanities at several peer and aspirational peer institutions across the country, including Northwestern, Stanford, Duke, and Drexel, to address the growing demand for professionals in the medical fields to comprehend and appreciate the ethical, social, and cultural aspects of healthcare. Specific to the demand for programs in the medical humanities are the importance of understanding the interactions between human experience and medical practice, and the socio-cultural contexts of a wide range of topics including empathy, belief systems, and ethics.

In order to meet this unique demand, and because the College did not have a formally organized degree program in the medical humanities and medical ethics, it was necessary to create a new degree for this purpose.

Given the equally unique and demanding schedule of MD students and other medical professionals, it was necessary to provide a framework of flexibility, in both course offerings and schedule. The College already has a model for supporting these unique needs by mirroring the existing Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) program. MALS provides coursework for the MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics and the dual degree, including a plan of study in the medical humanities that works with MD students' schedule.

The College, through the MALS program, already provides interdisciplinary coursework and flexible class offerings to accommodate working professionals or, in this case, the rigorous M.D. student schedule. MALS is a 30-credit degree with all classes being offered in the evenings or online. There are three core courses (MLS 601, MLS 602, and MLS 603) and seven electives, which span a range of courses and vary by term. MALS faculty are active in advising students and recruiting faculty to teach unique courses, designed to meet the current cohorts needs and interested. MALS is also able to regularly offer special topics courses independent of, or co-listed with, courses in the Classics, History, Religious Studies, Philosophy, Art & Art History, and English departments.

Because the MALS program is an interdisciplinary revenue-generating program of the College, it has both the budgetary and curricular mechanisms in place to support the MA in Medical Humanities and Bioethics and the dual degree.

The MALS program has a rich history of providing for intellectual and personal growth. MALS students come from varied backgrounds, and many alumni and current students are medical professionals, including tuition remission students from the Medical Campus. It is therefore our hope that the addition of this degree program will provide for additional courses in the medical humanities and that these courses will be mutually beneficial for current MALS students and those who participate as part of the dual MD/M.A. in Medical Humanities and Bioethics degree program.

## Relationship to Other Programs

There are several existing joint degree programs within the College of Arts & Sciences and the Miller School of Medicine, including dual and joint MD/Masters options as part of the NextGenMD curriculum. Relevant existing programs include:

MAIA/Master of Public Health (MPH)

MAIA/Master of Public Administration (MPA)

MD/Master of Business Administration (MBA)

MD/MPH

MD/Juris Doctor

The College of Arts & Sciences and the Miller School of Medicine were recently approved to offer a joint MD/MA in International Administration and MD/Certificate in Security Management in April 2021.

## Library Resources Available and Needed to Support the Program

No new library resources will be needed to support this degree program.

## Laboratory Facilities, Equipment, and Space Available and Needed to Support the Program

No new space or facilities will be needed to support this degree program.

## Other Resources Available or Needed to Support the Program

As MAIA is an existing revenue-generating program, MAIA is able to support hiring adjunct faculty and paying faculty overloads as needed by student demand.

## Curriculum

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### Program Curriculum

This dual degree is integrated between the MD curriculum and the new curriculum established in the MA in Medical Humanities and Bioethics degree. No new courses are needed to accommodate this joint degree program, other than those referenced in the stand-alone MA proposal.

Upload Syllabi for Any New Courses

Proposed Schedule of Course Offerings for the First Three Years

The College of Arts & Sciences already provides interdisciplinary coursework and flexible class offerings to accommodate working professionals or, in this case, the rigorous MD student schedule. The MA in Medical Humanities and Bioethics is a 30-credit program, with all classes being offered in the evenings, over the summer, or selectively online. The Plan of Study is outlined above and outlines the 10 required MA course integrated into the MD/MA program.

## Faculty

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### Program Directors

This degree will be managed by a Medical Humanities & Bioethics advisory board comprised of faculty and directors across the College of Arts & Sciences and the Miller School:

The Medical Humanities & Bioethics Advisory Board:

Dr. Daniel Pals, Professor, Religious Studies and History

Dr. Kenneth Goodman, Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy

Dr. John Paul Russo, Professor and Chair, Classics

Dr. Catherine Newell, Associate Professor, Religious Studies

Dr. Gauri Agarwal, Associate Dean, Miller School of Medicine

Dr. Meghan Homer, Center for the Humanities

Dr. Maryann Tobin, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Upload CV(s) [Vita\\_Daniel\\_Pals\\_February2020.pdf](#)

### Program Faculty

The Medical Humanities & Bioethics Advisory Board is charged with vetting and approving all A&S courses for the dual MD/MA in Medical Humanities and Bioethics degree. It is assumed that several special topics courses will be offered for this unique population of students. Syllabi for those courses will require the review and approval of the board.

The proposed curriculum will also require two courses to be offered through the newly-formed Department of Medical Education at the Miller School. These two courses, the Ethics course and the Ethics practicum, will be vetted by the Medical School's Executive Curriculum Committee (ECC) and will be offered through the Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy.

## Students

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### Applicant Pool

Only current MD students will be allowed to enroll in this dual degree program.

### Enrollment Projections

We are anticipating a regular cohort of 5-10 students, based on interest in the current bioethics pathway within the MD program.

## Administration

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### Program Administration

The program will be administered as an interdisciplinary program by the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S). A group of faculty with expertise in the Medical Humanities will serve as the advisory group for this program and work with the MA in Liberal Studies (MALS) program to provide courses, assist in admissions, and administratively support this degree. Membership of the advisory board is listed above.

A&S will provide administration for this joint degree through the Office of Interdisciplinary and Professional Studies (IPS). The IPS Office oversees all interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate programs of the College, including the MALS program, under the direction of the Assistant Dean for Professional Education.

While the program will be offered primarily in person, we are seeking approval to offer the program both in person and online as needed. There may be instances where online courses will need to be developed to accommodate students across both campuses.

Oversight of the program will be the responsibility of the existing MALS Faculty Advisory Board, as well as the newly-established Medical Humanities Group.

The current membership of the MALS Faculty Advisory Board is:

Dr. Daniel Pals, Professor, Religious Studies and History (Program Director)

Dr. Eugene Clasby, Professor, English

Dr. Henry Green, Professor, Religious Studies

J. Tomas Lopez, MFA, Professor and Chair, Art & Art History

Dr. Patrick McCarthy, Professor, English

Dr. John Paul Russo, Professor and Chair, Classics

Dr. George Wilson, Professor, Sociology

The Medical Humanities Group:

Dr. Daniel Pals, Professor, Religious Studies and History (Program Director)

Dr. John Paul Russo, Professor and Chair, Classics

Dr. Catherine Newell, Associate Professor, Religious Studies

Dr. Kenneth Goodman, Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy

Dr. Gauri Agarwal, Associate Dean, Miller School of Medicine

Dr. Meghan Homer, Center for the Humanities

Dr. Maryann Tobin, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

The Medical Humanities Group is charged with vetting and approving all courses for the M.A. in Medical Humanities and Bioethics. It is assumed that several special topics courses will be offered for this unique population of students. Syllabi for those courses will require the review and approval of the board.

The proposed curriculum will require two courses to be offered through the newly-formed Department of Medical Education at the Miller School. These two courses, the Ethics course and the Ethics practicum, will be vetted by the Medical School's Executive Faculty Curriculum Steering Committee (EFCSC) and will be offered through the Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy.

## Budget

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### Program Budget

As this program utilizes mostly existing courses and faculty, minimal start-up is needed. The A&S Dean's Office will support start-up through graduate tuition returns from the MALS program.

An MOU between A&S and Miller has been agreed to whereby tuition returns will be shared to cover the costs of the two courses being offered by the Miller School. In order to assist the Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy in recovering the cost of offering the Ethics course and Practicum, the College of Arts & Sciences' agrees to return 20% of the tuition collected after expenses and any waivers.

This program will also accept students eligible for tuition remission.

## Comparison

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## Peer Comparisons

**Emory University:** Emory's dual degree program is also designed around Medical School phases, with 12-15 credits of electives themed around medical humanities, medical anthropology, and medical sociology. Applicants may also apply while in the MD program, or before being accepted to the MD program.

**Duke University:** Duke offers a similarly structured dual MD//MA in Bioethics and Science Policy, allowing students to explore topics in medical history, ethics, theology, and other fields within the medical humanities. Students design their own research projects under the guidance of medical humanities mentors, and tailor their third year experience around the completion of this project. While some students may participate in their mentor's ongoing research, others can pursue projects independent of (but related to) their mentor's primary areas of interest.

**Northwestern University:** Their dual MD//MA in Medical Humanities and Bioethics program emphasizes the interdisciplinary study of bioethics through the humanities and the values-oriented social sciences. This program also relies heavily on a rotating catalogue of Special Topics courses, tailored to suit the needs and interests of the cohort.

Other peer dual degrees are offered at:

Tulane

Case Western

Univ. of Louisville

Univ. of Rochester

Drexel

Univ of Oklahoma

## Documents

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Attach Supporting Documentation

[MD-MS in MHB Supporting Documentation.pdf](#)

Reviewer

**Charles Mallery (cmallery) (04/09/21 11:16 am):** In accordance with the College of Arts & Sciences By-Laws (amended April 5, 2021) the Curriculum Committee of the College acting for the College Council approved this program change.

Comments

**Kenneth Voss (voss) (04/09/21 11:18 am):** I approve this change

**Maryann Tobin (m.tatum) (04/09/21 12:06 pm):** This proposal was unanimously approved at a regular meeting of the College of Arts & Sciences faculty on April 27, 2020.

**Leonidas Bachas (l.bachas) (04/12/21 2:52 pm):** The Arts and Sciences faculty voted to approve this proposal on April 27, 2020. I support the proposed program

**Patty Murphy (pxm491) (04/12/21 5:14 pm):** The proposed dual degree program involves one existing program and one new program also pending approval. The proposed program meets the SACSCOC requirement of at least 60 credits for two graduate degrees. Therefore notification to or approval from SACSOC is not required.

**Tiffany Plantan (tplantan) (04/23/21 4:00 pm):** Proposal was discussed at the April 20, 2021 meeting of the Graduate Council and approved by Council members present (11 approved, 0 opposed, 0 abstained). However, this program only has a non-thesis option (a practicum). Therefore course MLS 810 Master's Thesis needs to be removed from the curriculum as an elective.

**Maryann Tobin (m.tatum) (04/26/21 1:11 pm):** Per Grad Council's request, I changed MLS 810 Master's Thesis to MLS 696 or 697 Directed Readings to be consistent with the stand-alone MA in Medical Humanities & Bioethics. This dual degree will not have an ETD component.

**Robyn Hardeman (rhardeman) (06/24/21 1:55 pm):** – Daniel Pals (Professor A&S), Maryann Tobin (Asst. Dean for Professional Education)

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