



# **VIU** summer SCHOOL ethics and Health care

**Ethics and Health Care**

**June 12-16, 2023**

**Venice International University  
Isola di San Servolo, Venice**

# VIU Summer School

## Ethics and Health Care

### *Organ Transplant Ethics*

June 12-16, 2023

Venice International  
University

Scientific Coordinators:

Agar Brugiavini  
Ca' Foscari University of  
Venice & Venice  
International University

Fabrizio Turollo  
Ca' Foscari University of  
Venice

#### **What is it?**

The VIU Summer School on Ethics and Health Care is an initiative of VIU in partnership with its member universities Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Tor Vergata University of Rome, KU Leuven, and the University of Padua. The National Transplant Center (CNT) of the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS) and the Research Center for Clinical Ethics (CREC) of the University of Insubria (Varese) will collaborate in this edition.

The program offers students and early career researchers the opportunity to critically reflect, with the help of highly qualified experts, on topical issues that raise ethical and deontological dilemmas, relating to health care ethics.

A fundamental feature of the School concerns its method, which is characterized by a continuous and intense interdisciplinary exchange between doctors, philosophers, economists, jurists, psychiatrists and sociologists.

During this third edition, the course will focus on the problem of organ transplant ethics. Organ transplants raise many questions, which require interdisciplinary reflection. In the procurement phase, it is necessary to know how to interpret and apply the "dead donor rule". Moreover, a certain definition of death can encounter resistance and opposition in some ethnic and cultural contexts. Another problem, in the procurement phase, may be that of the correct collection of consent and the possible management of intra-family conflicts regarding donation.

Various problems may arise at the transplant stage. For example, the refusal (for non-medical reasons) of a blood transfusion of a transplant candidate. The problem of the use and discarding of the so-called "marginal organs" is also difficult to solve. What risks can be accepted by using poor quality organs or organs that can be vectors of disease? Can be discarded those organs which, even if of poor quality, could save lives? Should the choice to discard an organ be made upstream, at the system level, or should it be made by the individual surgeon? Can patients possibly refuse a poor-quality organ? Can everyone be a donor? Is it ethically acceptable for a young child to donate the organ to an elderly parent? Are there any risks of donor conditioning? How to define therapeutic obstinacy in a field where we are dealing with complex patients whose possible outcome is not

known with certainty? How to select patients? How to prioritize access to transplants? Do we always have a solid evidence base that allows us to make an objective selection of patients? Is there uniformity or discrepancy, at national and international level, on the rules for identifying patients who are entitled to transplantation? What to do with patients arriving from abroad, where there is no availability of transplants? What to do with patients who have gone abroad to buy an organ and then have it transplanted? What to do when foreign patients ask for a transplant, with the intention of returning to their country, where they cannot do an adequate follow-up? Is there an age limit for transplants? Is this an evolving limit? Is it a flexible limit? Is it considered in conjunction with other parameters? Is there a problem of beds in intensive care? Do transplant patients sometimes risk being discharged early? How to deal with patients with poor compliance (e.g. active alcoholic patients who persist in their addiction)? How to treat post-transplant psychiatric problems? Is the patient's identity put back into play by the transplant? What is the future of transplantation? What training is needed for specialists? Is the current training model still suitable or should it be reviewed?

### **Who is it for?**

Professionals in the health care sector, undergraduates, graduates, PhD students and post-doc scholars in medicine, philosophy, political sciences, sociology, social work, economics, and statistics sciences.

### **Which are the main activities?**

- Presentations in the fields of biomedicine, bioethics, psychiatrics, sociology, moral philosophy, philosophy of science, geriatrics, epidemiology, patient care, health economics, public health, demography and history of art;
- Interactive sessions, such as “tutoring sessions”, aimed at giving participants the opportunity to discuss their own research ideas with senior speakers in individual or small group meetings.

### **Who is the faculty?**

The following scientists and researchers will contribute to the 2023 Summer School on Ethics and Health Care:

**Mark Aulisio**, Case Western University, USA

**Giampaolo Azzoni**, University of Pavia, IT

**Agar Brugiavini**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice & VIU, IT

**Massimo Cardillo**, National Transplant Center, IT

**Michele Colledan**, Transplant Center ASST Giovanni XXIII & University of Milano-Bicocca, IT

**Antonio Da Re**, University of Padua, IT

**Tullia De Feo**, NITp, IT

**Maria Do Céu Patrão Neves**, University of the Azores, PT

**Francesca Ferri**, IRCCS Foundation Ca' Granda, IT

**Chris Gastmans**, KU Leuven, BE

**Michele Gazich**, IT

**Andrea Gianelli Castiglione**, IRCCS San Martino, IT

**Alessandra Grossi**, University of Insubria, IT

**Paolo Antonio Grossi**, University of Insubria, IT

**John Harris**, University of Manchester, UK

**Carlo Petrini**, National Institute of Health, IT

**Mario Picozzi**, Insubria University of Varese, IT

**Francesco Procaccio**, National Transplant Center, IT

**Stefano Semplici**, Tor Vergata University of Rome, IT

**Giovanni Spitale**, University of Zurich, CH

**Fabrizio Turolto**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, IT (Scientific Coordinator)

**Sergio Vesconi**, Transplant Foundation, IT

### **What will you learn?**

The course allows students, researchers and professionals from various fields to hone important skills that are located in an interdisciplinary terrain. Professional ethics and deontology are in fact transversal sectors, useful and necessary in the most diverse professional contexts. Physicians, jurists, philosophers, economists, sociologists and political scientists will have the opportunity to test different perspectives of thought and different theoretical systems in the light of extremely important and current case studies. Healthcare professionals will

be able to reflect on the various implications that their decisions entail and which often go beyond the strictly sanitary sphere.

### **What's special about the Summer School?**

Attending the school means developing transversal competences since the approach is multidisciplinary, and those who have a specific philosophical, economic or sociological background will know more about advances in medical research and ethical issues related to healthcare, learning the specific language in which MDs deal with these issues as well.

High-level policy makers or officials who may also take part in this program will be able to learn how to connect issues between the health dimension of ageing and the ethic, legal and economic ones.

### **Application procedure and costs**

The Program will admit 35 participants.

Full fee: **€ 600 incl. VAT**

Applicants from VIU member universities: **€ 300 incl. VAT**

The fee will cover tuition, teaching materials, lunches in the San Servolo cafeteria and social events. Student participants will be responsible for covering their own travel expenses to and from Venice, local transportation, and evening meals.

### **Accommodation costs on campus**

Venice International University offers its support to book accommodation on San Servolo Campus, in multiple rooms with other participants for the duration of the Summer School. Cost: **€ 308 incl. VAT** for 6 nights. Further information will be available in the Application Form.

### **On-line applications via VIU website**

January 20, 2023 – February 28, 2023 | **Deadline extended: March 18, 2023**

Applicants must submit: the Application Form, a brief motivation letter including candidate's interests and research, and a curriculum vitae with photo.

Admitted candidates will be notified by March 10, 2023 | **Deadline extended: March 25, 2023**

Payment of the tuition fee and accommodation (if requested) by March 20, 2023 | **Deadline extended: April 1, 2023**

### **Credits**

Number of **ECTS** equivalence: **3**

A Certificate of attendance will be issued at the end of the course.

### **Website and application form**

<http://www.univiu.org> > Study > Summer/Autumn Schools > *Ethics and Health Care*.

### **Venice International University**

Venice International University is a consortium of 20 universities, representing 14 countries throughout the world. The mission of VIU is to foster cooperation among VIU member institutions while facilitating the exchange of knowledge and ideas, by developing, promoting, and organizing joint academic, research and training/capacity-building program. Students from non-member universities may participate in selected academic programs. The academic programs at VIU are distinguished by a markedly interdisciplinary approach to the topics, and by the international perspectives that the participants contribute to the discussions. The VIU campus is on the island of San Servolo in Venice, Italy.



### **Venice International University**

Isola di San Servolo  
30133 Venice  
Italy  
T +39 041 2719511  
F +39 041 2719510  
E [ageing@univiu.org](mailto:ageing@univiu.org)