

UACS Clinton School of Public Service and UALR William H. Bowen School of Law

Concurrent Degree Program for JD and MPS Degrees

I. Curricular Requirements

A student at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock or the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service may pursue the Juris Doctor (JD) and Master of Public Service (MPS) degrees under a Concurrent Degree Program which allows crosscredit for specified courses. The Concurrent Degree Program offers a potential savings of 18 credit hours in the total credit hours otherwise required for both degrees. A student in the Concurrent Degree Program must complete all the requirements for the JD degree as specified by the Bowen School of Law, and all requirements for the MPS as specified by the Clinton School of Public Service. The Concurrent Degree Program is subject to the following conditions:

- A. In order to receive crosscredit, credit must be earned for the course in the degree program in which the course is offered. For instance, courses in the MPS program listed in Section III below will receive credit in the JD program only if the student received credit for the course in the MPS program.
- B. In the MPS program, a student may receive elective credits for 6 semester hours of courses in the JD program. In any such courses completed prior to fall 2011, the student must have received a C+ (2.30) or higher.
- C. In the JD program, a student may receive elective credits for 12 semester hours of approved courses in the MPS program completed with a minimum grade of B. A list of approved MPS courses is set out in Section III.
- D. In the JD program, a student must complete one of the following courses in addition to courses otherwise required for the JD degree: Administrative Law, Civil Liberties, Public Service Law, Health Law, Public Health Law, Public International Law, International Criminal Law, or Environmental Law. If LAW 6343: Public Service Law is used to satisfy a course requirement as part of the MPS program, then the students must choose a different JD program course to fulfill the requirement of this subsection.
- E. A student may not receive credit in both programs for courses that cover the same or substantially equivalent material.

II. Administrative Policies and Procedures

- A. The Clinton School of Public Service Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

and the

Bowen School of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall meet biannually, or more often as needed, to evaluate the Concurrent Degree Program. They shall include other persons knowledgeable about the Concurrent Degree Program. At this meeting, they shall consider matters such as current course offerings and coordination of course sequences. They will make recommendations for amendments of the program to their respective faculties.

Each of the above persons or their designee may approve a course or courses not on this list between biannual meetings if the course or courses are compatible with the goals of the Concurrent Degree Program or the course is the substantial equivalent of an approved course. Any courses approved in this manner must be considered for permanent inclusion in the program after the next biannual meeting.

B. A student enrolled in the Concurrent Degree Program is subject to all administrative policies and procedures of each program during the period of enrollment in the Concurrent Degree Program.

C. A student must obtain admission separately to the JD program and the MPS program. Once admitted to both programs, a student enters the Concurrent Degree Program by filing the attached Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees. Credit toward the J.D. degree shall only be given for course work taken after the student has matriculated in the law school.

D. A student currently enrolled in one program may enter the Concurrent Degree Program by obtaining admission to the other program and filing the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees.

E. A student is not enrolled in the concurrent program until copies of the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees are filed with the Registrar of the School of Law and with the Office of Admissions at the Clinton School of Public Service.

F. A student who has completed one degree may not enter the Concurrent Degree Program to complete the other degree.

G. After filing the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees, the student shall schedule a joint meeting with the Associate Deans or their designees to discuss times of enrollment in each program, preliminary course selection, and potential conflicts.

H. Full-time JD students who begin the JD program first must complete the first year of the JD program before beginning the MPS program. Under no circumstances will Concurrent Degree enrollment be permitted for a full-time student during the first year of the JD program. Full-time JD students will

normally begin the MPS program in the first semester of their second year. After completing, the first year of the JD program and the first semester of the MPS program, students will be permitted to enroll concurrently in JD and MPS courses. Concurrent Degree enrollment during the first semester of the MPS program requires the written permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the School of Law and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Clinton School of Public Service.

I. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may grant permission for a first year, part-time division student who is not employed to register for both the required JD program curriculum and courses in the MPS program.

J. The total credit hour load in both programs for concurrently enrolled students shall not exceed the normal maximum load in either program without the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the School of Law and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Clinton School of Public Service.

K. Grade point averages and class standings in each program are determined without consideration of the credit hours accepted from the other programs.

L. Except as modified by Sections I and II of this statement, a student must comply with all degree requirements established for each program including any time limit in which to complete the degree.

M. A student may not receive credit in both programs for courses that cover the same or substantially equivalent material.

III. MPS Courses Approved for JD Program

The following courses offered by the Clinton School of Public Service may be used for up to 12 elective credit hours in the JD program:

CSPS 7201	Legal and Ethical Dimensions of Public Service	2
CSPS 73XX	Social Change Option Course	3
CSPS 7303	Communication Processes	3
CSPS 7331	Theory and Practice of Global Development	3
CSPS 7320	Capstone (project must be in law-related subject)**	3

** JD and MPS academic advisors must be consulted prior to beginning course related processes.

Approved by the Faculty, Bowen School of Law: September 14, 2006

Approved by the Faculty, Clinton School of Public Service of Public Service:
September 13, 2006

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