

Certificate in Theology and Health Care

Description and Requirements

The Certificate in Theology and Health Care prepares Duke Divinity School students for robust theological and practical engagement with contemporary practices in medicine and health care.

The certificate is typically completed in one year of study and formation at Duke Divinity School, either in residential or hybrid format. Admission to the program is by application and is not available to students currently enrolled in a degree program of the Divinity School. The program will be of special interest to those with vocations in health care (e.g., trainees or practitioners of medicine, nursing, and other health care professions) who seek theological formation and further confidence engaging questions of suffering, illness, and the place of health care in a faithful life.

Students pursuing in the Certificate in Theology and Health Care will take a minimum of six classes:

- a) **Two core introductory survey courses** focused on scripture, Christian theology, and Church history. Approved courses include:

Christian Ethics (XTIANETH 757)

Christian Theology (XTIANTHE 755)

Cultivating Christian Imagination, Part I (XTIANSTU 705)

Cultivating Christian Imagination, Part II (XTIANSTU 706)

Early and Medieval Christianity (CHURHST 750)

Intro to New Testament (NEWTEST 754)

Introduction to Old Testament Interpretation (OLDTEST 752)

Introduction to Old Testament Interpretation (OLDTEST 753)

Modern European Christianity (CHURHST 751)

- b) A **two-semester course sequence on the intersection of theology and medicine**, focusing on the relation of Christian tradition to suffering, illness, and disability, as well as to the institutions and practices of health care and bioethics.

Fall Semester:

Health Care in Theological Context
(XIANTHE 890.2)

Spring Semester:

Introduction to Medical Ethics /
Theological Bioethics (XTIANETH 807)

- c) **Hybrid Pathway:**

- Two semester course, *Spiritual Formation and Vocation*, that combines reading and reflection on faith and work with concrete discernment of and engagement in new practices in the student's own health care context.

Residential Pathway:

- One elective course approved and listed by the registrar as satisfying the area requirement for the Certificate in Theology and Health Care.
- At least one additional course (to reach a minimum of 6 course credits) according to vocation and interests.