

Faculty Instructors



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For more information about
the NCBC Certification Program, contact

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THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER
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THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

National Catholic Certification Program in Health Care Ethics (2021–2022)



ONE-YEAR CATHOLIC CERTIFICATION/GRADUATE 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,
and NCBC Board Member

Registration

Register online at www.ncbcenter.org
or call the NCBC at **215-871-2013**.

CALENDAR FOR 2021-2022 YEAR

- One required 2021 Two-Day Seminar
- See the NCBC website for the latest update on our seminars: <https://www.ncbcenter.org/twoday-seminars>
- Module I: *Ethical & Religious Directives*
- 4 weeks, September 6–27, 2021
- Module II: Principles of Medical Ethics
- 4 weeks, October 4–25, 2021
- Module III: Catholic Bioethics and the Dignity of the Human Person
- 11 weeks, November 1, 2021–January 24, 2022
 - No module November 22 or December 20
- Module IV: Case Studies
- 10 weeks, January 31–April 4, 2022
- Required Case Study Day at the NCBC
- April 30, 2022, Philadelphia, PA
- Other deadlines
- Thesis statement and bullet points due January 28
 - Final 3,500- to 4,500-word paper due April 22
- Registration begins June 1 and ends August 31, 2021.

CALENDAR FOR 2022 MID-ACADEMIC YEAR

- One required 2022 Two-Day Seminar
- See the NCBC website for the latest update on our seminars: <https://www.ncbcenter.org/twoday-seminars>
- Module I: *Ethical & Religious Directives*
- 4 weeks, February 9–March 2, 2022
- Module II: Principles of Medical Ethics
- 4 weeks, March 9–March 30, 2022
- Module III: Catholic Bioethics and the Dignity of the Human Person
- 11 weeks, April 6–June 22, 2022
 - No module Holy Week
- Module IV: Case Studies
- 10 weeks, June 29–July 31, 2022
- Required Case Study Day at the NCBC
- November 5, 2022, Philadelphia, PA
- Other deadlines:
- Thesis statement and bullet points due September 21, 2022
 - Final 3,500- to 4,500-word paper due December 7
- Registration begins November 1, 2021, and ends February 7, 2022.

Web-Based Distance-Learning Program

Participants must attend an initial two-day seminar held in the fall 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 conference calls (“virtual office hours”) are held in which the students interact with the instructor and their peers, reviewing course material and addressing questions. The program ends with an intensive one-day seminar of case studies at the NCBC offices in Philadelphia.

Master’s Degree 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/bioethics.php>.



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/>.



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.

Continuing Education Credit

The National Association of Catholic Chaplains has approved this program for 144 continuing education credit hours.

Included in the Program

- Required seminars and directed studies
- Regular assessment through written assignments
- Internet-based tutorials/materials
- Educational resources and texts
- Personal consultation and formation with staff ethicists during the program
- Certificate upon program completion

Fees

- \$3,100 (certification only)
- \$2,850 for NCBC members (as of July 1, 2021)
- \$4,060 graduate credit through Holy Apostles
- \$3,940 graduate credit through University of Mary, which includes
 - Two-Day and Case Studies Seminars (exclusive of transportation and accommodation)
 - Registration fee and required materials

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