

Your program offers a doctorate in bioethics (DBe). What is the difference between a professional doctorate and a PhD?

Our program is a professional doctorate geared toward individuals who want to take on ethics leadership roles in their institutions. A PhD is a research degree that requires a dissertation and typically prepares people for academic careers. A DBe is a professional doctoral degree that requires two capstone papers that should result in single-authored peer-reviewed papers.

Think of someone who earns a DrPH (Doctor of Public Health), which is a professional doctorate, compared to someone who receives a PhD in public health. The former prepares people to take on leadership positions in healthcare. The latter prepares people to be researchers and academics. Our program is geared more toward the former, as our DBe graduates typically take on positions in health care as professional ethicists. Check out our alumni page to see who has received the DBe degree and what they're doing with their doctoral training: <http://hsd.luc.edu/bioethics/alumni/>