

MSW/JURIS DOCTORATE (JD) PROGRAM

The goal of the dual degree program in social work (MSW) and law (JD) is to prepare students with combined skills in these fields for practice in areas where law and social work converge. The dual degree program is appropriate for social work students who plan to work within the legal system or who wish to utilize their knowledge of the law to enhance their ability to provide comprehensive services and to function as advocates for social change. Some areas where dual degree knowledge and skills are particularly useful include child welfare, juvenile justice, health care, mental health, social welfare policy, administration, family mediation, and legal aid.

Program Requirements

A full-time student can expect to complete the requirements for both degrees in four years (with part-time course work during two summers), rather than five years if taken separately. Twelve semester hours of required law school courses will be accepted by the School of Social Work as eighteen quarter hours of graduate-level electives. Eighteen quarter hours of required graduate-level social work courses will be accepted as twelve semester hours of electives by the College of Law.

The dual degree program is unique in that both faculties have agreed to work jointly on a summer directed studies project with students and will be exploring social work practicum sites where students may also receive sufficient legal experiences to become legal or judicial interns. These efforts should result in a comprehensive and integrated educational experience.

There are two plans of study, one for starting the MSW program first and the other for starting the JD program first. MSW students must enroll in the two-year program.

Applications and acceptances are separate for the School of Social Work and the College of Law. Admission to one program does not necessarily mean that admission to the other program will be granted.

There are deadlines for applications to the College of Law and for registering to take the LSAT exam. Information about the College of Law's admission requirements and application process can be found at www.law.uc.edu.

Contact

For additional information, please contact Nancy Bostwick at 513-556-4621 or nancy.bostwick@uc.edu.