**Bioethics and Health (BIOE)**

*Brief and Rationale*

John McGlashan College has decided to continue a Bioethics and Health course in 2023 to cater for the many students (both from JMC and Columba College) that undertake the many related degrees after completing Year 13 NCEA.

Ethical issues around gender identity, vaccination policies, euthanasia, sexual health and reproduction, domestic violence, genetic technologies/testing and cultural sensitivity in health (to name a few) are key to practising as a safe and informed health practitioner. The course will be of interest and value to students pursuing a variety of health-related lines of study and careers including, law, pharmacy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, medicine, dentistry, medical laboratory science, nursing, psychology, gender studies, genetics and food science.

Students will complete *three* assessment standards on ethical issues in health practice for a (minimum) total of **14 endorsed internal and external Level 3 credits**.

*Course Outline*

Analyse a New Zealand health issue (**5 credits**, **INTERNAL**)

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/nqfdocs/ncea-resource/achievements/2019/as91461.pdf>

**A New Zealand health issue** is one affecting the well-being of an identified community or sector in New Zealand, and which is a matter of public concern.

Health-related issues will be selected from:

• mental health or resilience in school and the wider community

• concepts of masculinity, or femininity

• the portrayal of sexuality in the media

• teenage sexual health

• use of a specific drug among 15-24 year olds

• discrimination, or harassment

• ethnic or culturally specific issues

Analyse an international health issue (**5 credits**, **EXTERNAL**)

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/nqfdocs/ncea-resource/achievements/2019/as91462.pdf>

**An international health issue** is one currently affecting the wellbeing of significant numbers of people in a country (or countries) other than, or as well as, New Zealand, and which is a matter of public concern.

Health-related issues will be selected from:

• culture and gender

• sexual and reproductive health

• disease

• life expectancy

• drug use

• colonisation and the health of indigenous peoples

• globalisation and health.

**Analyse a contemporary ethical issue** in relation to well-being (**4 credits**, **INTERNAL**)

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/nqfdocs/ncea-resource/achievements/2019/as91464.pdf>

A contemporary ethical issue is a health-related issue of current public concern and where there are differing perspectives held by individuals and groups of people. The nature of these different perspectives presents a dilemma for people and society (irrespective of any legal position that may determine current practice in relation to the issue).

Health-related ethical issues will be selected from:

• euthanasia

• immunisation

• organ donation

• access to fertility treatment

• reproductive technologies

• access to elective cosmetic or other surgery

• pornography

• abortion

• access to contemporary medical technologies

*Timetabling, teaching and assessment*

**Timetabling:** Room 31, Gilray Block

**Times: 4 periods per week**

**Classroom Teacher**: Dr Craig Preston

**Teaching Format**: Classes will include short teaching slots, group discussions, individual and group presentations, multimedia presentations, health-science, law and environmental guest speakers and field trips to health institutions.

**Assessment:** Students will select ONE issue for each internal to research and present (one as a written report, the other as a research *POSTER* presentation). The external standard is a written (or digital) final NCEA exam. Students will also write a practice exam for the external. **An additional internal standard** of 5 credits is also available for independent study.

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**Dr. Craig Preston Bio**

Dr Preston is fortunate to have post-graduate expertise in both the Humanities (bioethics and theology/philosophy) and the Sciences (reproductive biology and technologies) making him the ideal tutor for the Bioethics and Health course. He has taught medical ethics to psychiatric registrars at the Waikato District Health Board, cellular and molecular biology and anatomy at Otago University and written and presented academically (and publicly) on a variety of topics including mental health, reproductive health and technologies (IVF, cloning etc), fertility, gender issues and the ethics of cosmetic surgery. He has a relaxed and engaging teaching style combined with genuine care for his student’s welfare and academic progress.

