

**University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry**  
**Bioethics Pathway Components**

**Pathway Director**  
Margie Hodges Shaw, JD, PhD

**Pathway Coordinator**  
Christine Donnelly

**Pathway Mentor**

Each Pathway student works with an advisor/mentor who oversees their Pathway progress and advises them on their final Pathway project. The student selects a mentor from the Medical Humanities and Bioethics faculty, or other faculty approved by the Pathway Director.

**Supervised Project**

Students are required to complete a Pathway project of their choosing. In Year 1 and 2, students must meet with their advisor to identify areas of interest, learning goals and appropriate activities; identify, research and develop a project. In Year 3 and Year 4, students must meet with their Pathway Project mentor to review progress on their Project.

**Year 1 and 2**

- In Year 1, attend three two-hour Medical Humanities Master's Seminars in the Spring Semester, read at least one of the required readings (other readings are optional), and participate in discussions.
- In Year 2, attend three two-hour Medical Humanities Master's Seminars in the Fall Semester, read at least one of the required readings (other readings are optional), and participate in discussions.
- In Year 2, must attend one URMC Ethics Committee Meeting and present one case discussed to Bioethics Interest Group. (Must arrange with Dr. Shaw.)
- Students must meet with their advisor to identify areas of interest, learning goals and appropriate activities; identify, research and develop a project.

**Year 3 and 4**

- Continue working on and developing Pathway Project together with mentor.
- Take at least two weeks of MHU602 Clinical Ethics elective.
- Optional to take two weeks of MHU603 Clinical Ethics Research Project

**Medical Humanities / Bioethics Events or Community Engagement Activities**

Must attend or participate in at least eight (8) events or community engagement activities each year in Years 1, 2 and 3/4, for example:

- **Bioethics Interest Group** – Regular attendance and active participation in the Bioethics Interest Group is expected. Each meeting attended counts toward the required eight (8) annual activities.
- **Noon Conferences**
  - Interdisciplinary Clinical Ethics Noon Conference (1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month at noon)
  - Medical Humanities Noon Conference (2<sup>nd</sup> Fri of each month at noon)
  - Schwartz Center Conference (3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of each month at noon)
  - Palliative Care Grand Rounds (4<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month at noon)
  - Spiritual Reflection Rounds (5<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month at noon)
- **Community Engagement Activities** (sign-up required)
  - Art & Observation Program
  - Alzheimer's disease related programs at the Memorial Art Gallery
  - Vision loss related programs at the Memorial Art Gallery
- **Special Interest Groups**
  - Corner Society for the History of Medicine
  - *murmur*, a literary and arts journal published annually and led by medical students
  - Progress Notes, a reflective writing group led by medical students

- **Events in Rochester that integrate medical humanities/bioethics and healthcare**
  - Films, musical presentations, theatrical productions, readings, lectures
  - Other groups or activities identified by student's mentor

#### **Submit Summary/Image of Events and Activities**

Within 48 hours of attending events or activities, submit to Pathway Director via email, in tweet format, a summary and/or image of the event or activity you attended. Submissions may be used for Division of Medical Humanities & Bioethics social media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, or web page).

#### **Portfolio**

The portfolio is intended to both record the student's Pathway activities and create space for reflection. The portfolio will include all the student's tweets, podcasts, potential journaling reflections, project development and completion, and the checklists of annual requirements and activities. The student must review the portfolio with Dr. Shaw annually.

To track activities, each Pathway student completes a check sheet of requirements and activities in years 1, 2 and 3/4. The student's mentor and Advisory Dean signs the form, and the check sheet is submitted to the Pathway Coordinator who will obtain the Pathway Director's signature.

#### **Deadlines**

##### **Year 1**

Nov 15 – Preliminary application due  
May 15 – Year 1 check sheet due

##### **Year 2**

Nov 15 – Formal application due  
May 15 – Year 2 check sheet due

##### **Year 3**

June 30 – Two page project proposal due

##### **Year 4**

Oct 15 – Pathway Project progress check sheet due  
Feb 1 – Year 3/4 check sheet due  
Feb 1 – Completed pathway project due

NOTE: Failure to meet Pathway deadlines will result in the student being withdrawn from the Pathway.

#### **Certificate and Dean's Letter**

Students who complete all Pathway requirements will receive a Certificate in the Pathway Program at graduation and a notation about their Pathway work in their Dean's letter to residency programs.

For more information regarding the Medical Humanities and Bioethics Pathway, visit  
<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/medical-humanities/bioethics.aspx>