

The University of Michigan Law School Dual Degree Program

Law & World Politics JD/MA

The dual degree program in Law and World Politics leads to two degrees: a Juris Doctor (JD) and a Master of Arts (MA) in Political Science. The program is designed to prepare students for careers in world affairs. Students can complete all requirements for both degrees in three and one half years.

Careers might be pursued with internationally oriented law firms, national ministries of defense or foreign affairs, international governmental organizations, multinational corporations, and the news media.

Students usually devote the first year to the complete sequence of first-year courses in Law school. The second and third years are normally devoted to a mix of both disciplines. At the outset, students are encouraged to work closely with an academic advisor in both schools.

Basic Requirements for the JD

Students entering the Law School must complete the required first-year law curriculum.

Students admitted to the Law School must earn a minimum of 82 credits toward the JD, at least 70 of which must be earned in Law School courses.

Law students are required to complete a course in professional responsibility, transnational law, and an upper-class writing requirement.

Twelve (12) credit hours may be taken from the satisfaction of requirements for the MA. Instructions for requesting Law School credit for non-law courses are posted on the CTools site for dual degree students.

Basic Requirements for the MA

The MA requires a minimum of 24 credit hours, including core courses.

Six (6) credit hours may be satisfied by appropriate courses taken in the Law School.

Additional Requirements

Applicants must gain separate and independent admission to both schools. Applicants may apply to Rackham only after completing their first year of Law School **and six credit hours in graduate school courses in Political Science**. Applicants should contact the Admissions Office of each school for application and admission information. The applicant's LSAT score may be used in place of the GRE.*

Students must satisfy the degree requirements of each school, and should consult with advisors in each school for the precise graduation requirements for each degree and for information about course offerings. Students should not expect any Law School courses beyond first-year courses to be offered in the summer term. Students will not receive credit toward the JD for non-law coursework taken prior to matriculation at the Law School. Students should consult with the Political Science academic advisor concerning credit toward the MA for Law course work.

Tuition will be assessed at either the Law School or the Graduate School rate, whichever is higher, when courses toward both degrees are taken in one term.

At the beginning of their final year of study in the combined program, students should consult with their Rackham academic advisor and the Law School Registrar regarding forms that need to be completed prior to graduation. Also at this time, students should submit a Dual/Joint Degree Election Form (<http://www.rackham.umich.edu/downloads/oard/forms/dualjoint6010.pdf>) for approval from both the Law School and the Department of Political Science.

The combined degree is not open to those who have already earned either the JD or the MA in World Politics. Students who are registered in the first or second year of Law School may apply to the dual degree program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Law School Admissions application materials:

Admissions Office
University of Michigan Law School
726 Oakland
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-3031
734.764.0537
Email: law.jd.admissions@umich.edu
Web Site: www.law.umich.edu

Law School Dual Degree Programs:

Office of Student Affairs
University of Michigan Law School
307 Hutchins Hall
625 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215
734.615.0019
Email: law.dual.degrees@umich.edu

Department of Political Science application materials and admission/registration information:

Admissions Office
5700 Haven Hall
505 South State Street
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-7045
734.764.6313
Email: polisci@umich.edu
Web Site: polisci.lsa.umich.edu

* Information contained herein is valid as of 7/24/08 and is subject to change. Contact with the appropriate admissions office is advised.