



Capacity Building Activities, Projects and Opportunities

Record information and status

Record ID	9301
Status	 Published
Date of creation	2005-05-24 17:27 UTC (erie.tamale@biodiv.org)
Date of last update	2006-10-18 12:15 UTC (andrew.bowers@cbd.int)
Date of publication	2006-10-18 12:15 UTC (andrew.bowers@cbd.int)

General information

Title of the initiative

Master of Arts in Biotechnological Law and Ethics (MABLE)

Website address

 [Master of Arts in Biotechnological Law and Ethics \(MABLE\)](#)

Contact person

Ms Lilian Bloodworth

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Type of initiative

Main target group(s) / beneficiaries

- Graduate students

Activity details

Description of the initiative

The MA in Biotechnological Law and Ethics (MABLE) was launched in 1994. It is offered by the Faculty of Law in association with the Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry, Pure Science (principally the Departments of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology and Animal & Plant Sciences within the School of Biology) and Social Science at the University of Sheffield.

MABLE is an interdisciplinary programme which seeks to provide students with expert knowledge about current and likely future developments in biotechnology and its regulation and a grounding in the relevant law and ethics. Students also receive a grounding in law and ethics which enables them to evaluate existing regulation, and to give legally and ethically informed advice on its future regulation.

The programme covers the following modules: Moral Theory, Understanding Law, Developments in Biotechnology, Current Regulation of Biotechnology, Research Skills, Intellectual Property & Biotechnology, Product Liability & Safety Law, Research Ethics, Aspects of International

Human Rights Law, Issues in Applied Biotechnology, Issues in Human Genetics, Issues in the Transplantation of Organs and Artificial Devices, Issues in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and International Environmental Law and Governance.

Venue

University of Sheffield, Sheffield

Country

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Eligibility

Normally, at least a 2:1 Honours Degree or equivalent qualification in any subject. Candidates with lesser or different qualifications may be considered on an individual basis. A background knowledge of biology or law is not required. Overseas students are welcome, but applicants whose first language is not English will normally be expected to have a recognised qualification in English Language, such as TOEFL or the British Council Test (IELTS).

Application process

Please contact:

Mrs. Lilian Bloodworth, Admissions Secretary (at the above address)

Objective and main expected outcomes or lesson learned

MABLE aims:

- 1) to provide students with expert information about current and likely future developments in biotechnology;
- 2) to provide students with expert information about current regulation of biotechnology;
- 3) to acquaint students with the legal and ethical problems generated by current and likely future developments in biotechnology;
- 4) to provide students with a grounding in law and ethics that will enable them: (a) to evaluate critically existing regulation of biotechnology; (b) to provide legally and ethically informed advice on the future regulation of biotechnology.

General thematic area(s)

- Scientific biosafety research relating to LMOs
- Public awareness, participation and education in biosafety
- Risk assessment and other scientific and technical expertise
- Socio-economic considerations
- Ethical aspects
- Environmental, food and feed safety
- Intellectual Property issues
- Precautionary approach
- General biosafety

Language

- English

Academic Training

Type of course or programme

- Part of a degree programme
- On-site course/programme

Training format

- Modular format

Duration of the programme / course

Total duration in hours.

MABLE can be taken full-time over 1 year. It can also be taken part-time over two years.

Type of certification or accreditation

- Postgraduate degree

Scholarships availability

No

Additional Information

Additional Information

Students are assessed on the basis of two 6,000 word essays at the end of each semester (4 essays in all) and a 15,000-20,000 word Dissertation.

Part-time students are required to complete the same units as full-time students and take their units together with full-time students. However, there is no fixed prescription concerning the year during which units are taken. The precise timetable for taking the units will be arranged on an individual basis to suit individual needs.

Other relevant website address or attached documents

 [MABLE course handbook.pdf](#)

 [MABLE course handbook\[1\].pdf](#)