

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

THE POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL LAW AND ETHICS

The NUALS provides unmatched opportunities to study law and related disciplines in a rigorous and collaborative environment. Post Graduate Diploma in Medical Law and Ethics have been started to fulfil the continuing legal education objective of the University. This course aims to cater to the informational and educational needs of doctors, hospital administrators, nurses, lawyers, judges, law teachers, researchers and others aspiring for a career in the healthcare sector. It is organised as a part of the Continuing Education Programme of NUALS. The course also aims at providing up to date legal guidance and training to assist doctors in their practice. The course explores the moral problems that those working in these fields face in the course of their work, provides the background for recognising issues that may raise legal liability in these contexts, and reflects the legal and social context in which health care practice is situated.

The course is designed to cater to the needs of lawyers and healthcare professionals. It is especially suitable for actual/intending lawyers in the fields of clinical negligence litigation, mental health, bioethics, human rights, resource allocation and treatment decisions relating to patients lacking decision making capacity. The course will also be suitable for all actual/potential healthcare professionals with direct responsibility for patient care, hospital administration, as well as clinicians engaged in medical research.

Objectives:

The objectives of the programme are as follows:

1. To deepen students' understanding of health care ethics and law
2. To enhance their ability to think systematically about the moral and legal issues that health care professionals may face in the course of their work.
3. To provide an opportunity to study the ethical and legal issues that arise in health care and related fields

Eligibility:

Candidates admitted to the Post Graduate Diploma in Medical Law and Ethics should possess a Bachelor's Degree of a recognized University in any stream. Those who possess a Bachelor's Degree in any system of medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, hospital administration or a Bachelors' Degree in Law recognized by NUALS shall be given preference.

REGULATIONS

The candidates admitted to the Course shall abide by the stipulated timings, discipline, rules and regulations of the NUALS and the instructions of the Course Coordinator. There will be classes for not less than 30 hours for each paper. The classes will be arranged in such a way as to suit the convenience of the students, who may belong to various professions and different parts of the State. The date and venue of the contact class will be fixed and announced at the beginning of every month by the Course Co-ordinator. The course will include classroom lectures, seminars, and workshops. Essential study materials will be e-mailed to the students by the course co-ordinator.

Duration of the Course - The duration of the course will be one year.

Medium of Instruction- Medium of instruction shall be in English.

Number of seats - The number of seats for the PG Diploma Course will be 50.

Course of study and scheme of Examinations:

There shall be an examination at the end of the course, which will consist of theory, viva voce and a project.

SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

Paper	Max Marks
Paper1 - Basics of Medical Law and Ethics	100
Paper 2 - Laws of Medical and Healthcare	100
Paper 3 - Professional Values and Code of Ethics	100
Paper 4 - Medical Practice, Patient's Rights and the Law	100
Paper 5 - Health law and ethics – Challenges and Policy Options	100
Viva voce	50
Project	50
Total	600

Each paper will consist of a theory part for 80 marks and internal assessment for 20 marks.

The award of IA marks will be as follows:

i) Attendance: 5 marks

- (1 mark for attendance - 80%)
- (2 marks for attendance > 80% - 85%)
- (3 marks for attendance > 85% - 90%)
- (4 marks for attendance >90% - 95%)
- (5 marks for attendance >95%)

ii) Assignment: 5 marks

iii) Test Paper: 10 marks

Requirement to appear for the examination - A candidate should put in a minimum of 75% attendance to be eligible to appear for the examinations.

Passing Minimum:

To pass, a candidate shall secure a minimum of 50% marks in each paper. A candidate failing in any paper/ papers will have to reappear for that particular paper/ papers only in the supplementary examination, which will be held within two months of the declaration of the results. No candidate shall, however, be permitted to appear for the examination three years after the completion of the course by that candidate.

Classification of successful candidates:

- a) A candidate securing 70% and above, aggregate in the theory and viva voce examinations and the project, in the first attempt, shall be deemed to have passed the examination with distinction.
- b) A candidate securing 60% and above aggregate in the theory and viva voce examinations and the project, in the first attempt, shall be deemed to have passed the examination with first class.
- c) Other successful candidates shall be declared to have passed the examination in Second Class.

Award of Diploma:

A candidate, who has passed all the examinations as prescribed, shall be eligible for the award of the “Post Graduate Diploma Medical Law and Ethics (PG Dip. in Med. L & E)” from the NUALS.

Fees:

The fees prescribed for the course shall be:

Admission Fee	-	₹ 500/-
Tuition Fee	-	₹ 15,000/-
Examination Fee	-	₹ 1,000/-
Library Fee	-	₹ 2,000/-
Caution Deposit (Refundable)	-	₹ 2,500/-