

One Program, Two Degrees



The Tennessee Board of Regents has officially approved the dual JD/MA program offered by the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law and the Department of Political Science at the University of Memphis. Over the years, both undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Memphis have requested a joint program incorporating the law JD and the Political Science MA degree programs. The advantage of such a program is that credit toward degrees in these career-related disciplines can be earned simultaneously if admissions and curricula are carefully structured. Many reputable institutions elsewhere, such as Yale, Duke, Syracuse, Tulane and Cincinnati, have similar programs. None of them, however, are close to Memphis, so by adding the program, the U of M has provided a competitive edge for students in the Mid-South.

Admission

Acceptance in the dual-degree program will require separate admission to each program. However, for applications to the joint program, the Department of Political Science will accept LSAT scores in lieu of GRE scores. Completion of one degree is not contingent upon completion of both.

Requirements

Students may earn a maximum of 16 hours of dual credit for law courses taken at the law school. The remaining hours toward the MA in Political Science must be taken in the Department of Political Science. For students in the dual-degree program, their first year of law school must only include classes that are part of the JD program. The following courses will qualify for both the JD and the MA in Political Science:





Required Law Courses Constitutional Law (4 hours) Criminal Law (3 hours) Criminal Procedure I (3 hours)

Elective Law Courses

Administrative Law (3 hours)
Criminal Procedure II (2 hours)
Federal Courts A (2 hours)
Federal Courts B (2 hours)
Civil Rights (3 hours)
Constitutional Law Seminar (2 hours)
Tennessee Constitutional Law (2 hours)
Jurisprudence (2 hours)
International Law (3 hours)
Comparative Law (3 hours)
Immigration Law (3 hours)
Environmental Law (3 hours)

"After finishing my BA in Political Science, I couldn't decide whether I wanted to go to law school or graduate school. The JD/MA dual-degree program allowed me to do both! For just 20 credit hours in graduate classes and 16 transferable law credits, I was able to earn my master's in Political Science along with my law degree. In a recovering economy, it helps to have additional options. I highly recommend any of the dual-degree programs at the University of Memphis School of Law."

— John Marek, JD/MA '11 Campaign Manager–Steve Cohen 2012 Congressional Campaign



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The University of Memphis, a Tennessee Board of Regents institution, is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action University. It is committed to the education of a non-racially identifiable student body.

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