

Faculty Instructors



Joseph Meaney, PhD
NCBC President



Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, PhD
Director of Education
Program Director



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Executive Vice President



John A. Di Camillo, PhD, BeL
Staff Ethicist



DiAnn Ecret, PhD, MSN, RN
Nurse Planner and Staff Ethicist



Edward J. Furton, PhD, MA
Director of Publications



Jozef Zalot, PhD
Staff Ethicist



THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC
BIOETHICS CENTER

National Catholic Certification Program in Health Care Ethics

(2022–2023)



ONE-YEAR CATHOLIC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM *in Health Care Ethics*

The Holy See has often challenged the Church and society to work toward establishing a culture of life which respects and safeguards human dignity. In the health care ministry, difficult ethical problems often arise that demand enlightened and informed responses and interventions. Living wills, physician-assisted suicide, human cloning, human embryonic stem cell research, organ donation, and withdrawal of nutrition and hydration are only a few examples of many complex situations that arise.

The National Catholic Certification Program in Health Care Ethics has been developed at the request of many bishops and administrators of health care facilities to provide systematic formation, based on the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, so that dioceses, hospitals, and ethics committees will have well-qualified advisors who are able to apply the Catholic moral tradition to challenging contemporary issues in health care.

The National Catholic Certification Program in Health Care Ethics is especially designed for, but not limited to, Church leaders, health care workers, those in the life sciences, researchers, and ethics committee members. Universities as well as legal and government institutions involved in the shaping of public policy are also among those audiences likely to profit from this program.

I am confident that you share my conviction that we must continue to strengthen our Catholic ministry of healing and health care in this country. I believe we are called by Christ to be both a light on the hill and leaven in the bread. Certainly, prayer and discernment, asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and using Catholic moral principles and values must guide our strategies.

Anthony Tersigni, EdD, FACHE Former President and CEO, Ascension Health

Registration

Register online at

www.ncbcenter.org/certification-program
or call the NCBC at 215-871-2013.

For more information about
the NCBC Certification Program, contact

Julie Kelley, Education Department

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

600 Reed Road, Suite 102, Broomal PA, 19008

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2022–2023 CALENDAR

One required 2022 Two-Day Seminar. See: <https://www.ncbcenter.org/twoday-seminars>

Module I: *Ethical & Religious Directives*

— 2 weeks, September 5–12, 2022

Module II: Principles of Medical Ethics

— 6 weeks, September 19–October 10, 2022

Module III: Catholic Bioethics and the Dignity of the Human Person

— 11 weeks, October 17, 2022–January 9, 2023

— No module November 21 or December 19

Module IV: Case Studies

— 12 weeks, January 16–April 3, 2023

Required Case Study Day

— April 29, 2023, Philadelphia, PA

Other deadlines

— Thesis statement and bullet points due January 27

— Final 3,500- to 4,500-word paper due April 21

**Registration begins June 15 and
ends August 31, 2022.**

2023 MID-ACADEMIC YEAR CALENDAR

One required 2022 Two-Day Seminar. See: <https://www.ncbcenter.org/twoday-seminars>

Module I: *Ethical & Religious Directives*

— 2 weeks, February 8–February 15, 2023

Module II: Principles of Medical Ethics

— 4 weeks, February 22–March 15, 2023

Module III: Catholic Bioethics and the Dignity of the Human Person

— 11 weeks, March 22–June 7, 2023

— No module Holy Week

Module IV: Case Studies

— 12 weeks, June 14–August 30, 2023

Required Case Study Day

— November 4, 2023, Philadelphia, PA

Other deadlines:

— Thesis statement and bullet points due
September 20

— Final 3,500- to 4,500-word paper due December 6

**Registration begins November 1, 2022
and ends February 6, 2023.**

Web-Based Distance-Learning Program

Participants must attend a two-day seminar held during the year in various cities across the United States. Students then interact independently with an instructor through a series of four learning modules which are provided over the course of the one-year program of study. Students complete the modules through weekly assignments which include readings and an assessment of each student's theoretical understanding of module content and its practical application. Regular Zoom meetings ("virtual office hours") are held in which the students interact with the instructor and their peers, reviewing course material and addressing questions. The program concludes with a one-day in-person meeting, held in Philadelphia, dedicated to case studies and student assessment.

Program Objectives

Participants who complete the program will be able to

- Articulate the Church's understanding of the inherent dignity of the human person as the objective basis for the Church's moral tradition in health care
- Apply the Church's moral teaching as expressed in the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* to the resolution of complex bioethical dilemmas encountered in clinical education, practice, and research
- Identify resources available to health care workers and others in health care ministries which provide guidance for the resolution of bioethical issues.

Fees

- \$3,450 (certification only)
- \$3,100 for NCBC members (as of July 1, 2022)
- For additional fees associated with Masters or Graduate Credit Opportunities, see <https://www.ncbcenter.org/certification-program>

Master's or Graduate Credit Opportunities

Participants may enroll for 10 graduate credits through the University of Mary, a fully accredited Catholic university located in Bismarck, ND. The credits earned may be applied to the university's ground-breaking **Master of Science Degree in bioethics**. For more info visit <https://online.umary.edu/academics/masters-doctoral-programs/master-science-bioethics>.



Participants may enroll for 9 graduate credits through Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell, CT, a fully accredited coeducational Catholic undergraduate and graduate institution offering affordable distance learning and other educational programs that are faithful to the magisterium. The credits earned through dual enrollment may be applied toward a **Master of Arts Degree in theology with a concentration in bioethics**. For more info visit <https://holyapostles.edu/academics/graduate-degrees/masters-of-arts-in-theology/bioethics-ncbc/>.



Through St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry, an accredited graduate school that forms and educates men and women from the heart of the Church, participants can receive a 15-credit **Graduate Certificate in Catholic Bioethics** after the completion of the NCBC Certification Program and two graduate courses at St. Bernard's. Visit the Graduate Certificate in Catholic Bioethics webpage for more information: <https://www.stbernards.edu/catholic-bioethics-certificate>.



WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

This is an exceptional program helping each participant understand how to apply Catholic teaching to challenging ethical issues. The program enriched my faith and deepened my spirituality. It reinforced my understanding that, through baptism, we are all members of Christ's mystical body and have a stewardship responsibility to use our God-given gifts (including the gift of life in all of its phases and with all of its challenges) to bring glory to God consistent with the Church's teachings.

*Tom Gryzbek
Senior Vice President
Franciscan St. Margaret Health
Dyer, IN*

As a parish pro-life coordinator, the health care ethics course provided me an in-depth understanding of the sound theological and scientific bases of Catholic bioethics, enabling me to develop an effective and wide-ranging pro-life program.

*John Murray
St. Mary of Sorrows Parish, Fairfax, VA*

Current political trends in America and teaching high school students morality and bioethics made me seek higher learning in bioethics. The course work prepared me to deliver timely lectures and answer the many questions I receive in the classes I teach at our Culture of Life Catholic High School. I highly recommend this course to anyone who has a passion for Life.

*Anne Morin
St. Michael the Archangel High School
Fredericksburg, VA*

This course is extremely important for physicians as the bioethical principles with which you become familiar make decisions in real-life patient situations much easier to make in a manner consistent with your Catholic faith.

*Kathleen M. Raviele, MD
Atlanta, GA*