

LAW (THESIS): BIOETHICS (LL.M.) (45 CREDITS)

Offered by: Law (Faculty of Law)

Degree: Master of Laws

Program credit weight: 45

Program Description

The 45-credit LL.M. program, thesis option, in Bioethics is a research-intensive, interdisciplinary, graduate program focused on developing research interests into a thesis project under the supervision of a faculty member. Graduate-level courses on theoretical and methodological approaches to legal writing complement the research work and thesis completion process, and courses in specific areas of knowledge related to the candidate's research interests complete the program's credit requirements.

Students following the Bioethics option come from the Faculties of Law, Medicine, Religious Studies, or the Department of Philosophy. Entering students pursuing an LL.M., Bioethics are bound by the requirements of the Faculty of Law's LL.M. program (thesis option). For further information regarding this program, please refer to the Bioethics section. See <https://www.mcgill.ca/biomedicaethicsunit/>.

Candidates must remain in residence for three terms for which full-time fees will be charged. The third term, usually devoted to thesis research, may be taken the Summer of the first year. If the thesis is not completed in this time, students must register for additional sessions as needed. All degree requirements must be completed within a maximum of three years of the date of first registration.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

Thesis Courses (24 credits)

The Master's Thesis programs consist of a coursework component and a thesis of approximately 100 pages. As part of the thesis requirement, a candidate must provide a protocol to his or her supervisor setting out details as to the thesis topic, the deadlines for the completion of the various thesis courses and the schedule of meetings with the thesis supervisor. Modifications to the protocol must be made in writing and submitted to the Associate Dean (Graduate Studies).

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Course	Title	Credits
BIOE 690	M.Sc. Thesis Literature Survey.	3
BIOE 691	M.Sc. Thesis Research Proposal.	3
BIOE 692	M.Sc. Thesis Research Progress Report.	6
BIOE 693	M.Sc. Thesis.	12

Required Courses (12 credits)

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Course	Title	Credits
BIOE 680	Bioethical Theory.	3
BIOE 681	Bioethics Practicum.	3
CMPL 641	Theoretical Approaches to Law.	3
LAWG 601	Communication 1.	1.5
LAWG 602	Communication 2.	1.5

Complementary Courses (9 credits)

6 credits at the 500 level or above of Faculty of Law courses or Bioethics courses.

3 credits from the following

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Course	Title	Credits
BIOE 682		
CMPL 642	Law and Health Care.	3
PHIL 643	Seminar: Medical Ethics.	3
RELG 571	Ethics, Medicine and Religion.	3