



Master of Arts
Applied Ethics & Policy

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Introduction

We live in a society saturated with technology. Technology has extended our lives, elevated our standard of living, and created a global community. It has also irreparably changed our lived environment, raised fundamental questions about when life begins and ends, challenged our understandings of our own thoughts and actions, and forced us to confront novel moral questions. Is it ethical to clone a human being? Should we use technologies that enhance or alter our brains? Will we permit the government to store DNA forever, even for those who have never committed a crime? How do we combat misinformation and disinformation? How will the expanding applications for artificial intelligence impact our lives and culture? Can our existing legal and regulatory frameworks effectively control these technological developments? What does privacy mean?

The Duke MA in Applied Ethics & Policy gives students the opportunity to explore these questions and many more. The program provides students with a solid foundation in history and philosophy of bio- and tech ethics; legal, social, and theoretical approaches to these subjects; and foundational knowledge in science policy and political processes. The program also teaches students how to thoughtfully identify, analyze, and propose solutions to complex problems at the intersection of science, technology, ethics, and policy. The curriculum addresses:

1. The ethical, legal, and social policy concerns arising from advances in science and technology, particularly at the intersection of life sciences, biotechnology, innovative technologies, artificial intelligence, information, medicine, politics, law, and philosophy
2. Principles of bioethics, including respect for persons, beneficence, justice, nonmaleficence and democratic deliberation as they apply both to biosciences and emerging technologies.
3. Methodologies, including foundational principlism, casuistic, communitarianism, virtue ethics, legal and political systems and analysis, deliberative decision-making, and data analysis.

The Duke Master of Arts in Applied Ethics & Policy is distinct in its focus on bioethics, tech ethics, and science policy, rather than bioethics alone. Today's world of rapid progress in science and technology has seen an increased demand for professionals with expertise in the ethical and policy implications of an increasingly broad range of scientific and technical areas. Duke's expanded focus provides a broader education, opens more opportunities to graduating students, and prepares students to meet an ever-growing need in society.

The program's is headed by David Hoffman, J.D., Interim Director of Duke Science & Society. The Director of Graduate Studies is Dr. Tommy Sowers, PhD. The Senior Program Coordinator is Erica McFarland.

Welcome

Welcome to the Duke Master of Arts in Applied Ethics & Policy!

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the Master of Arts in Applied Ethics & Policy at Duke University. As Interim Director, I am honored to support the continued growth and excellence of this exceptional program.

The MA in Applied Ethics & Policy was established to address the increasing demand for professionals who can thoughtfully navigate the ethical dimensions of science, technology, law, and public policy. Our program offers a rigorous interdisciplinary curriculum, designed to cultivate critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and policy analysis skills essential for leadership in a complex and evolving world.

At Duke, you will engage with a distinguished faculty whose expertise spans a wide range of disciplines. You will also benefit from a collaborative academic environment and personalized mentorship that will support your intellectual and professional development throughout your time in the program.

We are proud to offer a community that values inquiry, integrity, and impact. I encourage you to take full advantage of the opportunities available to you here, and I look forward to witnessing the contributions you will make both within and beyond the university.

Warmly,

David Hoffman

David Hoffman, J.D.

Faculty and Administration

Visit the Science & Society “People” page [here](#) for the most current list of faculty and staff.

MA Program Leadership

David Hoffman, JD

Interim Director of the Duke Initiative for Science & Society
Professor of the Practice in the Sanford School of Public Policy
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Faculty & Staff

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Michael “Buz” Waitzkin, JD, LLM

Senior Lecturing Fellow

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The Degree

The Master of Arts in Applied Ethics & Policy requires a minimum of 36 credits: 5 core courses (15 credits), electives (12 credits), and 1 capstone project (9 credits).

The Duke MA in Applied Ethics & Policy consists of:

- 5 core classes
 - BIOETHIC 602: Law, Research, & Bioethics
 - BIOETHIC 606: Communicating Science Policy
 - BIOETHIC 704: Science, Law, & Policy
 - SCISOC 690-02: Applied Ethics & Policy
 - BIOETHIC 603: Clinical Bioethics & Health Policy
or SCISOC 585: Digital Intelligence: Ethics of Emerging Technologies
- 12 elective credits
- 1 capstone project, along with enrollment in BIOETHIC 705: Capstone: Bioethics & Science Policy

The MA program engages an amazing group of Duke faculty from all over campus to offer a robust selection of intellectually stimulating core and elective courses (see the following pages for course listings). Further, faculty members work with students on designing the capstone project, which may be either a research paper or a capstone with a written report.

Timing of Coursework

Most students begin the program full time in the fall semester, although a limited number of students may be admitted to begin in the spring semester. Typically, full-time students complete the program in 1 full year (3 semesters—including fall, spring, and summer).

Fall Start Sample Schedule for Students Completing the MA in 1 year (3 semesters; 36 credits)		
<u>Fall (12 credits)</u>	<u>Spring (15 credits)</u>	<u>Summer (9 credits)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIOETHIC 602 (3 credits) • BIOETHIC 704 (3 credits) • SCISOC 690 (3 credits) • Electives (3 total credits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIOETHIC 603 OR SCISOC 585* (3 credits) • BIOETHIC 606 (3 credits) • Electives (9 total credits) 	<p><i>Summer Session 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIOETHIC 705 (4.5 Credits)** <p><i>Summer Session 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIOETHIC 705 (4.5 Credits)**

*Students may take either BIOETHIC 603 or SCISOC 585 for the core requirements. If students take both, one will count as an elective.

**International students enroll in one nine-credit section listed in Summer Session 1.

Students who started their studies in fall and intend to graduate after finishing the summer semester, need to apply to graduate by the deadline given by the Graduate School listed [here](#). If a

student is considering staying for additional semester but unsure, they **should** still apply for their intent to graduate per the Graduate School's strict deadlines. The Graduate School will not allow the student to graduate if they if has missed the deadline.

Students starting in the spring should consult with the DGSA on structuring their curriculum.

Core Courses

BIOETHIC 602. Research Ethics and Policy (Fall; 3 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Misha Angrist, PhD, MS, MFA

An examination of the relationship between the law and bioethical issues, particularly in research and medical contexts. The course will explore the ways scientific advances affect law and other social institutions, and, conversely, how law affects the development and use of scientific knowledge. Topics include the history of human subject protections, current regulatory and statutory issues in research, and legal decisions governing informed consent, confidentiality, privacy, and other issues.

BIOETHIC 606. Communicating Science Policy (Spring; 3 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Robyn Caplan, PhD

The goal of this course is to train those at the intersection of science and society on how to communicate science and technology policy beyond academia and towards diverse audiences. Students will learn about the broader context of the role of communication in science and tech policy, as well as theories that can be used to frame the social, cultural, and political project of science and tech communication. Students will be taught practical communication skills, with an emphasis on communicating for different audiences and in different formats, including op-eds, white papers, presentations and over social media. This is a project-driven class, where students will be asked to bring their own interests/projects, and taught the skills for the effective communication of these complex topics.

BIOETHIC 704. Science, Law, & Policy (Fall; 3 credits)

Instructor: Buz Waitzkin, JD, LLM

An exploration of questions at the intersection of science, law, and policy. This course will cover government regulation of science, legal monopolies, the politicization of science, access and control of information, immigration law as a tool of science policy, the history of government funding for research and development, the role of the courts in science and related topics.

SCISOC 690-02. Applied Ethics & Policy

This foundational course in Duke's new Applied Ethics Master's program immerses students in practical methodologies for identifying and addressing ethical challenges in diverse real-world contexts. Over several weeks, participants learn and apply methods of project scoping, landscape analysis, stakeholder mapping, horizon scanning, scenario planning, and policy alternative comparison to develop rigorous, forward-thinking ethical reviews. Course readings—including guides on scoping and structured reviews, foresight analyses, and case studies on evidence-based decision-making—equip students with tools to conduct thorough assessments and anticipate downstream societal impacts. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to proactively integrate ethical considerations into complex decision-making processes across disciplines.

BIOETHIC 603. Clinical Bioethics & Health Policy (Spring; 3 credits)

Instructor: Dr. Janet Malek, PhD

An examination of the leading issues in bioethics, especially those that arise in the context of clinical decision-making and the doctor-patient encounter. The focus will be on the ethical dilemmas faced by medical providers, patients, and their families: how issues are analyzed, what values are considered, and how disputes are resolved. Topics will include end-of-life care; withdrawal or refusal of life-sustaining treatment; pediatric ethics; transplantation; and rationing of scarce drugs or resources. The course will use real case examples to illustrate these dilemmas and challenges.

SCISOC 585. Digital Intelligence: Ethics of Emerging Technologies (Spring; 3 credits)

Instructor: Sarah Rispin, JD

The Digital Intelligence course helps students navigate and understand and analyze the ethical and social impact of emerging technologies through an applied ethical lens. In a flipped-classroom format, students will watch asynchronous videos on a weekly basis featuring leading technology, ethics, and policy experts as they discuss relevant and timely topics such as algorithmic bias, the impact of social media on democracy, and privacy in the digital age. Students will meet weekly in small discussion groups to work through case studies and to critically engage with a practical ethics approach to the topics presented in the video and additional assigned material.

Concentrations

A distinctive, but not required, feature of Duke's MA in Applied Ethics & Policy is the opportunity to focus on a specific area. Concentrations (listed as subplans in DukeHub) provide students with the opportunity to focus on an existing or emerging area that poses fundamental yet complex questions about the relationship between science, ethics, and society. The program provides frameworks for two concentrations: (1) Bioethics & Science Policy and (2) Tech Ethics & Policy. We encourage students to explore the issues most relevant to their specific interests. We invite students to take advantage of all the opportunities available through Duke University and many students elect to undertake a highly diverse curriculum rather than concentrating.

Bioethics & Science Policy Concentration

In the Bioethics & Science subplan, students might follow paths in Genomics, Neuroscience, Public Impact and Engagement, as just a few examples. We encourage our students to customize their education by selecting electives from the [many multi-disciplinary course offerings](#) made available throughout most Duke schools, institutes, and departments. More information on the Bioethics & Science Policy concentration can be found [on our website](#).

To claim the Bioethics & Science Policy concentration, the student must complete the following:

- BIOETHIC 704: Science Law & Policy
- BIOETHIC 602: Law Research & Bioethics
- BIOETHIC 603: Clinical Bioethics & Health Policy
- BIOETHIC 606: Communicating Science Policy
- SCISOC 690-02: Applied Ethics & Policy

- Electives credits reflecting the Bioethics & Science Policy concentration
- A capstone project, (BIOETHIC 705: Capstone) that reflects questions and concerns of bioethics and science policy.

Tech Ethics & Policy Concentration

Students focused on Tech Ethics & Policy in the Duke Master of Arts in Applied Ethics & Policy program explore topics at the intersection of technology, ethics, law, and policy. Areas of study include big data and data privacy, artificial intelligence, and the increasing overlap between research, medicine, and technology.

Our hope is that through a rich multidisciplinary experience, our students will be well-prepared to partake in the critical ethical and policy discussions that are too often outpaced by the technological advances from which they originate. More information on the Tech Ethics & Policy concentration can be found [on our website](#).

To claim the Tech Ethics & Policy concentration, the student must complete the following:

- BIOETHIC 704: Science Law & Policy
- BIOETHIC 602: Law Research & Bioethics
- BIOETHIC 606: Communicating Science Policy
- SCISOC 585: Digital Intelligence
- SCISOC 690-02: Applied Ethics & Policy
- Electives credits reflecting the Tech Ethics & Policy concentration
- A capstone (BIOETHIC 705: Capstone) that reflects questions and concerns of tech ethics and policy.

Dual Concentration

In exceptional cases, some students may claim both the Bioethics & Science Policy concentration *and* the Tech Ethics & Policy concentration. To do so, the student must complete the following:

- BIOETHIC 704: Science Law & Policy
- BIOETHIC 602: Law Research & Bioethics
- BIOETHIC 606: Communicating Science Policy
- BIOETHIC 603: Clinical Bioethics & Health Policy (either as an elective or core)
- SCISOC 585: Digital Intelligence (either as an elective or core)
- SCISOC 690-02: Applied Ethics & Policy
- Electives credits reflecting the dual concentrations
- A capstone project (BIOETHIC 705: Capstone) that reflects questions and concerns of both concentrations.

Representative Electives

In addition to the core courses, students take courses across Duke's Schools and Departments. A representative sample of potential electives can be found [on our website](#). This list is not intended to be limiting, but rather to be suggestive. Please note that not all elective courses are offered every semester. [You can search Duke course catalog on Duke Hub](#).

Independent Study

Many students undertake independent study projects under the supervision of and/or in the research lab of a faculty advisor. A student proposing to undertake an Independent Study project must submit a brief statement of the proposed project, the number of credit hours sought, and the faculty advisor as indicated in the form below. The completed and signed form must be submitted to Director of Graduate Studies for the approval one week prior to the end of drop/add each semester. After the form is approved, the senior program coordinator will issue you a permission number, which allows students to enroll in the course with their faculty advisor. You can download the independent study proposal form [here](#).

Non-Thesis Capstone Project

Each student will dedicate 8–10 weeks to completing a capstone project, either through Applied Ethics+, a sponsored collaboration with an external organization, or by pursuing an independent research initiative. This work earns the student 9 credit hours, which are fulfilled by enrolling in the capstone course, BIOETHIC 705.

Capstone projects are typically completed in the summer, and typically begin in mid-May and conclude in late July, aligning with the MA Final Exam at the end of July. With approval from the Director of Graduate Studies, students may instead complete their capstone during the fall or spring semester. In some cases, students may choose to extend their project across two semesters, distributing the 9 credit hours of BIOETHIC 705 accordingly.

The capstone is designed to provide students with an opportunity to engage deeply with real-world issues in bioethics, science policy, and tech ethics. Through this experience, students are expected to demonstrate their understanding of current thinking in these fields, critically reflect on complex ethical and policy challenges, and showcase their skills in writing and analysis.

Students are strongly encouraged to fulfill the capstone requirement by participating in Science & Society's internal summer program, Applied Ethics+. This program offers a curated set of high-impact, faculty-supported projects in collaboration with external partners. Applied Ethics+ is designed to provide a structured, immersive experience that aligns closely with the goals of the capstone and maximizes opportunities for professional development and mentorship.

Students who wish to pursue an alternative (external) capstone experience must receive prior approval from the Director of Graduate Studies and demonstrate that their proposed project meets the academic and experiential standards of the program.

Students pursuing external capstone projects (i.e., those outside of Applied Ethics+) are expected to:

- Obtain an external capstone project and submit the [capstone proposal form](#) to the DGS and DGSA by December 1, 2026.
- As part of the project proposal, students must also identify a Duke faculty advisor to oversee their academic progress.

- Engage meaningfully with their host organization or research topic, contributing to the organization's mission and developing a focused project in bioethics, tech ethics, or policy
- To help facilitate the faculty mentorship, students must submit two brief (2–3 page) reflective journal entries to their faculty advisor, DGS and DGSA. These reflections should discuss the ethical and policy issues encountered and the progress of their work.
 - The first reflection will be due Monday, June 8, 2026.
 - The second reflection will be due Monday, July 6, 2026.
- Work under the supervision of a designated mentor at the host organization, who will provide guidance and support throughout the project.

At mid-summer and again at the end of the summer, the host organization will complete an evaluation form to provide feedback on the student's performance. Faculty advisors will also be asked to provide feedback and grade recommendations for **BIOETHIC 705**.

Capstone outside the US

Several of the capstone programs undertaken by our students have involved travel outside of the United States. To ensure students receive adequate assistance in time of emergency, students are required to enter their travel information in the [Duke Travel Registry](#). Also, students are required to check the traveler's health requirements on CDC's [website](#) to ensure they have required vaccinations for the countries that they are traveling to. After figuring out the vaccination requirements, students can refer to [Wellness Center](#) to receive the necessary immunization. It is also suggested that students visit the [Global Duke's website](#) and carefully review the [pre-travel checklist](#) and safety tips. You should also wish to review Duke's travel policies and restricted regions list.

MA Non-Thesis Capstone Final Presentation

As part of the Graduate School's non-thesis master's degree requirement, students in the MA in Applied Ethics & Science Policy program must complete a **final capstone presentation**. This serves as the culminating academic experience and demonstrates the student's ability to synthesize and apply ethical and policy analysis in a real-world context. The presentation is evaluated by a faculty committee and fulfills the Graduate School's final examination requirement.

Capstone Presentation Timeline & Requirements

- Committee Formation (At Least 30 Days Before Presentation)
 - Each student must form a Capstone Committee of three faculty members, including a designated chair.
 - The Graduate School has specific requirements for the committee chair. The faculty that currently meet these requirements are:
 - Misha Angrist, PhD
 - Robyn Caplan, PhD
 - Jolynn Dellinger, JD
 - David Hoffman, JD
 - Janet Malek, PhD
 - Sarah Rispin, JD
 - Tommy Sowers, PhD

- Michael “Buz” Waitzkin, JD, LL.M
- At least one other committee member must be affiliated with Science & Society.
- Students should:
 - Begin identifying potential committee members early in the term.
 - Confirm each member’s willingness to serve and availability for the presentation date.
 - Submit the finalized committee list to the Science & Society DGSA no later than 30 days before the scheduled presentation.
 - Refer to [Scholars@Duke](#) for the most up-to-date list of faculty affiliated with Science & Society.
 - Committee members must also be part of the Graduate Faculty. If they are not in the [Graduate Faculty database](#), coordinate with the DGSA to get them nominated.
- Submission of Presentation Materials (At Least 10 Days Before Presentation)
 - Students must submit the following to their committee members:
 - A near-final draft of the presentation and any related work products.
 - A 5–7 minute self-recorded video overview (executive summary).
- Committee members are expected to:
 - Review all submitted materials and the video overview prior to the presentation.
 - Attend the final presentation, preferably in person.
- Final Presentation Format
 - Each student delivers an individual 45-minute presentation during their graduating term.
 - 20 minutes: Formal presentation
 - 20 minutes: Q&A with the committee
 - A slideshow (e.g., PowerPoint) is commonly used. Alternative formats may be approved with prior consultation.
 - Students in the Applied Ethics+ program may include their group’s final video but must clearly expand on their individual contributions.
 - Final presentations are open to the public. Science & Society faculty/staff/students will be invited.
- Presentation Timing by Graduation Term
 - Spring Graduates: Early to mid-March
 - Summer Graduates: Late July to early August
 - Fall Graduates: Late October to early November

The MA Final is graded PASS/FAIL. Students must pass to receive their degree.

Master’s Thesis

While most students in the MA program choose to complete a capstone project, those with a strong academic interest in research may pursue a formal master’s thesis as an alternative. With approval from the Director of Graduate Studies, the thesis option offers a rewarding opportunity to engage deeply with a topic of your choice. Due to the intensive nature of the work and the

limited timeframe, this path is best suited for students with a clear research plan and strong time management skills. It is a challenging endeavor—but for the right candidate, it can be an especially fulfilling academic experience. No later than the end of add/drop of the semester you begin working on your thesis project, submit a [Thesis Proposal Form](#) to the DGS.

The thesis option supports students from diverse academic and professional backgrounds by offering a flexible structure for producing a substantial, discipline-relevant written work. While the Graduate School sets a few core requirements, students are encouraged to tailor their thesis to their field of interest. Refer to The Graduate School's [Theses and Dissertations page](#) to review their requirements and deadlines.

Thesis Requirements

- A minimum of 25 pages (excluding title page and references)
- Near-publishable quality, demonstrating deep engagement with the topic
- May take the form of:
 - An original research paper
 - A critical analysis of an ethical or policy issue
 - A project-based reflection with rigorous ethical or policy analysis

All theses must include:

- A consistent formatting style (e.g., APA, MLA, Bluebook)
- A clear explanation of the project and the student's role
- Identification of relevant bioethics, tech ethics, and/or science policy issues
- A description of the research methodology
- Reflections on insights gained
- A thoughtful analysis and well-supported conclusions

To explore examples of theses, students may browse past MA in Bioethics & Science Policy theses in [DukeSpace](#).

Thesis Defense

Based on The Graduate School's [Theses and Dissertations page](#), below is a timeline of the thesis process, including the thesis defense.

- Schedule your defense and apply for graduation in DukeHub by the posted [deadlines](#).
- Committee Formation (At Least 30 Days Before Presentation)
 - Each student must form a Capstone Committee of three faculty members, including a designated chair.
 - The Graduate School has specific requirements for the committee chair. The faculty that currently meet these requirements are:
 - Misha Angrist, PhD
 - Robyn Caplan, PhD
 - Jolynn Dellinger, JD
 - David Hoffman, JD
 - Janet Malek, PhD
 - Sarah Rispin, JD

- Tommy Sowers, PhD
- Michael “Buz” Waitzkin, JD, LL.M
- At least one other committee member must be affiliated with Science & Society.
- Students should:
 - Begin identifying potential committee members early in the term.
 - Confirm each member’s willingness to serve and availability for the presentation date.
 - Refer to [Scholars@Duke](#) for the most up-to-date list of faculty affiliated with Science & Society.
 - Committee members must also be part of the Graduate Faculty. If they are not in the [Graduate Faculty database](#), coordinate with the DGSA to get them nominated.
- ≥ 30 days before defense:
 - Confirm or update your defense committee.
 - Submit your thesis to your advisor for review.
 - Advisor sends a readiness-to-defend letter to gradacademics@duke.edu.
 - DGSA sends [departmental defense announcement](#) to gradacademics@duke.edu.
- ≥ 2 weeks before defense:
 - Submit your correctly formatted thesis/dissertation to ProQuest (initial submission).
 - Provide a copy to each committee member.
- Optional: After ProQuest review, schedule a virtual meeting with the Graduate School administrator to discuss formatting or defense questions.
- A few days before defense:
 - Graduate School sends final examination certificate to your committee chair(s) and DGSA.
- Defense Day:
 - Defend your dissertation.
 - Committee votes and signs the final examination certificate.
 - Minor edits may be required before final submission.
- Post-defense:
 - Submit the signed Non-Exclusive Distribution License and Embargo Agreement to gradacademics@duke.edu.
- Within 30 days of defense or by [final deadline](#) (whichever is sooner):
 - Submit the final version of your thesis/dissertation to ProQuest.

The thesis defense is graded PASS/FAIL. Students must pass to receive their degree.

Preparing to Graduate

Master students are required to complete the Apply to Graduate process for the semester in which they plan to graduate. You can apply for graduation through Duke Hub. According to the Graduate School’s webpage, “There is no penalty if you apply to graduate and do not graduate during that semester. However, the form data does not carry over from one semester to the next, so you will be required to re-apply for the next graduation.” For more information, please visit the [Milestone and Graduation Information and Deadlines page](#).

Graduation Application Deadlines:

Graduation Month	Graduation Application Deadline
September 2026	June 1, 2026
December 2026	October 1, 2026
May 2027	February 1, 2027

Commencement

Note that the university only holds commencement ceremonies in May, following the conclusion of the spring semester. Given the nature of our program, most of our students graduate in the summer or fall. The university only allows students to participate in the university-wide ceremony after completion of all degree requirements. However, we allow students to walk at our department ceremony in the spring if they have completed two semesters of the program and are on track to graduate in the following summer or fall. You can order graduation apparel in the spring through [Duke Commencement](#) without participating in the university ceremony, and before you have completed your degree requirements.

Additional Semester Option

Master's students who are in good academic standing (3.0 GPA or higher) and have successfully completed all their required core curriculum (including the 5 Core classes and the 9-unit Capstone) are invited to extend their enrollment at Duke for a fourth semester. Students should regularly communicate with the DGSA on their degree completion plan.

Student may choose to take up to a full load of courses in the extension semester. Science & Society will award the extending student a full tuition scholarship for this additional semester. However, the student will remain responsible for paying \$2,000 to cover fees assessed by the Graduate School. The student will still be responsible for all other fees and health insurance coverage on their Bursar invoice.

Please note that international students are required to take a full course load to maintain their visa status until their final semester. Please confirm these requirements with Duke Visa Services. Approved extended semester students are still fully enrolled in the master's program, and still will be invited to participate in Science & Society programs and events. Extended semester students will be called upon to provide mentoring to new students during orientation week and throughout the semester.

Refer to the Tuition and Scholarships section of this handbook to see more information about the costs of an extension semester.

Polices and Procedures

The Duke Graduate School lists documents related to its policies, handbook, and forms you will need [here](#).

Academic Calendar

Important dates and academic deadlines can be found in the [Academic Calendar](#). The dates relevant to The Graduate School are copied here for convenience. If you take a course outside of The Graduate School, refer to the appropriate academic calendar.

Fall 2025		
August 19	Tuesday	New graduate student orientation begins
August 24	Sunday	First-Year Convocation
August 25	Monday	Fall semester classes begin (8:30 AM); Drop/Add continues
September 1	Monday	Labor Day. No classes are held
September 5	Friday	Drop/Add ends (11:59 PM)
September 25 – September 28	Thursday – Sunday	Founders' Weekend. Classes are held Thursday and Friday
October 10	Friday	Fall break begins (7:00 PM)
October 15	Wednesday	Classes resume (8:30 AM)
October 20	Monday	Shopping carts open for Spring 2026
October 29	Wednesday	Registration begins for Spring 2026
November 10	Monday	Registration ends for Spring 2026
November 11	Tuesday	Drop/Add begins for Spring 2026
November 25	Tuesday	Thanksgiving recess begins (10:30 PM); Graduate classes end
November 26 – December 9	Wednesday – Tuesday	Graduate reading period
December 1	Monday	Undergraduate classes resume (8:30 AM)
December 5	Friday	Undergraduate classes end
December 10	Wednesday	Final examinations begin (9:00 AM)
December 15	Monday	Final examinations end (10:00 PM)
Spring 2026		
January 7	Wednesday	Spring semester begins (8:30 AM). A Monday class schedule is followed (more info). Drop/Add continues
January 19	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. No classes are held
January 21	Wednesday	Drop/Add ends (11:59 PM)

February 9	Monday	Shopping Carts open for Summer 2026
February 16	Monday	Registration begins for Summer 2026
February 20	Friday	Last day to report midsemester grades
March 6	Friday	Spring recess begins (7:00 PM)
March 16	Monday	Classes resume (8:30 AM)
March 23	Monday	Shopping Carts open for Fall 2026
April 1	Wednesday	Registration begins for Fall 2026; Summer registration continues
April 10	Friday	Drop/Add begins for Fall 2026
April 15	Wednesday	Graduate classes end
April 16 – 26	Thursday – Sunday	Graduate reading period
April 22	Wednesday	Undergraduate classes end
April 27	Monday	Final examinations begin
May 2	Saturday	Final examinations end (10:00 PM)
May 8	Friday	Science & Society Commencement Ceremony
May 10	Sunday	University graduation exercises; Conferring of degrees
Summer 2026		
February 16	Monday	Registration begins for all summer sessions
May 13	Wednesday	Summer Term 1 classes begin
May 15	Friday	Drop/Add for Term 1 ends (11:59 PM)
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day holiday. No classes are held
June 19	Friday	Juneteenth holiday. No classes are held
June 22	Monday	Term 1 classes end
June 29	Monday	Summer Term 2 classes begin
July 1	Wednesday	Drop/Add for Term 2 ends (11:59 PM)
July 3	Friday	Independence Day holiday. No classes are held
August 7	Friday	Term 2 classes end

Standards of Conduct

The Standards of Conduct cover expectations specific to the Graduate School. Graduate Students are also bound by a set of [University-wide policies](#) that are applicable to all academic communities within Duke University. Alleged violations of these policies by graduate students are addressed using procedures established by the Graduate School. For more information, please review the Graduate School's [Current Students Guide](#).

Graduate students at Duke University freely choose to join a community of scholarship predicated on the open exchange of ideas and original research. At Duke University, students assume the responsibility to foster intellectual honesty, tolerance, generosity, and to encourage respectful debate and creative research. By accepting admission to Duke University, graduate students pledge to uphold the intellectual and ethical standards of the University, as expressed in the Duke Community Standard, to respect the rights of their colleagues, to abide by University regulations, and to obey local, state, and federal laws. The Graduate School and the University specifically prohibit the following:

- 1. Lying:** Knowing misrepresentations to gain illicit benefit or to cause harm to others. Examples include misrepresentation in applications for admissions or financial aid, lying during a formal inquiry by the University, and false accusations of misconduct by others.
- 2. Cheating:** Using unauthorized materials, assistance, or methods to gain an unfair academic advantage. This includes using prohibited aids during exams, collaborating without permission, reusing prior work without approval, and submitting altered work for regrading. This includes **unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI)**. Refer to each instructor's policy on AI usage in their course. Some instructors do not allow any AI usage, some have rigid parameters of what is allowed. If an instructor does not have an AI usage policy in their syllabus, you must clarify with them before using AI in their course.
- 3. Plagiarism:** Presenting another's ideas, words, or work as one's own without proper attribution. This includes failing to cite sources, copying text without quotation marks, and paraphrasing without acknowledgment. Students are expected to understand and apply proper citation practices.
- 4. Theft:** Misappropriation of property, services, credentials, or documents. Theft includes the misuse or willful damage of University property, equipment, services, funds, library materials, or electronic networks.
- 5. Harassment:** The creation of a hostile, intimidating, disrespectful environment based on race, religion, gender, ethnicity, or sexual orientation, in which verbal or physical conduct because of its severity or persistence, is likely to interfere significantly with an individual's work or education, or affect adversely an individual's living conditions. Duke University is committed to protecting academic freedom for all members of the university community. This policy against harassment is, therefore, applied so as to protect the rights of all parties to a complaint. Academic freedom and freedom of expression include but are not limited to the expression of ideas, however

controversial, in the classroom, in residence halls, and—in keeping with different responsibilities—in workplaces elsewhere in the University community.

6. Sexual harassment: Coercion through speech or action for sexual purposes. Examples include verbal or written threats, unwanted sexual solicitation, stalking, and the use of a position of authority to intimidate or coerce others. Duke teaching personnel, employees, and graduate students are expected to report consensual sexual relationships between individuals in a supervisory or teaching relationship to their superiors. Examples of such supervisory or teaching relationships include instructor and student; advisor and student; and supervisor and staff member. You can access Student Sexual Misconduct Policy Handbook [here](#).

7. Assault: An attack on another person resulting in either physical or psychological injury.

8. Possession of illicit drugs on University property or as part of any University activity: Students are prohibited from manufacturing, selling, delivering, possessing, or using a controlled substance without legal authorization. The North Carolina Controlled Substances Act defines a controlled substance as any drug, substance, or immediate precursor, including but not limited to opiates, barbiturates, amphetamines, marijuana, and hallucinogens. Possession of drug paraphernalia is also prohibited under North Carolina law and University policy. Drug paraphernalia includes all equipment, products, and material of any kind that are used to facilitate, or intended or designed to facilitate, violations of the North Carolina Controlled Substances Act.

9. Refusal to comply with the directions of a University police officer: Students must comply with the lawful directions of the University police. In addition, interference with the proper operation of safety or security devices, including emergency telephones, door locks, fire alarms, smoke detectors, or any other safety device is prohibited.

10. Trespassing: Students may not enter University property to which access is prohibited.

11. Possession of explosives, incendiary devices, or firearms on University property: Students are expected to meet academic requirements and financial obligations, as specified elsewhere in this bulletin, in order to remain in good standing. Failure to meet these requirements and to abide by the rules and regulations of Duke University may result in summary dismissal by the dean of the Graduate School or the provost. In accepting admission, students indicate their willingness to subscribe to and be governed by these rules and regulations and acknowledge the right of the University to take disciplinary action, including suspension and expulsion, as may be deemed appropriate for failure to abide by such rules and regulations or for conduct adjudged unsatisfactory or detrimental to the University.

Refer to the [Current Students Guide](#) for the complete list of standards.

Responsible Conduct of Research Training

The Graduate School requires MA students to complete 6 hours of training in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). MA students complete training by participating in a 4-hour RCR Orientation during Orientation week and also complete an additional 2-hour forum before graduation. If you are unable to attend the RCR training during Orientation, please consult with the DGSA to enroll in alternative RCR offerings.

Applied Ethics & Policy students will receive credit for the additional 2-hour forum when they complete BIOETHIC 602: Research Ethics and Policy, a core requirement for the degree.

More information on the RCR requirements can be found [on The Graduate School's website](#).

Course Registration

Regular and Late Registration

Registration is completed via [DukeHub](#). DukeHub is the student self-service application providing students with an array of information and direct access to their academic, financial, and personal data. Access to DukeHub is gained using your NetID and password.

[DukeHub](#) is available every day (except some Saturday mornings and holidays due to updates), seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. As a security precaution, students should change their NetID password periodically. This ID and password are your key to accessing all the personal information contained on these pages. **DON'T SHARE YOUR PASSWORD WITH ANYONE!**

The use of [DukeHub](#) to gain access to or alter the record of registration of another person, or to gain access to restricted classes without proper permission, is a violation of the [Duke Community Standard](#) and is subject to disciplinary action.

If you need help with registration policies and procedures, call the Office of the University Registrar at 919-684-2813 during regular office hours, or send an email to registrar@duke.edu. The office will be open at 7:00 a.m. during all registration windows. If you need technical help or browser information, contact the OIT Help Desk at 919-684-2200.

Registration and drop/add are available to all students with no outstanding financial or other obligations to the university. Students with outstanding financial obligations must make arrangements with the bursar's office before registering or attempting to drop/add. Those students who have not paid billed fees owed to, or fines imposed by, the university (such as laboratory fees, library fines, and parking fines) will not be permitted to register until the fees and fines have been paid, even if the student has paid tuition for the upcoming term.

See the [Academic Calendar](#) for the official semester schedule and registration deadlines.

Required Registration Loads

Full-time master's candidates may register for less than 9 course units only in the final semester. If degree requirements are not met in that final semester and no further course work is necessary

for the master's degree, the registration should be Continuation each semester and summer (if in residence during the summer) until degree requirements are completed.

International master's degree students must be registered full-time (see above) every term or their visa status will be in jeopardy. The one exception to this requirement is for students who are in their final term of enrollment at Duke. Full-time enrollment is not required to maintain visa status if all course and examination requirements will be met by the end of that final term. Please understand that if you declare a term as your final one and you are registered for less than full time, you *must* graduate at the end of that term. There is no compelling reason we can offer for extending your program, and thus your student visa for study at Duke will expire at the end of the declared final term. Failing a course is not considered justifiable grounds for an extension.

The minimum course load for part-time graduate students in a degree program is three units per semester, as long as the student is not receiving financial support from Duke. Part-time students are not eligible to take courses under the interinstitutional agreements with neighboring institutions or to receive institutional financial support.

All students (including part-time) must maintain continuous registration during the two semesters of the academic year from the time they are admitted to a degree program until its completion, unless a leave of absence is approved by the senior associate dean. Students are not required to register in the summer unless they are receiving financial support or need summer residency for course work or other research.

A typical course load is 12-15 credits per semester.

Course Overloads

With the approval of their director of graduate studies (DGS) and the associate dean for academic affairs, graduate students may enroll in more than 15.0 graded credits in a semester.

The student should meet with the DGS to discuss his/her program of study and academic history to determine if a course overload is advisable. The student must complete the request form, obtain the signature of the DGS and submit the form to gradacademics@duke.edu no later than two business days before the conclusion of the drop/add period. If approved, the student's credit limit will be raised, and the student will be notified **by email** to add the course to his/her schedule in DukeHub before the end of the drop/add period.

Access the Course Overload Request Form [here](#).

Course Withdrawals

To discontinue a course after drop/add ends, a course withdrawal request form must be submitted to The Graduate School (gradacademics@duke.edu) for approval and processing. Course withdrawal request forms must be received no later than the last day of graduate classes to be processed prior to the start of final examination period for the term. A grade of "W" posts to the transcript for any graded course discontinued after drop/add ends. A grade of "WA" posts to the transcript for a discontinued audit.

Special course withdrawal considerations for F-1 master's students: Master's students studying at Duke on a visa must maintain full-time enrollment status in every spring and fall semester except their final/graduating term. 9.0 credits is the minimum requirement for full-time master's enrollment. If withdrawing from a course will drop an F-1 master's student below 9.0 credits, counterbalancing registration in Research credits must be requested in order for the student to maintain full-time status.

Access the Course Withdrawal Form [here](#).

Permission Codes

Some core classes for the MA in Applied Ethics & Policy require faculty or department consent. Students will need permission codes to register for these courses. Permission codes will be provided at the beginning of the registration period and should be used before the expiration period, as indicated by the DGSA.

The course registration page for each course will indicate whether a permission code is required. For non-core classes, contact the Director of Graduate Studies, or the faculty teaching the course. We recommend contacting the DGS prior to reaching out to the class instructor.

Our students may directly enroll in many graduate courses through DukeHub. For courses that require instructor or department consent, reach out to the instructor directly via email. When seeking instructor consent, explain which program you are in and why the course is relevant and appropriate for your program of study.

Auditing Graduate Courses

In rare cases, students might wish to audit graduate-level courses. To audit a course above the 500 level, a graduate student must have the approval of the instructor of the course.

Complete the [permission request form](#) and deliver it to the Registrar's Office either in person (1121 West Main Street, Suite 1200 Bevan [Coca-Cola] Building), via fax* **(919-684-4500)**, or as a signed, scanned PDF sent to registrar@duke.edu for manual registration **by 5:00 p.m.** on the last day of drop/add for the current semester.

Any graduate student registered full-time in a degree program may audit courses without charge during the fall and spring semesters. Otherwise an audit fee is charged.

NOTE: To audit courses below the 500 level, a student must complete the [Permission to Enroll in a Course below the 500 Level form](#) (PDF) and submit it to gradacademics@duke.edu.

Once enrolled in a course for regular credit, the student cannot change it to an audit after drop/add. Similarly, after drop/add, a course taken on an audit basis may not be changed to a course for regular credit.

Access the Audit Form [here](#).

Registering for Courses Below the 500 Level

With the approval of their Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, graduate students may enroll in courses below the 500 level, but these courses will not count toward the credits required for a post-baccalaureate degree and will not be included in a student's GPA calculation.

To enroll in a course below the 500 level, a graduate student must complete the permission request form, obtain the signature of the DGS and submit the form to gradacademics@duke.edu two business days before the last day of the drop/add period.

Full-time enrollment in graduate-level coursework is required for approval to add a course below the 500 level. For master's students, full-time enrollment is 9 credits

Access the Request Form [here](#).

Registering for Law School Courses

Students in the MA in Applied Ethics & Policy program are encouraged to explore interdisciplinary opportunities by enrolling in select Duke Law School courses. These courses can provide valuable insights that complement your graduate studies. Course listings are available on DukeHub, and you are welcome to browse them to identify offerings that align with your academic and professional goals. Note that the Law School typically posts their upcoming class schedules later than the Graduate School does. The Fall schedule is typically posted late June.

Please note that not all law courses are open to non-law students. As a general guideline, courses listed on the program's [Suggested Electives page](#) are likely to be appropriate, though some may still be too advanced or restricted. If you are unsure whether a course is suitable, you are encouraged to consult the program director before reaching out to the instructor.

If you find a course you'd like to take, you must email the course instructor directly to request permission. In your message, briefly explain your MA program, describe how the course supports your academic or professional interests, and explain why you are qualified to take it as a non-law student. Be sure to attach the Non-Law Student Request to Take Duke Law Course form and copy the DGSA on your email.

Keep in mind that the Law School prioritizes enrollment for law students. Even with instructor approval, your enrollment may not be confirmed until the start of the semester, depending on seat availability. Additionally, the Law School follows a different academic calendar, including a separate exam schedule. No early exams are permitted, so be sure to review the Law School's exam dates before committing to a course.

Registering for Fuqua School of Business Courses

Students in the MA in Applied Ethics & Policy program may request enrollment in a limited number of MBA courses offered by the Fuqua School of Business. These courses can provide valuable business and management perspectives relevant to ethical and policy-related work.

However, access is highly restricted, and the registration process is different from that of other Duke courses.

Each semester, a list of Fuqua courses available to non-MBA students is shared by the program's DGSA. Students may only request enrollment in courses from this approved list—no exceptions are granted by Fuqua or The Graduate School.

Graduate students cannot enroll themselves in Fuqua courses directly. Instead, students must complete the official Graduate/Professional Registration Request Form, obtain permission from the course instructor (either as a signature on the form or via email), and submit the completed form as a single PDF to gradacademics@duke.edu. The DGSA can assist with this process and will provide the necessary forms and course list each semester.

It's important to note that submitting a request does not guarantee enrollment. Approved requests are placed on a waitlist managed by the Fuqua Registrar. Students are not officially enrolled until the end of Fuqua's drop/add period, and only if space is available. Additionally, students with time conflicts or registration holds will not be added to the waitlist.

Deadlines for submitting requests are strict. For Fall courses, the deadline is typically the week before the semester begins. For Spring courses, the deadline is the Tuesday before the Thanksgiving holiday. Late submissions will not be accepted, and students should not contact the Fuqua Registrar directly.

Students may request a maximum of two MBA courses per semester. Most Fuqua courses carry 3.0 graded credits, though some may be worth more. Be sure to confirm the credit value and consult with the program director to ensure the course fits within your academic plan. Also, note that students cannot drop Fuqua courses on their own—any changes must be processed through The Graduate School.

Because of the limited availability and administrative complexity, students are encouraged to be intentional and selective when requesting Fuqua courses. If you have questions about the process or a specific course, please contact the DGSA or program director well in advance of the deadline.

Keep in mind that Fuqua prioritizes enrollment for Fuqua students. Even with instructor approval, your enrollment may not be confirmed until the start of the semester, depending on seat availability. Additionally, Fuqua follows a different academic calendar, including a separate exam schedule. No early exams are permitted, so be sure to review Fuqua's exam dates before committing to a course.

Grading

Grades in the Graduate School are as follows: A, B, C, F, and I. The Graduate School does not employ a recommended curve for faculty to apply in grading. An I (Incomplete) indicates that some portion of the student's work is lacking, for an acceptable reason, at the time the grades are reported. For students enrolled in the Graduate School, the instructor who gives an I for a course specifies the date by which the student must make up the deficiency. If a course is not completed

within one calendar year from the date the course ended, the grade of I becomes permanent and may not be removed from the student's record. The grade of Z indicates satisfactory progress at the end of the first semester of a two-semester course. For graduate students enrolled in the summer session, a temporary I for a course may be assigned after the student has submitted a written request. If the request is approved by the instructor of the course then the student must satisfactorily complete the work prior to the last day of classes of the subsequent summer term. A grade of F in a major course (courses within a student's department or field) occasions dismissal from a degree program, except in extraordinary circumstances beyond a student's control. A grade of F in any other course occasions at least academic probation and may also occasion dismissal.

To be certified as making satisfactory progress towards the degree and to be in good academic standing, graduate students must maintain at least a 3.0 (B) cumulative grade point average (GPA). Students falling below this average jeopardize not only their financial support, but their continuation in the graduate program and eventual graduation. Note that students who are not in good academic standing cannot receive federal financial aid.

However, grades alone are insufficient to qualify a student as being in good academic standing. Research progress and the potential to accomplish master's or Ph.D. level research successfully and to present research results cogently, will also be taken into account in assessing the academic standing of a student. Progress and potential are determined by a student's committee who has the right to recommend withdrawal of a student at any time.

Any student who is not in good academic standing, for whatever reason, will be placed on probation if there is not a need for more immediate dismissal. The terms of probation will be determined by the Associate Dean in consultation with the student's DGS. A letter detailing the terms of probation and requirements to be taken off probation will be provided to the student at the start of the probationary period and added to the student's record. Usually, probation is for a period of one semester, with a requirement that terms be met or the student will be dismissed. Except in extraordinary cases approved by the dean (e.g. a 2.99 GPA and a strong capstone project or thesis), a student can graduate only if they are in good academic standing.

Leave of Absence

Students in good academic standing can be granted leave of absence for no more than two semesters. Leave of absence requests must be submitted prior to the first day of class. Before completing and submitting the [Leave of Absence Request Form](#), please make sure that you meet all the requirements. For more information please visit [Duke Graduate School's Bulletin](#). Students who request a health-related leave of absence must present evidence of treatment upon arrival.

More information can be found [here](#).

International students on F-1 or J-1 visas must be enrolled full-time during the academic year. A leave of absence or a temporary separation from Duke suggest that student can no longer meet the requirement of U.S Department of Homeland Security. This would terminate the student's F-1, J-1 visa and can affect the student's future entries to the U.S. Please review laws and regulations [here](#).

Visa Process for International Students

Students accepted to the Duke University must send appropriate documentation to Duke University so that Duke University can request the visas that reflect their Duke activities. The designated department administrator will send an email with a link to the Duke Visa Services Electronic Webform Application System. The completion of this electronic application by the nonimmigrant and the department administrator will give Duke Visa Services the information required to prepare the documentation for the nonimmigrant to request a visa and entry to the U.S. All the visa categories will also require supporting paper documentation, which must be mailed to the designated department. For more information, please visit [here](#).

Tuition and Scholarships

Estimated Cost of Attendance - Duke Master's in Bioethics & Science Policy						
		Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 1	Summer II	Total
Tuition		33,865	33,865	16,933	16,933	101,595
Science & Society Merit Scholarship - Est. at 20%		-6,773	-6,773	-3,387	-3,387	-20,319
Transcript Fee		120		-		120
Recreation Fee		190	190			380
Activity Fee		18	18			36
Grad Student Service Fee		12	12			24
Health Fee		484	484	242	242	1,452
Est. Tuition and Fees - No Insurance		27,916	27,796	13,788	13,788	83,288
Health Insurance*		3,381		-	-	3,381
Tuition and Fees - With insurance		31,297	27,796	13,788	13,788	86,669
	Monthly est					
Books/Supplies		322	322			644
Loan Fees - est.		438	438	219	219	1,314
Housing	\$1,502	7,510	7,510	1,502	1,502	18,024
Board	\$470	2,350	2,350	470	470	5,640
Local Transportation	\$226	1,130	1,130	226	226	2,712
Personal/Misc	\$474	2,370	2,370	474	474	5,688
Work/Study** - est.		-1,600	-1,600			-3,200
Subtotal Living Expenses		12,520	12,520	2,891	2,891	30,822
						-
Total Cost of Attendance - with Health Insurance		43,817	40,316	16,679	16,679	117,491
** Est. 10 week/semester @ 10 hrs/week @ \$16/hour						

EXAMPLE - Estimated Cost of an Extension Semester - Duke Master's in Applied Ethics & Policy		
		Fall 2025***
Tuition		33,862
Science & Society Extension Award		(31,862)
Tuition owed		2,000
Recreation Fee		190
Activity Fee		18
Grad Student Service Fee		12
Health Fee		484
Grad School Fees		704
Health Insurance - full year		3,381
Tuition, Fees, and Insurance		6,085
	Monthly est	
Books/Supplies		322
Loan Fees - est.		438
Housing - 5 months	\$1,502	7,510
Board - 5 months	\$470	2,350
Local Transportation	\$226	1,130
Personal/Misc	\$474	2,370
Work/Study** - est.		(1,600)
Subtotal Living Expenses		12,520
Total Cost of Semester Extension - with Health Insurance		18,605
* Students must pay for a full year of health insurance, but may apply for a refund of the unused portion upon Graduation in December		
** Est. 10 week/semester @ 10 hrs/week @ \$16/hour		
***The numbers listed in this chart are based on 2025-2026 tuition and costs. Actual numbers will vary based on 2026-2027 tuition and costs.		

Billing Schedule

Students registering for the ensuing semester will receive bills from the Bursar's Office prior to the beginning of the semester. The schedule can be found [here](#).

Tuition bills are payable August 1st. Your merit scholarship will be uploaded in mid-August. You will receive an email when these are available on [DukeHub](#). Students should check these bills to assure that their accounts have been credited with the proper amount of award or scholarship funding, which they may be receiving from the Graduate School, Science & Society, or outside agencies. Balances on accounts should be cleared as soon as possible; otherwise, students will be charged late fees and/or blocked from further registration. Students who do not fulfill payment obligations, including penalties and fines, are administratively withdrawn from the Graduate School and will be subject to the normal reinstatement penalties if they continue their programs. Installment payments for appropriate tuition and fees can be arranged only via payroll deduction from university paychecks. You may obtain the necessary forms for such payroll deductions from the director of graduate studies in your department at the time of registration.

According to the Student Affairs' website, health insurance open enrollment for the Fall semester will begin June 15th. All students are required to maintain adequate medical insurance during their enrollment at Duke University. You must complete either the enrollment or waiver process within the open enrollment period (see below). Failure to do so will result in a delay in coverage or a charge for insurance you do not need. More information regarding the Health Insurance can be found [here](#).

Students finance Duke tuition and fees through the following:

- External Fellowships/Scholarships such as the [NSF GRFP](#) and [Fulbright Scholarships](#)
- Student Loans via the [FAFSA](#) or private loans
- Merit Scholarships from Science & Society
- Work/Study
 - Duke Work/Study. MA students who qualify for Federal or Duke Work/Study may apply for and work throughout Duke University in W/S positions. See JobX.

Other Financial Information

For information on the cost of graduate education at Duke, please visit [this page](#), keeping in mind we are a 3-semester program.

For information about need-based financial assistance, please visit [this page](#).

For information about International Student Financial Aid, please visit [this page](#).

Student Experience and Resources

Our goal is to give every student an excellent academic experience. To meet that goal, program faculty and staff will work individually with students to provide advice and mentoring. Prior to arrival at Duke, all students meet with our Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) and DGSA to plan a course of study and begin thinking about options for a capstone or research paper. For students designing their own concentrations in biosciences or tech ethics, our DGS and faculty mentors will help identify an appropriate set of courses.

Careers

The MA program provides guidance and resources for you to develop a Professional Development Plan. During orientation you will lay the foundation for your plan using resources from the Duke Career Center augmented by mentoring from S&S faculty and staff.

Activities

Throughout the year, we sponsor activities for students to learn together, solidify their connections to each other, and expand their networks. For more information please visit [here](#).

Life at Duke

Attending a Duke program means joining a vibrant and active community of individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds. That diversity and energy is reflected in our campus life and in the lively city of Durham that surrounds us. Learn more about Durham [here](#).

Housing

There is no on-campus housing for graduate students. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain housing. [Off campus housing@Duke](#), [NearDuke.com](#) and [DukeList](#) are off-campus housing resources for graduate and professional students.

Accommodations, Accessibility, Assistance

The Disability Management System (DMS) provides necessary and appropriate accommodations and resources for students with disabilities. After matriculation, students can request accommodations by submitting forms and supporting documents. The review process can take up to four weeks. To provide a welcoming and inclusive environment, students and instructors should be fully aware of students' rights and responsibilities.

For more information, please visit [Student Disability Access Office website](#).

Student Wellness Center

Duke's Student Wellness Center provides a broad range of services including physical health, nutrition, dental, pharmacy, physical therapy, and Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS).

For more information please visit [the Student Health website](#)

ePrint

ePrint system enables students to print from hundreds of print stations throughout campus. Several of your courses will be in Gross Hall. There are four ePrint stations in the building: one in the first floor atrium (black & white), one in the second floor atrium (black & white), room 239 (color), and room 301 (color).

Students can connect to e-printers using computers or mobile devices. Before printing, please make sure that you have the ePrint Client Software on your computers or Pharos App on your mobile device. Using software, you can connect to the closest e-printer and print your document. Students receive an allocation of \$32/semester for printing. All documents sent to the ePrint will be charged at \$0.04/page for single-sided and \$0.02/page for double-sided printing. For more information please visit [OIT's ePrint page](#).

Appendix A: Joint JD/MA Program

For students pursuing a joint Juris Doctor (JD) and Master of Arts (MA) in Applied Ethics & Policy, there are specific requirements that differ from the standard MA program. It is crucial to understand these requirements, as **failure to complete all MA degree requirements means you cannot receive your JD.**

JD/MA students must complete **75 JD credits and 30 graded MA credits** to earn both degrees. The Law School's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Amanda Lacoff, is available to discuss integrating JD and MA requirements and provides a spreadsheet to track progress.

I. MA Core Courses (15 credits total)

- BIOETHIC 602: Research Ethics & Policy (3 credits) (offered in fall)
- BIOETHIC 603: Clinical Bioethics & Policy (3 credits) (offered in spring)
OR SCISOC 585: Digital Intelligence (3 credits) (offered in spring)
- BIOETHIC 591-01 Topics in Science Policy: Scholarly Writing) (2 credits in 3L Fall; 1 credit in 3L spring) [BIOETHIC 606: Communicating Science Policy (3 credits) (offered in spring) is an elective for JD/MA students.]
- BIOETHIC 704: Science Law & Policy (3 credits) (offered in fall) [This course is cross-listed with the Law School; please be sure to register under the Graduate School/BIOETHIC 704 number, not LAW 333]
- You have two choices for your final required core course.
 - You may take SCISOC 690: Special Topics in Science & Ethics: Applied Ethics & Policy (offered in the fall)
OR
 - You may take one of Prof. Jolynn Dellinger's courses on privacy, preferably SCISOC 615 Privacy: Concepts and Culture Informing Law and Policy (3 credits) in the spring of your 1L year. With permission of the Director of Graduate Studies, you could substitute SCISOC 614-01 Privacy, Ethics, Data and Technology (3 credits) (offered in fall) **OR** LAW 331 Introduction to Privacy Law and Policy (3 credits) (offered in spring). SCISOC 615 is a seminar designed for the JD/MA students and we recommend that you take this course following admission to the program, although if your schedule requires, you may take one of the other privacy courses. If you take LAW 331, please notify Dean Lacoff prior to Add/Drop to reclassify this course for Graduate School credit.

II. Capstone Course (9 credits)

In addition, you will complete a capstone project totaling 9 credits which will be taken *the summer* following your 1L year.

- BIOETHIC 705: Capstone – Bioethics and Science Policy [**Register for 4.5 credits for both Summer 1 and Summer 2 following your 1L year.**] Your summer job constitutes your practicum.

III. Elective Credits (12 credits, with 6 of those 12 credits counting toward the MA)

You will also take a minimum of 12 credits from [a designated list of Law School courses](#), selected by Science & Society in coordination with the Law School. These are listed on the

Science & Society Website and updated each semester. If there are other Law School courses which you believe should be included on this list, please contact us.

With the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and Dean Lacoff, 3 of these elective credits may be taken in another school within the university.

These elective credits may count either toward the MA or JD credit requirements (but not both) and *at least 6 credits MUST be counted toward the MA degree*. JD/MA students register for these courses using their law school priority status and must designate those intended to serve as MA electives no later than the end of add/drop by contacting Dean Lacoff.

IV. Research Credits (6 credits)

You must register for 6 research credits under Research 1-01. These research credits are a bookkeeping requirement of the Graduate School, do not require you to perform any additional work and do not count towards an overload. We recommend that you register for 3 of these credits during 2L fall and 3L fall.

V. Responsible Conduct of Research (“RCR”) Credits (3 Required, but not graded)

In order to satisfy the requirements set by the Duke Graduate School, JD/MA students must register for the following RCR forums:

- GS714
- GS715
- BIOETHIC 602 (Research Ethics & Policy) counts as one of your RCR requirements.

GS714 and GS715 are given during fall MA orientation and we strongly recommend that you attend these programs. If, however, you are unable to attend due to law school conflicts, you may make up for these two RCR credits by taking two RCR forums offered by the Graduate School at any point before graduation. <https://gradschool.duke.edu/professional-development/programs/responsible-conduct-research/rcr-forums/> Please confer with the DGSA before signing up for these forums.

VI. MA Final (Required, but No Graded Credits)

The Graduate School requires each student receiving a Master’s Degree to sit for an MA Final during the semester prior to graduation.

To assist you in preparing for the MA Final, in your fall 3L semester, you will enroll in a 2-credit hour scholarly writing tutorial (BIOETHIC 591-01 Topics in Science Policy: Scholarly Writing) and, in the spring semester, you will enroll in a 1-credit hour scholarly writing tutorial. The written work product from this tutorial will form the basis of your MA Final. This addition to the curriculum change not impact the total hourly requirements for your joint degree and can substitute for Prof. Kaplan’s BIOETHIC 606: Communicating Science Policy (3 credits), although you may take Science Communication as an MA elective, if you wish.

The requirements for the MA Final are described in greater detail in a separate memo.

VII. Concentrations (Optional)

JD/MA students are permitted, but not required, to declare either a **Concentration in Tech Ethics & Policy** or a **Concentration in Bioethics & Science Policy** or (in some cases) **both Concentrations** upon completion of the degree.

- In order to qualify for a **Concentration in Tech Ethics & Policy**, the student must complete SCISOC 585: Digital Intelligence, undertake a selection of elective credits reflective of a concentration in tech ethics and policy, undertake a summer capstone which includes work on tech ethics and policy, and present an MA Final project related to tech ethics and policy.
- In order to qualify for a **Concentration in Bioethics & Science Policy**, the student must complete BIOETHIC 603: Clinical Bioethics & Policy, undertake a selection of elective credits reflective of a concentration in life science policy and ethics, undertake a summer capstone which includes work on life science policy and ethics, and present an MA Final project related to life science ethics and policy.
- In order to qualify for both **Concentrations**, the student must complete BIOETHIC 603 and SCISOC 585, undertake a selection of elective credits reflective of both areas of concentration, undertake a summer capstone which includes work on both areas of concentration, and present an MA Final project related to both concentrations.

Please be sure to confer with the DGS and/or DGSA no later than the end of your 2L spring semester to ensure that you are on track to receive your preferred concentration.

Please note: You will have separate GPAs for your JD and MA curricula. Your Law School classes will be graded on the established Law School numeric curve. You will receive alphabetic grades for your MA classes and a separate GPA calculated from these grades.

Appendix B: Concurrent MA in Applied Ethics & Policy En Route to the Ph.D.

Students actively enrolled in a Ph.D. program within The Graduate School (TGS) of Duke University can pursue one master's degree en route to the Ph.D. without being charged for an additional 30 units of graduate credit. Refer to The Graduate School's policy about this [here](#).

Concurrent PhD/MA in Applied Ethics & Policy students are responsible for all the MA degree requirements listed in this handbook.

There is a two-part application process of current Duke PhD students to apply to the MA in Applied Ethics & Policy.

Concurrent Master's Application, Part 1:

1. After successful completion of the preliminary examination, but prior to the start of the student's final Ph.D. term, students download and complete Part 1 of the Graduate School's Intent to Pursue a Concurrent Master's Degree in Another Discipline en route to Ph.D. Form.
2. Part 1 includes a rationale for the intellectual relationship between the two programs and two letters of recommendation from Duke faculty, one from each department, supporting the relationship between the doctoral and master's program for which the applicant is applying.
3. The completed Part 1 form, with the required approval signatures and all supporting documentation, must be submitted to The Graduate School (gradacademics@duke.edu) for review by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.
4. Students will receive notification of the review outcome from The Graduate School, and, if approved, the application of intent will be saved in the official student record for final appraisal when students submit Part 2 of the application in their graduating semester.

Concurrent Master's Application, Part 2:

1. In the semester in which students expect to graduate from the Ph.D. program, they download and complete Part 2 of the Graduate School's Intent to Pursue a Concurrent Master's Degree in Another Discipline En Route to Ph.D. Form.
2. A copy of a transcript highlighting the courses to be counted towards the master's that equal to 30 credits must accompany the form.
3. The completed form, with the required approval signatures and all supporting documentation, must be submitted to The Graduate School (gradacademics@duke.edu) for final review at least 30 days before the graduation deadline dates.
4. After students receive email notification of final approval, they must submit in DukeHub separate applications to graduate from their respective Ph.D. and master's programs.