MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

2027/28 ACADEMIC YEAR



MA | LLM | PGDip | PGCert | CPD

100% ONLINE

HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW

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HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW

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COURSE OVERVIEW

From reproductive rights to end of life care, ethical and legal questions are continually being raised in healthcare. Healthcare professionals need a critical and analytical mindset to approach these complex issues.

Our part-time, online Healthcare Ethics and Law courses will give you the knowledge you need to tackle complex healthcare dilemmas. You'll bolster your expertise through a multidisciplinary approach, leading to more effective decision-making and improved outcomes for those concerned.



MA, LLM, PGDip, PGCert, CPD



Next enrolment:
January 2026 (PGCert Law only)
September 2027 (all other routes)



MA, LLM – 24 months
PGDip – 18 months
PGCert – 15 months
CPD – from 3 months



MA/LLM: £16,000
PGDip: £10,667
PGCert: £5,333
PGCert (Law) Jan 2027 - £5,000



Access video lectures and course materials such as podcasts, audio, text and video



Approx. 15-20 hours per week



Latest industry techniques, theory and methods.



24/7 library access

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

Spanning ethics and law, this combination of disciplines will help you to develop new perspectives and expertise in this area.

WORLD-LEADING

91% of our research was described as "world leading" or "internationally excellent" in the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF).

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Our teaching is rated as 'excellent' by HEFCE, and our research-led approach to education means your lecturers will have real-world experience and knowledge.

ACADEMIC'S VOICE



Healthcare Ethics and Law is a comprehensive programme that takes an interdisciplinary approach to provide students with a wide range of skills and knowledge. This programme provides the opportunity for flexible, online learning that fits around your life.

Our staff are experts in their fields and highly skilled in supporting online learning. We will support you every step of the way to ensure you develop the knowledge, skills and confidence you need to deal with a wide range of legal, policy and ethical questions in this area.

You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of topics from issues around informed consent and capacity for decision-making, end of life issues, confidentiality, genomics, screening, reproductive ethics, research ethics including focusing on international and UK based legal and ethical issues.

PROF REBECCA BENNETT

Course Director

HEAR FROM REBECCA ↗

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course is designed for professionals who want to deepen their understanding of the ethical and legal challenges in healthcare.

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds from across healthcare, law, and related fields including doctors, nurses, and allied healthcare workers; lawyers and legal advisors; policy makers and administrators; as well as those working alongside the healthcare and legal sector (for example in NGOs or the pharmaceutical industry)

The course is also highly applicable for those pursuing further study, with the master's level study as a stepping stone towards a PhD.



BENEFITS TO YOUR CAREER

Healthcare Ethics and Law, through its novel, interdisciplanry approach, will provide you with the critical mindset and key skills to advance in your field.

The course offers a wealth of ways to advance in your career:

+ You will develop a thorough understanding of bioethical and legal principles, equipping you to tackle complex challenges such as consent, malpractice, and resource allocation in healthcare contexts

+ The knowledge and skills gained will prepare you to take on leadership roles within your sector, from healthcare administration and policymaking to specialising your legal practice in healthcare law

+ The course prepares you for roles that bridge healthcare, law, and policy, enabling work with regulatory bodies, NGOs, or in consultancy

+ You will develop advanced research and critical analysis skills, opening pathways to doctoral studies or academic careers in healthcare ethics or medical law

+ The programme's global and domestic perspectives equip you to contribute to shaping international health law and policy frameworks

Additionally, the online, part-time format means that you can study alongside your work and apply your knowledge and skills from day one.



ETHICS AND LAW IN PRACTICE

Throughout the course, you will become acquainted with ethical arguments in the context of a range of 'practical' healthcare dilemmas including:



Understanding the role of the law in regulating healthcare practice, identifying and enforcing the rights of patients and in seeking to resolve ethical dilemmas in medicine



Knowing the relevant case-law, statutory materials and their relationship to the ethical debate



Developing an understanding of the main types of arguments used in the research ethics field, and the main areas of controversy



Understanding the relevance of ethics to decision-making in the context of genetics and the applications of genetic science



Examining the effectiveness of mental health law by reference to principles/philosophies from relevant disciplines (psychiatry, psychology, ethics, criminology, social policy)

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

STUDY PATHWAYS

To achieve an MA, you need to complete five units including two options (120 credits) and the dissertation project (60 credits). For the LLM, you need to complete five units - including two law-focused options (120 credits) and a law-based dissertation (60 credits). For the PGDip, you need to complete five units (120 credits), including two options. To achieve the PGCert in Ethics, you need to complete three ethics-focused units (60 credits) and for PGCert Law, you need to complete three law-focused units (60 credits).

01

PHILOSOPHICAL BIOETHICS (30 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for: MA, LLM, PGDip, PGCert Ethics

+ Through this unit, you will develop the skills and knowledge needed to address ethical questions with confidence, and learn how to apply them to a range of healthcare-related issues.

02

MEDICO-LEGAL PROBLEMS (30 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for: MA, LLM, PGDip, PGCert Law

+ Through this unit, you will develop a sound understanding of the role of the law in regulating healthcare practice, identifying and enforcing the rights of patients and in seeking to resolve ethical dilemmas in medicine.

03

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE LAW AND ETHICS (30 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for: MA, LLM, PGDip

+ Through this unit, you will develop your understanding of healthcare law and ethics in a global context. It will enable you to critically analyse differing national responses to universal problems in the healthcare context and to consider the factors that contribute to these responses.

04

RESEARCH ETHICS (15 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for PGCert Ethics
+ Optional for MA, PGDip

+ Through this unit, you will gain in-depth knowledge and understanding of the historical development of research ethics - the main international guidelines in this field, and the main arguments specific to topical areas of research ethics.

05

ETHICS, GENETICS AND GENOMICS (15 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for PGCert Ethics
+ Optional for MA, PGDip

+ This unit will present, and encourage you, to engage with key moral debates relating to the development and use of genetic technologies.

06

MENTAL HEALTH LAW AND POLICY (15 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for LLM, PGCert Law
+ Optional for MA, PGDip

+ This unit will introduce a range of philosophies and ideologies that underpin mental health legislation, past and present. Through this unit, you will develop your understanding of law and policy on mental health issues in England and Wales.

07

MEDICINE, LAW AND SOCIETY (15 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for: LLM, PGCert Law
+ Optional for MA, PGDip

+ In this unit, you will study further key topics in healthcare law, such as how the law approaches the medical care of children and adolescents, the law surrounding reproductive technologies and the use of human embryos in research and treatment.

08

HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES: ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES (15 CREDITS)

+ Optional for MA, LLM, PGDip, PGCert

+ Through this unit, you will focus on the ethical and legal issues raised by new technologies which are currently, or may in the future, be applied in healthcare. You will have the opportunity to learn about these issues in more depth and apply your skills of critical analysis to the challenges presented by these developments.

09

PROJECT (60 CREDITS)

+ Mandatory for MA and LLM

+ The dissertation project provides an opportunity for those registered on the LLM or MA to explore an area of healthcare law and ethics in more depth. Students registered on the LLM should choose a dissertation topic which is predominantly law-focused, whereas those on the MA can choose to focus on law or ethics or adopt a blended approach.

ACADEMIC'S VOICE



"

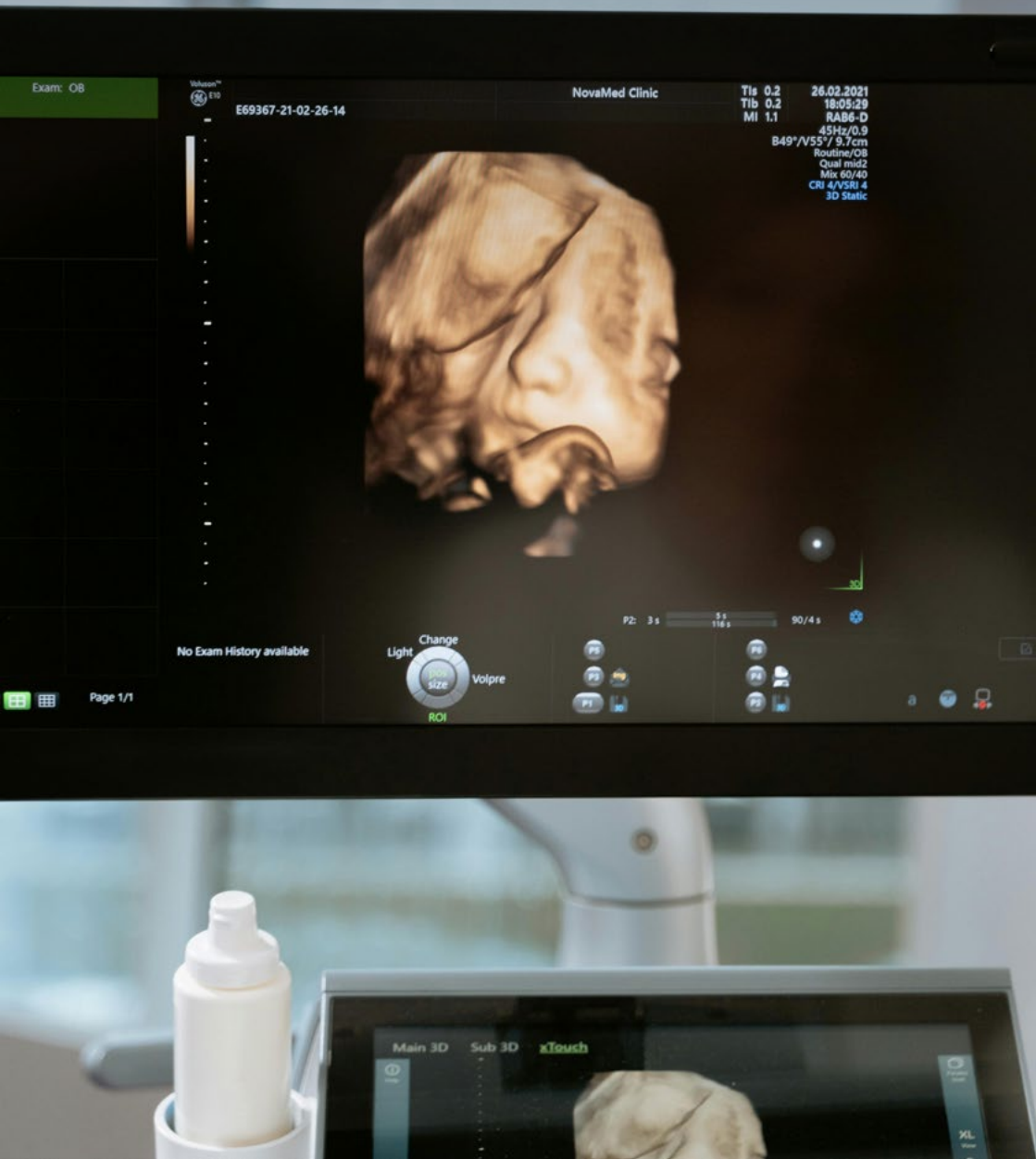
Medico-legal problems is the core law unit of the programmes. The unit aims to equip students with a sound understanding of the role of law in regulating healthcare practice and addressing common ethical problems that arise.

We cover key topics including consent and informed consent, privacy and confidentiality in healthcare, access to healthcare, human rights law and clinical negligence. On completion of the unit, students will have a solid grounding in healthcare law which can be developed further through the optional law course units in year two.

CAROLINE HOYLE

Unit Lead - Medico-Legal Problems

01 PHILOSOPHICAL BIOETHICS



PHILOSOPHICAL BIOETHICS (30 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit provides a comprehensive introduction to philosophical bioethics, equipping you with the skills and knowledge to address ethical dilemmas in healthcare decision-making confidently.

You will explore foundational moral philosophy, healthcare ethics, and their practical application to contemporary issues. Topics include the moral status of embryos, autonomy and consent, resource allocation, and end-of-life decisions such as assisted dying and euthanasia.

Through engaging course materials and activities, you will critically examine philosophical arguments and develop the ability to present clear, structured reasoning in complex healthcare contexts. The unit is delivered entirely online, offering a flexible learning environment with digital course materials, interactive discussions, and guided activities.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

1. Philosophical Bioethics, Moral Philosophy and Healthcare Ethics
2. Doing Bioethics
3. Beings, Human Beings and Persons
4. The Status of the Embryo and its Implications for Abortion
5. Respect for Persons: Autonomy, Consent and Confidentiality
6. Paternalism, Autonomy and Respect for Persons
7. Competency and Consent
8. Autonomy and Pregnancy
9. Resource Allocation
10. Assisted Dying and Euthanasia

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Develop a strong understanding of the relevance of philosophical bioethics to healthcare decision-making.
+ Gain an appreciation of philosophical arguments in resolving practical healthcare dilemmas.
+ Enhance your skills in presenting and analysing clear, well-structured arguments.

02 MEDICO-LEGAL PROBLEMS



MEDICO-LEGAL PROBLEMS (30 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit explores the intersection of law, healthcare practice, and ethics, providing you with a comprehensive understanding of how legal principles regulate healthcare and protect patient rights.

You will examine key areas of healthcare law in England and Wales. including consent and informed consent, the treatment of mentally incapacitated patients, privacy and confidentiality, access to treatment and clinical negligence, alongside broader themes such as human rights and the criminalisation of medicine.

Through engaging with the course materials and activities, you will gain insight into how the law addresses ethical dilemmas in the healthcare and balances competing interests in a complex social context. The unit is delivered entirely online, offering a flexible learning environment with digital course materials, interactive discussions, and guided activities.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

1. Introduction to Law and Legal Research
2. Law and Health Care Practice
3. Refusal of Treatment: Competence to Consent and Treating Mentally Incapacitated Patients
4. Consent to Treatment: Autonomy and Consent
5. Consent to Treatment: Informed Consent
6. Healthcare and Human Rights
7. Confidentiality and Health Care
8. Confidentiality and Privacy
9. Clinical Negligence (I)
10. Clinical Negligence (II)
11. Access to Health Care
12. Criminalising Medicine

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Understand key case law, legislation, and ethical debates related to healthcare law.
+ Analyse the role of law in addressing social concerns and controversies in healthcare.
+ Develop independent research skills and lay the foundation for further study.

03 INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE LAW AND ETHICS



INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE LAW AND ETHICS (30 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit examines healthcare law and ethics from a global perspective, focusing on how different nations address universal healthcare challenges and the factors influencing their responses.

You will explore diverse topics, including public health ethics, cross-border healthcare, biotechnology regulation, and live organ donation.

By analysing case studies and legal frameworks, you will evaluate the effectiveness of international regulations and the extent to which universal ethical codes are feasible.

The unit highlights the intersection of cultural, legal, and ethical considerations in healthcare, encouraging critical reflection and independent research to tackle complex global issues.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

1. Universal Problems, Diverse Responses: An Introduction
2. National Cultures and Medical Law
3. What does International Law have to do with Health?
4. Globalising Bioethics
5. Public health ethics and Law in a Global Context
6. International regulation of biotechnologies
7. Cross-border access to healthcare and healthcare tourism
8. Cross-border reproduction
9. Live organ donation and sales

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Develop a detailed understanding of differing national approaches to shared healthcare challenges.
+ Analyse the effectiveness of international regulations and conventions across healthcare contexts.
+ Enhance your ability to critically reflect on the feasibility of universal ethical standards.
+ Strengthen your independent research and analytical writing skills.

04 RESEARCH ETHICS



RESEARCH ETHICS (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit provides an in-depth exploration of research ethics, focusing on its historical evolution, current frameworks, and key controversies.

You will examine the ethical guidelines and principles governing medical and non-medical research, with particular attention to vulnerable participants, controversial studies, and the role of research ethics committees.

Topics include the history of research ethics, the legal and ethical implications of clinical research designs, research in developing countries, and the use of unethical data from historical experiments. By critically engaging with these issues, you will develop analytical skills to independently evaluate complex research ethics problems.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

1. The History of Research Ethics
2. The Current Research Ethics Framework
3. Research Ethics Committees
4. Medical Research and the Law
5. Ethical Implication of Clinical Research Designs
6. Medical Research: Vulnerable Participants
7. Research Ethics in Developing Countries
8. HIV Research and Informed Consent
9. Using Unethical Data - the Nazi Experiments
10. Research Ethics outside the Health Care Field

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Gain a thorough understanding of the history and evolution of research ethics.
+ Understand the main international and national guidelines for research ethics.
+ Develop analytical skills to evaluate arguments and controversies in research ethics.
+ Familiarise yourself with the functions and roles of research ethics committees.

05 ETHICS, GENETICS AND GENOMICS



ETHICS, GENETICS AND GENOMICS (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit explores the ethical, legal, and societal dimensions of genetics and genomics, equipping you with the conceptual tools needed to analyse and address complex dilemmas in medical and social contexts.

Topics include genetic storage, biobanking, genetic testing, human genetic manipulation, cloning, and synthetic biology.

You will critically examine the existing legal and ethical frameworks governing genetics and genomics and engage with philosophical debates on issues such as genetic enhancement, personalised medicine, and incidental findings.

The unit emphasises the practical application of ethical reasoning to real-world challenges, fostering your ability to construct and present clear, structured arguments.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

0. An Introduction
1. Ethics, Genetics and Genomics: An Introduction
2. Genetics and Genomics and the Existing Legal and Ethical Framework
3. Incidental Findings
4. Genetic Storage and Biobanking
5. Privacy and Access to Genetic Information
6. Prenatal Genetic Testing, Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis and Newborn Screening
7. Human Genetic Manipulation
8. Personalised / Precision Medicine
9. Cloning
10. Genetically Modified Organisms

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Understand the relevance of ethics in decision-making within genetics and genomics.
+ Analyse the ethical issues arising from the application of genetic science in medicine and society.
+ Engage with philosophical arguments to address practical dilemmas in medical genetics and broader societal contexts.
+ Develop skills in constructing and presenting well-reasoned ethical arguments.

06 MENTAL HEALTH LAW AND POLICY



MENTAL HEALTH LAW AND POLICY (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit provides a detailed exploration of the laws and policies governing mental health in England and Wales.

It examines the philosophical and ideological foundations of mental health legislation and the application of these principles to contemporary legal frameworks, including the Mental Health Act (MHA) and Mental Capacity Act (MCA).

Key topics include civil and criminal admissions under the MHA, detention and treatment provisions of the MCA, and the intersections between physical and mental health treatment.

You will critically evaluate the effectiveness of these laws and their alignment with broader disciplines such as psychiatry, psychology, criminology, and ethics.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

1. Introduction to Mental Health Law; Theories of Mental Disorder
2. MHA Civil Admission Part 1
3. MHA Civil Admission Part 2
4. MHA Criminal Admission
5. The MHA and MCA: Treatment for Physical and Mental Ill Health
6. Detention Under the MCA
7. Supervision and Control
8. Access to Justice

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Understand the scope and application of mental health law in England and Wales.
+ Analyse the effectiveness of mental health legislation using interdisciplinary principles.
+ Articulate your knowledge through clear, structured written and oral communication.
+ Utilise legal research tools to support learning and research activities.

07 MEDICINE, LAW AND SOCIETY



MEDICINE, LAW AND SOCIETY (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit examines the interplay between medicine, law, and societal values, addressing key issues such as the medical care of children and adolescents, reproductive technologies, and the use of human embryos in research and treatment.

You will critically explore how the law regulates controversial areas of healthcare, reflecting on the ethical debates that underpin legal frameworks. Topics include parental responsibility, adolescent autonomy, surrogacy, abortion, and the regulation of reproductive technologies.

The unit also provides an opportunity to consolidate knowledge from previous study, particularly the Medico-Legal Problems course, while further developing your research and analytical skills.

The unit is composed of the following sections:

1. Families, Medicine & the Law
2. Parental Responsibility and Young Children
3. Adolescent Autonomy
4. Abortion
5. The Law on Reproductive Choice
6. Assistive Gestative Technologie
7. Embryo and Stem Cell Research
8. Law and Bioethics

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Understand key case law and statutory materials related to healthcare law.
+ Analyse the role of law in addressing societal concerns and controversial medical practices.
+ Develop skills in independent research and critical analysis of healthcare law and ethics.

08 HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES: ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES



HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES: ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES (15 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit provides the opportunity to explore emerging technologies in healthcare and their impact on the sector both ethically and legally.

Through this unit, you will focus on the ethical and legal issues raised by new technologies which are currently, or may in the future, be applied in healthcare. You will have the opportunity to learn about these issues in more depth and apply your skills of critical analysis to the challenges presented by these developments.

The unit also enables you to consider cross-cutting themes, such as changes to the doctor/patient relationship which may arise from advancing technologies.

Assessment for this unit consists of contribution to online discussions via padlet and through a summative assessment of a 3000 word essay.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Understand the key legal issues raised by developing technologies in the context of healthcare
+ Identify and express clearly the ethical and legal issues raised
+ Critically analyse the challenges and potential impact of these developing technologies in healthcare
+ Communicate ideas effectively in written work
+ Work with colleagues and tutors to develop online discussions by putting forward arguments and responding to counter-arguments
+ Develop digital skills, including navigating the online library and its databases

09 PROJECT



PROJECT (60 CREDITS)

ABOUT THIS UNIT

The dissertation project provides an opportunity for those registered on the LLM or MA to explore an area of healthcare law and ethics in more depth.

Students registered on the LLM should choose a dissertation topic which is predominantly law-focused, whereas those on the MA can choose to focus on law or ethics or adopt a blended approach.

You will be allocated an academic supervisor who will provide support and guidance during this part of your studies. Your dedicated supervisor will help you to refine your research question and will provide feedback on draft sections of the dissertation.

The dissertation is 10-12,000 words long and is submitted in early September of Year 2.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

+ Undertake a significant research based project interrogating an area of healthcare ethics and law
+ Produce a long-form, well researched, and well-argued dissertation that contributes to the knowledge around a chosen subject
+ Design a research question and choose appropriate methodologies
+ Learn how to conduct rigorous, self-directed research, which is critical for academic and professional growth
+ Evaluate literature, methodologies, and findings to create a coherent argument
+ Develop writing skills through conveying complex ideas in a structured, precise, and persuasive manner

STUDY TIMELINE

September — January

01

PHILOSOPHICAL BIOETHICS
(30 CREDITS)

YEAR 1

January — May

02

MEDICO-LEGAL PROBLEMS
(30 CREDITS)

YEAR 1

September — November

03

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN
HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND LAW
(30 CREDITS)

YEAR 2

November — January

04 OPTIONAL UNIT

MEDICINE, LAW AND SOCIETY OR
RESEARCH ETHICS
(15 CREDITS)

YEAR 2

January — April

05 OPTIONAL UNIT

ETHICS, GENETICS AND GENOMICS
OR MENTAL HEALTH LAW AND POLICY
(15 CREDITS)

YEAR 2

May — September

06

PROJECT
(60 CREDITS)

YEAR 2

ACADEMIC'S VOICE



"

Studying Healthcare Ethics and Law online at Manchester means you can fit study around your other commitments and gain a wide range of skills and knowledge about legal and ethical issues in healthcare. Guidance from expert academics will help you gain the confidence to deal with these issues in your working life.

PROF SARAH DEVANNEY

Professor of Healthcare Law and Regulation

ONLINE LEARNING AT A GLANCE

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Our online courses are created and taught by the same established scholars as our on-campus options.

FLEXIBILITY

Online learning offers much more flexibility than traditional on-campus study, which makes it the perfect fit for working professionals.



HIGH QUALITY RESOURCES

You will have access to the same range of excellent facilities as on-campus students.

AN ONLINE COMMUNITY

Our virtual learning environment provides an opportunity to discuss and collaborate with your peers and academics with interactive features.

A GLOBAL APPROACH

Online learning at The University of Manchester is designed to be accessed by students from around the globe.

ONLINE LEARNING IN PRACTICE

Online learning can help you to access the excellence of The University of Manchester from anywhere in the world. The online model is ideal for working professionals who want to study alongside their careers and other commitments by offering flexible, part-time study



VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Our online, postgraduate courses are taught using a virtual learning environment. This is home to all of the teaching on your course including lectures tutorials, videos and more as well as all learning materials such as reading, discussion boards and journals.



FLEXIBILITY AND TIMETABLING

All the resources you require for your studies are available to you 24/7 so you can adjust your studies to fit around your work and personal life.

There are lots of opportunities to discuss issues with academic staff and fellow students. This can be done in a felxible way or via virtual meetings and seminars. We understand that not everyone can make scheduled virtual meetings so we can arrange a time that suits you and ensure that any information that is provided in scheduled meetings is disseminated either by email or as a recording.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ONLINE LEARNING ↗



TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Upon receiving an offer you will be asked to confirm that you can meet the following technical requirements for successful completion of the course:

+ An average of 15-20 hours available to devote to studying each week.
+ Regular access to a computer with internet speeds fast enough to run video conferencing and stream video lectures.
+ A computer that meets the software requirements of video conferencing and other software, broadband internet connection, desktop or laptop PC with windows 10 or later, 4GB RAM, 6GB disk space for installation (administrator rights are required to install software).
+ If your course is blended and includes some face-to-face activity, further information will be sent to you about expected attendance once you have received an offer.
+ Some courses will also require you to download relevant software - you will be provided access to this.
+ A smart phone on Android 11.0 or greater, or iOS 11.0 or greater, as you'll need to authenticate your credentials to access your learning materials.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSIONS

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

LLM, MA, PGDip, PGCert Ethics: 11 January 2027
PGCert Law: 6 September 2027

COURSE START DATE:

LLM, MA, PGDip, PGCert Ethics: 25 January 2027
PGCert Law: 20 September 2027

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

MA/LLM
You must hold a minimum Upper Second (2.1) class honours degree, or the overseas equivalent, in a relevant subject (eg medicine, law, philosophy, nursing, religious studies)

PGDip
You must hold a minimum Lower Second (2.2) class honours degree, or the overseas equivalent in a relevant subject (eg medicine, law, philosophy, nursing, religious studies).*

PGCert
Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) applicants must hold a minimum of a Lower Second (2.2) class honours degree.*

*In exceptional circumstances candidates who do not have first degree, but who can demonstrate professional competence, may be admitted.
Find out more about entry requirements here.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

+ IELTS - overall score of 7, including 7 in writing with no further component score below 6.5, or equivalent.

WHAT TO SUBMIT WITH YOUR APPLICATION

When applying for this course you will be required to submit the following:

+ Copies of official degree certificates and transcripts of your previous study, showing the subjects taken and grades obtained. If these documents are in languages other than English, please provide official translations in addition to your official certificates and transcripts.

+ English language score report (if applicable) or alternative evidence to demonstrate your English language competency.*

  *If you are not from or did not graduate from a majority English speaking country , we will also require proof of your English language ability. If you have already taken an English language qualification, please include your certificate with your application. We may be willing to consider your application without this document, but if we choose to make you an offer, the conditions will include IELTS (or equivalent qualification).

+ In some cases, we may ask you to provide your full CV or a personal statement. We will let you know if these are required once we have reviewed your application.

BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION ↗

FEES AND FUNDING

£

TUITION FEES

+ MA/LLM: £16,000
+ PGDip: £10,667
+ PGCert: £5,333
+ PGCert (Law) Jan 2027 - £5,000

HOW TO FUND YOUR COURSE

Funding your online course is a key consideration when looking to begin your academic journey and your individual circumstances will determine how you can fund your studies.

Whilst funding options for online postgraduate taught courses are not as numerous as those for undergraduate and PhD study, there are still a variety of options to explore for your online course including:

+ Postgraduate loans
+ Employer funding
+ Self-funding
+ Scholarships
+ Bursaries
+ Tuition discounts (including 10% NHS Employee Discount)

EXPLORE FUNDING OPTIONS ↗



EMMA'S STORY

Dr Emma Temple decided to pursue an LLM in Healthcare Ethics and Law to deepen her understanding and enhance patient care as a senior intensive care decision-maker.

Dr Temple qualified from the University of Cambridge in 2007 with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery. After 14 years of training in the UK and Australia, she completed Postgraduate Fellowships in Anaesthesia (FRCA) and Intensive Care Medicine (FFICM) and became a Consultant Neuro Anaesthetist and Intensivist in 2020.

"Throughout my training, I recognised the critical importance of understanding the legal and ethical principles underlying healthcare. This is particularly vital for those, like me, who care for vulnerable patient groups, such as individuals with brain injuries. In today's era, where medicine is guided by what we should do rather than what is possible, these principles are key to providing balanced care.

As a full-time NHS Consultant, mother, and partner to a busy surgical doctor, I needed a flexible course that fit my demanding schedule while offering opportunities to engage with faculty and peers. The optional face-to-face days and the course's balance between ethics and law were particularly beneficial. The department's support was exceptional, with faculty providing guidance and understanding of the challenges of balancing studies with life's pressures.

Despite initial apprehension, writing my 12,000-word dissertation became my favourite part of the course. I appreciated the freedom to explore topics related to my career in Neuro Critical Care. The skills I gained in academic writing, literature evaluation, and appraising legal judgments have been invaluable, helping me improve patient care and initiate quality improvement projects within my department.

> "This course has exceeded my expectations, enhancing my knowledge and pushing me to reflect on my practice."

It has also encouraged me to examine my unconscious biases, ensuring thoughtful decision-making for vulnerable patients. I have no regrets—this diverse, well-supported programme has been an enriching and transformative experience."

STUDENT STORY



“I have absolutely no regrets about studying this course. The course was diverse, interesting and exceptionally well supported. It has not only enhanced my knowledge in this area of medicine but has also pushed me to reflect on my own practice and improve the care I give to my patients.

DR EMMA TEMPLE

Consultant in Neuroanaesthesia
and Neuro Critical Care,
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

WHY THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER?

AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED UNIVERSITY

In the Academic Ranking of World Universities (2025), the University is placed:

+ 6th in the UK;
+ 13th in Europe;
+ 46th in the world.

WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

The University of Manchester's research beacons are examples of pioneering discoveries, interdisciplinary collaboration and cross-sector partnerships that are tackling some of the biggest questions facing the planet.

OUTSTANDING TEACHING

This quality of research feeds into our taught courses, many of which are also designed to meet the needs of industry.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We were the first university in the UK to set social responsibility as a core goal - this is reflected in our commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

GLOBAL INFLUENCE

There are more than 170 nationalities among our student population and our range of online and blended learning courses enable a global audience to benefit from a Manchester education.

Much of our research has a global impact, in areas including health and wellbeing, climate change, international trade and cohesive communities.

We also have agreements with a host of international institutions and organisations that inform our global approach to research and education.

SUPPORT AND SERVICES

As a student of The University of Manchester, you will receive full access to our facilities and resources such as the online library, careers service and wellbeing support. Many of these services offer personalised support and 24/7 access, and are all accessible to our global community.



INFORM YOUR DECISION MAKING.



manchester.ac.uk/healthcare-ethics-law

studyonline@manchester.ac.uk

BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION ↗