

## The University of Michigan Law School Dual Degree Program

### **Law & Economics JD/PhD**

The dual program in Law and Economics enables a small number of highly qualified students to pursue simultaneous work in both disciplines. The program is designed to enable students to substantially reduce the time usually required to earn the two degrees separately and to encourage meaningful integration of work in both fields. All requirements for both the JD and the PhD in Economics can be completed in six to seven years; some students may require a greater amount of time. Timely completion of the program will ordinarily require at least two summers in residence.

Students in the dual program receive superb training in legal and economic analysis, as well as informed insight into some of the most complex and difficult problems confronting government leaders, business executives, and scholars today. Graduates of the program are particularly well prepared for university teaching and research in both fields. Recent graduates of the program have also chosen to work as practicing economists, either in government or in private consulting firms. Those graduates who choose to practice law are uniquely well prepared to handle cases in administrative, anti-trust, corporate, securities, commercial, labor, and environmental law.

The program provides a framework of basic requirements for each degree to encourage competence in both disciplines. Apart from these requirements, the program is flexible and permits students to shape individual courses of study in accordance with their particular interests and goals. Each student's program is reviewed and approved by a dual committee comprised of both Law and Economics faculty.

### **Admissions**

Applicants should have exceptional undergraduate records that include substantial work in Economics, as well as courses in statistics and mathematics, including calculus and linear algebra.

All applicants are required to submit a valid LSAT score to the Law School, as well as a valid GRE score that is less than five years old to the Rackham School of Graduate Studies. The GRE will not be waived. \*

**Simultaneous applications must be made to both schools prior to starting the dual program. Applicants cannot begin one program and subsequently apply to the companion school.** Applicants must gain separate and independent admission to both the graduate program in Economics in the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies and to the Law School. Applicants should indicate their interest in the dual program on both the Law and Graduate School applications.

### **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 also required to complete a course in professional responsibility, transnational law, and an upper-class writing requirement.

Twelve (12) credit hours from Economics courses may be counted toward requirements for the JD. Instructions for requesting Law School credit for non-law courses are posted on the CTools site for dual degree students.

## Requirements for the PhD

Two terms of economic theory courses.

One term of mathematics and one term of econometrics, or the equivalent level of competence as demonstrated by passing written examinations.

Four courses in specialized fields in Economics, two of which must form a sequence in a major field.

One course concentrating on advanced theoretical or empirical techniques. This course may be counted as one of the four required field courses or, alternately in special circumstances and with the approval of the student's advisor, may be taken in the Law School.

Successful completion of three written preliminary examinations; one in microeconomics, one in macroeconomics, and one in the student's major field.

Advanced research paper, to be satisfied in concurrence with the Law School seminar requirement. Ordinarily, this paper will form the basis of the student's dissertation.

Doctoral dissertation; a research project on a significant topic of the student's choosing. A dissertation proposal must be approved by a faculty committee, which also hears the student's oral defense at the completion of the dissertation.

## Additional Requirements

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 advisor at the companion school concerning credit toward the PhD 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.

The combined degree is not open to those who have already earned one of the two degrees.

**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 Economics.**

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Law School Admissions application materials:**

Admissions Office  
University of Michigan Law School  
726 Oakland  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-3021B  
734.764.0537  
Email: [law.jd.admissions@umich.edu](mailto:law.jd.admissions@umich.edu)  
Web Site: [www.law.umich.edu](http://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](mailto:law.dual.degrees@umich.edu)

### **Department of Economics application materials and admission/registration information:**

Mary A. Braun, Student Services Associate  
Department of Economics  
University of Michigan  
611 Tappan  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1220  
734.764.2360  
Email: [mbraun@umich.edu](mailto:mbraun@umich.edu)  
Web Site: [www.econ.lsa.umich.edu](http://www.econ.lsa.umich.edu)

\* Information contained herein is valid as of 8/19/09 and is subject to change. Contact with the appropriate admissions office is advised.