

3

MINISTERIAL DECREE OF APPROVAL OF THE JOINT GRADUATE PROGRAMME IN BIOETHICS

The Joint Graduate Programme (JGP) in Bioethics is regulated by current legislation, the relevant Ministerial Decree of Approval, the Academic Rules and Regulations of the University of Crete and the Internal Rules and Regulations of the Programme.

MINISTERIAL DECREE OF APPROVAL

Decision Number 77102/B7

(*Government Gazette* 1195/26-8-2003)

As amended by

Decision Number 23124/B7

(*Government Gazette* 1144/9-7-2007)

The Minister of
National Education and Religious Affairs

Having in mind the Laws of the country.....

We authorise the operation, from the academic year 2002-2003, of the **Joint Graduate Programme** in **Bioethics** of the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies, in co-operation with the Department of Medicine, the Department of Biology and the Department of Sociology of the University of Crete, binded by the following:

Article 1 General Provision

The Department of Philosophy and Social Studies organises and operates, in co-operation with the Department of Medicine, the Department of Biology and the Department of Sociology of the University of Crete, the Joint Graduate Programme

(JGP) in Bioethics from the academic year 2002-2003. The Department of Philosophy and Social Studies is responsible for the administrative and the financial support of the Programme.

Article 2

Aims-Objectives

The subject matter of the JGP is the field of Bioethics. Specifically, its subject matter is the interdisciplinary approach to ethical issues emerging from, or relating to, advancements in the life sciences, their medical applications and their social and environmental impact. It is based on collaborative research conducted in philosophy, the humanities, the social sciences, the life sciences and biotechnology. The JGP constitutes a collaborative educational activity of the Departments of Philosophy and Social Studies, Biology, Medicine and Sociology of the University of Crete.

It aims at the specialisation and training of scientists-researchers who will contribute to the advancement of bioethics research in this country, which, in turn, will enhance the quality of the scientific personnel who will staff institutions of Higher Education, research institutes, public administration, cutting-edge technology corporations, health organisations and, thus, improve labour employment in the country.

Its overall objectives are: 1) to award the Master's degree, the holders of which will be qualified to work in public administration, public and private corporations and organisations, to seek employment as highly qualified secondary education teachers as well as high-level personnel in international organisations; 2) to award the Ph.D. degree, the holders of which will be qualified for employment as academic staff in Universities, Technological Educational Institutions (TEI) and research institutes as well as highly qualified personnel in public administration, public and private organisations and corporations.

Article 3

Graduate Degree Titles

The JGP awards a) the Master's degree (M.A.) and b) the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Bioethics.

Article 4

Categories of Applicants

Eligible to apply to the JGP are graduates of all departments of Greek Universities, or equivalent, accredited, foreign University departments, officially recognised by the Greek State as well as relevant TEI departments of related specialisations, under the formal requirements holding for graduates of Higher Education institutions.

Article 5

Duration of Studies

The duration of studies for the degrees specified in article 3 is: for the Master's degree four (4) to six (6) academic semesters and for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) three (3) to five (5) years, since the date of the assignment of the thesis topic.

Article 6

Programme Structure

Classes, teaching and research activities, laboratory and field exercises as well as any other educational and research requirement for the degrees mentioned in article 3 are specified as follows:

Master's Degree (MA):

- (a) Graduate students must achieve a minimum of thirty (30) credit units. Studies leading to the M.A. include successful participation in graduate lectures and seminars (24 credits) and successful completion and support of a Master's thesis (6 credits). After the successful completion of the required lecture courses and seminars, students are required to write a Master's thesis in no less than one academic semester. The grade average of the Master's degree is calculated on the basis of the sum of grades of twelve two-credit course units, or more course units of one credit each (total 24 credits), plus the grade of the M.A. thesis multiplied by three (3).
- (b) In each of the first three semesters of study, graduates must attend a minimum of four classes (lectures and seminars). Attendance of lectures and seminars

is mandatory. To successfully complete a lecture course, students are required to perform satisfactorily in oral or written examinations, as specified by the respective course leader's requirements. To successfully complete a seminar, students must submit a seminar paper and, possibly, take an oral or written examination, depending on the seminar leader's requirements.

- (c) After the successful participation in ten (10) graduate lectures and seminars, each student is assigned an M.A. thesis topic. In agreement with the student, the assignment, supervision and responsibility for the assessment of the thesis is undertaken by one of the faculty members of the JGP. The Special Interdepartmental Committee (S.I.C.) is notified, in writing. The thesis has, first, to be approved by the supervisor, and then, is publicly supported by the candidate in front of a three-member Examiners' Committee (the supervisor sits on the Committee), which marks the thesis. Should three (3) semesters pass after the assignment of the thesis topic and the supervisor has no knowledge of its progress, the assignment is annulled.
- (d) Each of the courses offered may be divided into sub-courses or units, specified by the S.I.C. The Internal Rules and Regulations, as approved by the S.I.C., specify the curriculum, the distribution of courses (required and electives) as well as the assignment of credits to specific topics or units.

STRUCTURE OF THE CURRICULUM

The following list includes all courses which can be offered by the faculty members participating in the Programme:

REQUIRED COURSES

Moral Theory	Credits
Metaphysics	2
Theories and Methods of Ethics	2
History of Moral Theories	2
Contemporary Ethical Theories	2
Applied Ethics (freedom, autonomy, rights, confidentiality, privacy, responsibility, etc. Multiculturalism and ethical relativism)	2
Bioethical Issues in Ancient Philosophy	2
Theories of Justice	2
Seminar: Ethics of the Sciences	2

Bioethics

Introduction to Bioethics	2
Biomedical Ethics	2
Seminar: Issues in Clinical Bioethics	2
Seminar: Medical Ethics	2
Seminar: Philosophy of Medicine and the Life Sciences	2
Medical Law	2
Law, Medicine and Bioethics	2
Biomedicine and Human Rights	2
Seminar: Biotechnology and Law	2
Public Policy and Bioethics	2
Bioethics and Public Health	2
Ethics and Management of Health Services	2
Ethics of Medical and Scientific Research	2
Seminar: Deontology in Social and Bio-medical Research and Practice	2
Bioethical Issues in Human Genetics	2
Evolutionary Biology and Bioethics	2
Environmental Sciences and Bioethics	2
Ecology, Economy and Ethics	2
Environmental Justice	2
Ethical Issues in Nursing	2
The Development of Ethics in Nursing	2
Professional Ethics/Corporate Ethics	2
Science, Technology and Ethics	2

Basic Introductory Courses

Biology I: Molecular and Cell Basis of Biology	2
Biology II: Principles of Genetics	2
Sociology	2
Philosophy of the Biological Sciences	2

ELECTIVE COURSES

Philosophy

Humans and Nature in Ancient Philosophy	2
Philosophy of Science and Technology	2
Philosophy of Mind	2
Epistemology of Values—Decision Theory	2
Political Philosophy	2
Welfare State	2
Contemporary Political Theory	2
Philosophy of Law	2
Seminar: Theories of Scientific Explanation: Explanation of Scientific Facts	2
Justice, Law and Morals	2

Biology

Developmental Biology	2
Human Genetics	2
History of Biology	2
Moral and Legal Issues in Medical Genetics	2
Principles of Ecology	2
Ecological Issues and Bioethics	2

Medicine

Elements of Neurology	2
Ethical Issues in the Neurosciences	2
Issues in Public Health: A Historical Approach	2
Contemporary Medical Profession	2
History of Medicine until 1700	2
History of Medicine from 1700 to 1900	2
Seminar: Genesis of Modern Medicine	2
Cultures, Religious Beliefs and Health Care	2
Medical Practice and Religious Belief	2

Environmental Sciences

Impact of Human Activities on Biogeochemical Cycles	2
Environmental Sociology	2
Policies of Sustainability	2

Social Sciences

Sociology and Law of Human Reproduction	2
Micro-sociology of Scientific Research	2
Sociology of Mental Illness	2
Anthropology and Bioethics	2
Medical Anthropology	2
Psychology of Health	2
Social Psychology: Social Identity of the Researcher of the Life Sciences	2

Public Health

Culture and Health Behaviour	2
Social Inequalities in Health Care	2
Issues in Public Health Management	2
Sociology of Health and Health Care	2

Law

Family Law	2
Seminar: Genetics and the Law	2
Philosophy of Law and Bioethics	2
Health Care Management	2
Law of Mental Health	2
Seminar: Science, Technology and the Constitution	2
Bioethics and Human Rights	2
Property Rights: the Human Body as Property	2
Cloning and Human Value	2

Nursing

Ethical Issues in Nursing	2
Ethical Issues in Elderly Care	2

Gender Differences and Bioethics

Feminism, Ethics and Health Care	2
Gender and Reproductive Technologies	2
Cultural shaping of Gender	2
Gender and the Law	2
Bioethics and Education	2

Special Features

- Semester-long research seminars, during which graduate students present their current research
- Year-long lecture-series, with invited, scholars/academics of international status, either from Greece or abroad.

6.2 Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

- a. Each graduate who has acquired the M.A. degree may apply to continue his/her studies to read for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.
- b. The research postgraduate must be in regular contact with his/her supervisor and produce an annual report, with detailed description of the thesis progress. Should three (3) years pass after the assignment of the thesis topic during which the supervisor has no information as to the progress of the thesis, the assignment is annulled.
- c. The assignment of a thesis topic is in effect for five (5) years. Should extenuating circumstances arise, the candidate may apply for extension to the S.I.C., which has the authority to decide upon each case separately and grant the applicant an extension of the period of study.

Article 7

Number of Students Admitted

The number of Master's students admitted to the JGP is specified to a maximum of twenty (20) yearly.

Article 8

Faculty Members

In the Programme's curriculum, the following members of academic staff will

participate: seven (7) faculty members of the Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences, six (6) faculty members of the Department of Medicine, four (4) faculty members of the Department of Biology, three (3) faculty members of the Department of Sociology of the University of Crete, five (5) faculty members of the Law Department of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens, two (2) faculty members of the Law Department of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, a number of invited professors from other Greek Universities, special researchers as well as guest professors of foreign Universities, who have similar to the JGP specialisation, according to L. 2083/1992, article 12, paragraph 3(a).

Article 9 **Research and Teaching Facilities**

The Department of Philosophy and Social Studies (DPSS) and the collaborating departments have the facilities required for the Programme's activities. The Centre for Philosophical Research and Translation of the DPSS, the Centre for Bioethics and the Computer Centre of the above Department as well as laboratories of the Departments of Medicine and of Biology will be used. Also, the above mentioned departments' lecture and seminar rooms and their respective audio-visual equipment will be used as well as the fully updated University of Crete Main Library, on Rethymno Campus. Facilities will be further improved with the provision of the amount of 30.000 euros from the European Social Fund (Framework 6, E.U.), which is to be itemised as follows (according to the relevant technical report):

1. Furniture	4.050 euros
2. Personal computers and electronic equipment	16.650 euros
3. Other equipment	4.300 euros
4. Restructuring costs	5.000 euros

Article 10 **Duration**

The JGP will operate from the academic year 2002-2003 until the academic year 2011-2012, with the possibility of restructuring after four (4) years of operation.

Article 11 Funding Sources

The analysis of the Programme's budget provided by the European Social Fund until 31.8.2008 is as follows:

1. Costs of external collaborators	48.764 euros
2. Administrative and technical personnel salaries	124.676 euros
3. Graduate scholarships	96.800 euros
4. Travel expenses	92.532 euros
5. Educational material	16.800 euros
6. Consumables	27.000 euros
7. Publicity expenses	13.700 euros
8. Other expenses	8.128 euros
TOTAL BUDGET	428.400 euros

After 1.9.2008, the annual operation cost is estimated to reach the amount of 110.700,00 euros, itemized as follows:

a. Costs of external collaborators	10.450 euros
b. Administrative and technical personnel salaries	34.420 euros
c. Graduate scholarships	22.000 euros
d. Travel expenses	26.266 euros
e. Educational material	4.400 euros
f. Consumables	3.500 euros
g. Publicity expenses	6.350 euros
h. Other expenses	3.314 euros
TOTAL BUDGET	110.700 euros

The cost of operation will be covered from the following sources:

- a. Budget of the University of Crete
- b. Research projects of the University of Crete
- c. Links with other research projects
- d. Grants and donations

Article 12

Transitional Provision

All matters of operation concerning the JGP which are not specified in the present Ministerial Decree are referred to the Internal Rules and Regulations of the Programme and the decisions of the relevant governing bodies, in accordance with existing laws.

This Decree is to be published in the *Government Gazette*.

Athens, 6 August 2003

The Minister

Petros Efthymiou

and as modified:

Athens, 25 June 2007

The Deputy Minister

Spiridon Taliadouros