Medical Ethics Curriculum
Faculté de médecine
Université Saint-Joseph

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The teaching of medicine at the USJ

- is now subjected to European norms, as are other teachings at the university (with, of course, the specificities of our field).

- It is the L-M-D or Licence-Mastère-Doctorat rule,
- also called 3-5-8 (3 years, 5 years, 8 years).
The teaching of Medical Ethics

- The teaching of ethics and bioethics is present at all levels of teaching.
- It accompanies the student during all his curriculum,
- 8 years or even more.
The teaching of Medical Ethics

- is managed by the Ethics and Bioethics Unit
- which belongs to the Département de Médecine et Humanité
- it is a set of educational methods integrated in a coherent and sequential group of courses and academic activities.
The teaching of Medical Ethics

- This set of educational methods favors a multidisciplinary approach using
  - anthropology,
  - general philosophy,
  - epistemology,
  - sociology,
  - ethics,
  - law,
  - general cultural knowledge.
The teaching of Medical Ethics

- is present at all levels:
  - Licence,
  - Mastère,
  - Doctorat,
  - Post-graduate.
The Curriculum of Medical Ethics
Curriculum

Licence Level

Mandatory Courses

- Introduction to the anthropology of religions
- Introduction to bioethics – the philosophical bases
- History and Philosophy of Medicine: theories and concepts
- General and applied Sociology
Curriculum

Licence Level

Optional Courses

- History and Philosophy of Life and Natural Sciences
- Initiation to Law
- Elaboration of Scientific Discourse
- History of Civilizations
Curriculum

Mastère/Doctorat Level

Mandatory Courses

- History and Philosophy of Medicine: Practice and Health Care Institutions
- Medicine and Contemporary Challenges
- Philosophical Anthropology
- Introduction to Human Rights
Curriculum

Mastère/Doctorat Level

Mandatory Courses

- Deontology and Medical Law
- **Foundations and Procedures of Bioethics (Course)**
- **Bioethics Forum** (application of bioethics in a clinical setting with small group case studies)
Foundations and Procedures of Bioethics (Course)

Each course is structured along three parts:
- introduction/lecture,
- presentation of students’ research (audiovisual techniques),
- group discussion.
Foundations and Procedures of Bioethics (Course)

Themes:
- bioethics and medicine,
- ethics and genetics,
- sexuality and human reproduction,
- bioethics and fertilization technologies,
- abortion and sterilization,
- experimentations on Humans,
Foundations and Procedures of Bioethics (Course)

Themes:
- organ transplants,
- euthanasia and palliative treatments,
- dignity of the human being,
- beginning of life, the
- end of life,
- informing the patient,
- societal issues.
Bioethics Forums

Themes:
- clinical cases posing ethical problems
- discussed in a hospital setting
- in small groups
Curriculum

Post-Graduate Degree in Medical Ethics
Post-Graduate Degree in Medical Ethics

- The “Diplôme universitaire d’éthique médicale” is a post-graduate degree open to MDs, nurses, midwives, psychologists, lawyers, theologians, philosophers.
Post-Graduate Degree in Medical Ethics

- Among our students: Residents, ER doctors, psychiatrists, surgeons, internists, nurses, nuns, priests, psychologists...
Post-Graduate Degree in Medical Ethics

- 3 half-day seminars every two weeks during 18 months.
- We lead these seminars in collaboration with bioethicists, physicians and non-physicians from France, Canada and the US,
- as well as law experts and religious leaders from all denominations (for instance Ayatollah Fadlallah led the inaugural class)