

# JD/MURP

## LAW & URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

**T**HE LAW SCHOOL AND THE A. ALFRED TAUBMAN COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING, through its Urban and Regional Planning Program, offer a dual degree program that enables qualified students to pursue concurrent work in Law and Urban and Regional Planning. This work leads to the Juris Doctor (JD) and Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) degrees. Students can complete all requirements for both degrees in eight terms of enrollment.

This dual degree program is for students who want to focus on concerns that intersect both Law and Urban and Regional Planning. Areas of interest include community development, real estate development, land use planning and regulation, environmental planning and regulation, and legislative work related to housing, land use, economic development, taxation, transportation, immigration, and other topics.

Students admitted to the JD/MURP combined program are required to take the complete sequence of first-year courses in one school during the first year of enrollment, and the complete sequence of first-year courses in the other school during the second year of enrollment. Each school will apply its own deferred admissions standard to students who elect to begin the program at the other school. At the outset, students are encouraged to work closely with an academic adviser.

### **BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JD**

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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 through the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning within 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 MURP. Instructions for requesting Law School credit for non-law courses are posted on the CTools site for dual degree students.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MURP**

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The MURP requires a minimum of 48 credit hours, including core courses. Students must earn a minimum of 33 credit hours toward the MURP, 30 of which must come from UP courses.

Fifteen (15) credit hours may be satisfied by appropriate 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 schools. Applicants should contact the Law School Admissions and the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning Program offices 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 advisers 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 adviser at the companion school concerning credit toward the MURP for Law coursework.

Students are required to enroll in either the Land Use Planning and Control course through the Law School, or the Legal Aspects of the Planning Process course through the School of Architecture and Planning.

During the third and fourth years of the program, students are permitted to elect courses in both schools. Students generally are not restricted in their selection of courses in each school beyond the

first year in Law School and the core curriculum in the Urban and Regional Planning Program. 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 Master of Urban and Regional Planning 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](http://www.rackham.umich.edu/current-students/policies/academic-records/dual-joint-degree-programs)) for approval from both the Law School and the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. 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 MURP. Students who are registered in the first or second year at the Law School or the first year of the Urban and Regional Planning Program may apply for admission to the dual degree program.

**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](mailto:law.jd.admissions@umich.edu)  
Website: [law.umich.edu](http://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](mailto:law.dual.degrees@umich.edu)

**URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM**

Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning  
Urban and Regional Planning Admissions  
2000 Bonisteel Blvd. Room 2150  
Phone: 734.763.1275  
Email: [urp@umich.edu](mailto:urp@umich.edu)  
Website: <http://taubmancollege.umich.edu/planning>

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