

JD/MA

LAW & MODERN MIDDLE EASTERN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES

STUDENTS MAY PURSUE CONCURRENT WORK IN THE HORACE H. RACKHAM GRADUATE STUDIES program in Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MMENAS) through the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies and the Law School, leading to the Master of Arts (MA) and Juris Doctor (JD) degrees. Through this program, all requirements for both degrees can be completed in three-and-a-half to four years of concurrent enrollment.

This dual program recognizes the growing need for specialists who combine training in law with substantive knowledge of the language, culture, and history of the Middle East and North Africa. The program also gives students the opportunity to take advantage of expanding employment opportunities brought about by increased U.S. governmental and commercial relations with the countries of this region.

Students admitted to the dual degree program in Law and Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies are required to earn credit in each school. Beyond the basic requirements, students generally are not restricted in their selection of courses in the Law School.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JD

Students entering the Law School must complete the required first-year law curriculum. Fall starters must take one elective course of three or four credit hours during their second semester. All students must complete the following before graduation: at least one international or comparative law course of two or more credit hours, at least one upper-level course with a rigorous writing component, one statutory or regulatory course of three or more credit hours, one course in professional responsibility of two or more credit hours, and two credit hours of experiential learning. Separate courses must be taken to fulfill the upper-level course with a rigorous writing component, the professional responsibility course, and the experiential learning course.

The JD requires a minimum total of 83 credits, earned between Law School courses and courses at the Center for Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies through the Rackham School of Graduate Studies. Students must earn at least 70 credits toward the JD through courses taken in the Law School.

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

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MA

Students must complete 30 credit hours in the Graduate School's MMENAS program, including four courses chosen from the JD/MA Core Course List, and MMENAS 695 graduate seminar.

A master's essay is required, and third-year proficiency must be achieved in Arabic, Armenian, Hebrew, Persian, or Turkish. Undergraduate courses taken to meet the language requirements do not count toward the credit hour requirement for these degrees. The master's essay for the MA should be written in the MMENAS 698 course, and the 3 credit hours earned in that course may be applied toward the 30 credit hours required in the MMENAS program. A non-essay option is available which requires six additional elective credit hours from the approved MMENAS course list; these hours would be in addition to the 30 credit hours normally required for the MA.

Up to nine (9) of the required hours may be earned for appropriate International Law courses taken in the Law School.

GENERAL DUAL DEGREE ITEMS OF NOTE

Any JD who enrolls concurrently in another degree program will be awarded the JD degree after completing all of the requirements for the dual, joint, or combined degrees. (As a practical matter, this means that the student will receive the JD degree either after or at the same time as he or she receives the degree(s) in the other program(s).) This policy will not affect the student's class year for purposes of the Law School's commencement ceremony or alumni events, and it will not apply if a student discontinues the other degree program(s). A law student who believes that he or she will experience some hardship as a result of this policy may petition the Associate Dean for Academic Programming for an exception.

JD courses traditionally have a later grading deadline than other degree programs. In some occasions, this later JD grading deadline may affect a student in his or her final term if another degree program desires all of the student's grades prior to the JD grading deadline.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must gain separate and independent admission to both the Law School and the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, affiliated with the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, and 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 requirements of each school for each degree and should consult with advisers in each school for the precise graduation requirements for each degree. 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 coursework taken prior to matriculation at the Law School. Students should consult with the MMENAS adviser 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

LAW SCHOOL

Admissions Office
University of Michigan Law School
South Hall, Suite 2200
701 S. State St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215
734.764.0537
Email: law.jd.admissions@umich.edu
Website: law.umich.edu

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Office of Student Life
University of Michigan Law School
316 Hutchins Hall
625 S. State St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215
734.764.0516
Email: law.dual.degrees@umich.edu

At the beginning of their final year of study in the combined program, students should consult with their Rackham academic adviser 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 (www.rackham.umich.edu/current-students/policies/academic-records/dual-joint-degree-programs) for approval from both the Law School and the Center for Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Students should review the completed sample forms on the CTools page prior to filling out the form. Students may also consult with the Office of Student Affairs if there are any questions regarding completion of this form.

The combined degree is not open to those who have already earned either the JD or the MA in Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Students who are registered in the first or second year at the Law School may apply for admission to the dual degree program.

MIDDLE EASTERN & NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES

Academic Services
Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies
International Institute
Weiser Hall, Suite 300
500 Church St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106
734.764.0350
Email: ii-gradadvising@umich.edu
Website: ii.umich.edu/cmenas

** Information contained herein is valid as of 2/7/18 and is subject to change. Contact with the appropriate admissions office is advised.*