



**K E E L E**  
UNIVERSITY

Centre for Professional Ethics

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# Information for Employers and Organisations

The Centre for Professional Ethics at Keele University is the largest and most successful provider of professional ethics courses in Europe. We now offer five distinctive PgDip/MA programmes, as well as the UK's only Professional Doctorate in Medical Ethics. All of our courses are....

## ***....Designed to fit alongside full time work....***

Our innovative course structure, which uses short intensive teaching blocks coupled with distance learning, means that students are only required to come to Keele for twelve days (4 x 3 day blocks) during the first (PgDip) year. The whole of the second (MA) year can be undertaken via distance learning.

## ***....Of practical day-to-day value....***

Although studying ethics does not provide 'the answer' to ethical dilemmas, it does equip professionals with a range of analytical tools with which to assess and make judgments about competing ethical claims. Our courses will not make difficult decisions any easier, but it will enable professionals to reach decisions that are informed by clearer and more rigorous ethical reasoning. It will also enhance their ability to communicate clearly and effectively about ethical issues, both with colleagues and with service users. As well as helping them develop their own views, formal training in ethics helps empower professionals to help others to clarify their own thinking on important issues.

## ***....Of real value to the individual....***

The study of ethics and applied philosophy also enhances valuable transferable skills. Our courses will help students develop a greater ability to analyse and critique complex arguments and to facilitate clear discussion of the relevant issues - whether the discussion is about an ethical issue or not.

## ***.... Of real value to the organisation....***

The course will also provides professionals with a heightened awareness of ethical issues, which will help them to identify potential problems before they happen. They will also have the skills to provide input on ethical issues into policy discussions. The MA dissertation offers an opportunity for students to undertake a detailed examination of the different ethical arguments relating to one particular issue or group of issues. Although students do not undertake primary empirical research as part of the course, many students choose to write about topics that are directly relevant to their work, and the arguments that they produce and the conclusions that they reach can be very useful to an organisation.