**University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry**

**Bioethics Pathway Components**

**Pathway Director Pathway Coordinator**

Margie Hodges Shaw, JD, PhD 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. Pathway projects can focus on visual arts, literature, narrative, film, music, gender and women's studies, cultural studies, religious studies, philosophy, history or theatre. Project may take a variety of forms, including (in no particular order) a scholarly paper, a research paper, a book of poems, a play, a collection of short stories, drawings, fabric designs, a musical production, an educational module, a blog, a wiki, etc.

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 one Medical Humanities Pathway Seminar course in the Spring Semester.
* In Year 2, attend one Medical Humanities Pathway Seminar course in the Fall Semester.
* In Year 2, must attend one URMC Ethics Committee Meeting and present one case discussed to the 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 MHU602 Clinical Bioethics elective
* May take MHU603 Bioethics Research elective
* May take up to four weeks of elective MHU615 – Independent Creative/Research Projects in Medical Humanities and Bioethics to work on Pathway 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 (in person or virtual online format), 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 (1st Wed of each month at noon)
  + Medical Humanities Noon Conference (2nd Fri of each month at noon)
  + Schwartz Center Conference (3rd Wed of each month at noon)
  + Palliative Care Grand Rounds (4th Wed of each month at noon)
  + Spiritual Reflection Rounds (5th Wed of each month at noon)
* **Additional 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 the Pathways WordPress Website as a written brief summary, with or without an image, of the event or activity you attended. Details about how to submit posts will be released soon.

**Portfolio**

To track activities and create a portfolio of work, each Pathway student completes a checklist of requirements and activities in year 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 16 – Preliminary application due

Prior to April 1 - Pathway coursework, extracurricular activities and preliminary project plans reviewed with mentor

May 17 – Year 1 check sheet due

Year 2

Nov 16 – Formal application due

Feb 1 – Acceptance letter received

May 17 – 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>