

Requirements and Template for completion of joint MD/MA in Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics.

Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics:

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/bioethics>

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Program Requirements

The joint MD/MA program in Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics is designed to be easily completed in 4 years (concurrent with medical school coursework). The MA is 30 credit hours (10 courses), of which 12 hours (4 courses) are covered by enrollment in the Scholarly Concentration Program and the MCS curriculum. This leaves only 18 credit hours (6 courses) remaining for students to take during their matriculation at the Stony Brook School of Medicine. All Courses are offered in the evenings, and at least one course is offered each winter and summer term, ensuring ample opportunity for students to satisfy the program requirements. Successful completion of the MD/MA requires

- Enrollment in and completion of the MD degree program at Stony Brook School of Medicine
- Enrollment and completion of the Scholarly Concentration program (details can be found here: <https://medicine.stonybrookmedicine.edu/ugme/education/Scholarly>)
- Completion of 3 required MA courses (HCB 501, HCB 502 & HCB 503)
- Completion of 3 additional elective courses offered by the MA program

Students typically apply for the program in November of their first year at Stony Brook and take their first MA course over the summer of their first year while also completing research on their scholarly concentration program.

Templates for Completion

Students have taken several paths to complete the MD/MA program. Below are the three we find most manageable for students:

Template A – Free Clerkship Year.

This template is designed to ensure that the student is able to complete all her requirements without interfering with Phase 2, the clerkship year.

Phase 1 (6 credits / 2 courses)

- Summer (1 course / 3 credits). Students taking the MD/MA also spend the first summer during Phase 1 working on their MD with Scholarly Concentration project. Those doing their research on campus can also take an elective.

- Fall of 2nd Year (1 course / 3 credits). Students can take 1 course during their third semester in Medical school—the Fall after their first summer. Students taking this approach are encouraged to enroll in one of the required courses at this time.

Phase 2 (0 credits / 0 courses)

Students will spend their clerkship year gaining experience working with patients that they will bring to bear upon their coursework in Phase 3

Phase 3 (12 credits / 4 courses)

Students will have 4 courses remaining to take over the 18 month period of phase 3. Most often students take 1 course per semester, with an additional elective during one of these semesters. Students will complete their Scholarly Concentration research at this time.

Template B – Even Spread

This template is designed to spread students' coursework evenly over their time in medical school without overburdening them during any one period.

Phase 1 (3 credits / 1 course)

Summer (1 course / 3 credits). Students taking the MD/MA also spend the first summer during Phase 1 working on their MD with Scholarly Concentration project. Those doing their research on campus can also take an elective.

Phase 2 (3 credits / 1 course)

Students following this template should choose one of the required courses to take during their clerkship years. Students in the past have had no difficulty arranging to leave clerkships by 5:45 one day a week to attend classes, and our faculty can accommodate those students who show up late for class occasionally due to their clerkship obligations.

Phase 3 (12 credits / 4 courses)

Students should take the remaining 2 required credits during this period and identify one elective to take. Students will complete their Scholarly Concentration research at this time.

Template C – Light Phase Three

This template is designed to allow the student to finish the maximal amount of coursework that is manageable as early in their medical school career as possible.

Phase 1 (6 credits / 2 courses)

- Summer (1 course / 3 credits). Students taking the MD/MA also spend the first summer during Phase 1 working on their MD with Scholarly Concentration project. Those doing their research on campus can also take an elective.
- Fall of 2nd Year (1 course / 3 credits). Students can take 1 course during their third semester in Medical school—the Fall after their first summer. Students taking this approach are encouraged to enroll in one of the required courses at this time.

Phase 2 (3 credits / 1 course)

Students following this template should choose one of the required courses to take during their clerkship years. Students in the past have had no difficulty arranging to leave clerkships by 5:45 one day a week to attend classes, and our faculty can accommodate those students who show up late for class occasionally due to their clerkship obligations.

Phase 3 (9 credits / 3 courses)

Students need to take only three courses. Some students prefer to spread these courses evenly over the three semesters of phase 3 while others prefer to double up one semester and have another semester free. Students will complete their Scholarly Concentration research at this time.

Table 1 Templates A-C

	Template A	Template B	Template C
Phase 1 - First Year	Required Course 1		Required Course 1
Phase 1 - Summer	Elective 1	Elective 1	Elective 1
Phase 2			
Fall or Spring		Required Course 1	Required Course 2
Phase 3 - Fall 1	Required Course 2	Elective 2	Elective 2
Phase 3 - Spring 1	Required Course 3	Required Course 2 Elective 3	Required Course 3
Phase 3 - Fall 2	Electives 2 & 3	Required Course 3	Elective 3