

Juris Doctor/Master of Social Work Joint Degree Program

Candidates for the program must meet the entrance requirements for and be accepted by both the College of Law and the School of Social Work. Both schools must be informed by the student at the time of application to the second school that the student intends to pursue the joint degree.

The joint degree program is not open to students who have already earned one degree.

For law students, enrollment in the M.S.W. program is required no later than the completion of 63 credit hours in the J.D. program. For M.S.W. students, enrollment in the J.D. program is required no later than the completion of 30 credit hours in MSW Program.

A student must satisfy the curriculum requirements for each degree before either degree is awarded. The School of Social Work will allow 9 credit hours of approved law courses to be credited toward both the M.S.W. and J.D. degrees. These 9 credit hours of law classes will be in lieu of Social Work electives and must be selected from an approved list of law classes. Reciprocally, law students may receive 9 hours of credit toward the satisfaction of the J.D. degree for courses taken in the M.S.W. curriculum upon completion of the M.S.W. degree curriculum with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

A full-time law student enrolled in the joint degree program may spend the first year in either the College of Law and complete the thirty one credits of foundation coursework or the School of Social Work. A part-time law student enrolled in the joint degree program may begin the student's studies in either the College of Law or the School of Social Work, but must take the first three semesters and complete the thirty one credits of foundation course work of law study consecutively.

Students admitted to one school but electing to begin study in the other school under the joint degree program may enter the second school thereafter without once again qualifying for admission so long as they have notified the second school before the end of the first week of the first semester in the second school and are in good academic standing when studies commence in the second school.

A student enrolled in the joint degree program will not receive either degree until the student has satisfied all of the requirements for both degrees, or until the student has satisfied the requirements of one of the degrees as if the student had not been a joint degree candidate.

Students in the joint degree program will be eligible for the graduate teaching assistantships and research assistantships in the School of Social Work on the same basis as other M.S.W. students, subject to the guidelines and restrictions set by the School of Social Work.