

Standard 1. The Structure of the Study Program

The Study Program contains elements established by the Law.

Master Academic Studies in Bioethics are organized for graduate students of Integrated Academic Studies in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Veterinary Medicine, as well as the disciplines closely related to ethical issues in medicine and research (Special Education and Rehabilitation, Pedagogy, Andragogy, Psychology, Social service and Legal science). The Studies enable students who initially have different academic profiles to effectively communicate and work in an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary environment. This Program will enable researchers from our country and the region to acquire knowledge and expertise in the field of Bioethics, resulting in more effective participation in international programs, where compliance with ethical standards is a necessary and important prerequisite.

Master Academic Studies in Bioethics include core and elective courses with a total of 60 ECTS. The set of core courses is the same for all students, and consists of 7 subjects with a total of 39 ECTS. After completing core courses in the first or second semester, students choose 3 elective courses out of the 8 offered (altogether 11 ECTS). The written Final Paper carries 10 ECTS, which together makes the total of 60 ECTS. The method of completion the Master Academic Studies in Bioethics is the public defense of the Final Paper.

The Study Program will enable acquiring knowledge from the basic principles and legal norms in the field of Bioethics, mastering the skills of ethical problems' critical analysis and developing sensitivity and dedicated relationship in solving complex ethical problems, with particular reference to vulnerable groups.

It is envisaged that candidates improve their knowledge and understanding of international ethical standards in the field of Bioethics, as well as to be able to perform a comparative analysis of standards, critically evaluate them, and apply them in the evaluation of research projects, together with responding in an adequate way to complex issues of preservation and improvement of ethical standards in both basic and clinical research. Acquired competencies will enable them to creatively deal with ethical challenges in the application of new technologies and new therapeutic strategies. This Program will also enable the development of the skills of forming and functioning multidisciplinary teams, including all important partners in addressing ethical issues, communicating and the skills to implement ethical principles and standards.

Teaching methods include interactive presentations in which lectures take place together with asking questions, active participation of students, visual media and printed materials. Students are involved in the educational process through discussions in small groups, regarding ethical issues, where students actively share ideas, thoughts, questions and answers, with teachers as moderators that support the discussion. Case studies serve to present realistic scenarios in the field of Bioethics and focus on specific topics and issues;

students read such Case studies and then refer to them after individual work or working in small groups. The “brainstorming” which encourage students to present their ideas, reflections, understandings and definitions of particular terms, are used to stimulate their creativity and active involvement in the teaching process. The examination is done through essays - seminar papers delivered in writing and then presented orally, which relates to ethical challenges, as an important part of teaching process. The aim is to verify the student’s abilities to organize and express his/her own ideas on the observed ethical issues.

Record: Publication of the Institution (in printed or electronic form, Website of the Institution) - Annex 1.1