



joint-degree program law and social work

The College of Law and the College of Social Work's joint-degree program in Law and Social Work, J.D./M.S.W., permits completion of both degree programs concurrently. Following admission to both colleges or departments, a joint-degree student is required to submit the necessary joint-degree application. Interested applicants normally begin their study at the College of Law. A joint-degree student who wishes to enroll for any coursework in the other college or department before completing the first year of law school must obtain prior written approval from the College of Law. Current law students may also apply to the joint-degree program by the deadline during their first year in law school. Once enrolled in the first-year law curriculum they will then complete all necessary documentation for the application process through the College of Social Work as well as a joint-degree application before **June 1st** of the 1L year. All required documents should be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions.

Applicants to the College of Social Work must have a bachelor's degree and an upper division (junior and senior) grade point average of 3.0 or better. Applicants who apply to the College of Social Work prior to being admitted to the College of Law must take the GRE to be considered. The LSAT will be considered for applicants who have been admitted to the College of Law in lieu of the GRE requirement.

• How To Apply

- 1. Visit the Florida State University College of Law Office of Admissions to obtain a joint-degree application and necessary documents for the College of Social Work.
- 2. Complete the documentation.
- 3. Do not send or have documents sent to the College of Social Work. All documents must be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions before **June 1st** of the 1L year.

• Applicants will need to:

- 1. Provide a completed **JOINT-DEGREE PROGRAM APPLICATION** form.
- 2. Provide an updated legal resume.
- 3. Have official GRE scores on file with the Florida State University if they have not been admitted to the College of Law.

• Traditional Master's Program Clinical Social Work Concentration

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	31 hours of Social Work
3rd & 4th Years	75 hours of Law/Social Work
Total Law Courses	82 hours
Total Social Work Courses	54 hours
Cross Credit Courses	7 hours of Law, 6 hours of Social Work
Total J.D./M.S.W. Courses	136 hours

• Advanced Standing Master's Program Clinical Social Work Concentration

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	30 hours of Social Work
3rd & 4th Years	55 hours of Law/Social Work
Total Law Courses	82 hours
Total Social Work Courses	33 hours
Cross Credit Courses	7 hours of Law, 6 hours of Social Work
Total J.D./M.S.W. Courses	115 hours

• Traditional Master's Program Social Work Leadership Concentration

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	31 hours of Social Work
3rd & 4th Years	72 hours of Law/Social Work
Total Law Courses	79 hours
Total Social Work Courses	54 hours
Cross Credit Courses	7 hours of Law, 9 hours of Social Work
Total J.D./M.S.W. Courses	133 hours

• Advanced Standing Master's Program Social Work Leadership Concentration

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	30 hours of Social Work
3rd & 4th Years	51 hours of Law/Social Work
Total Law Courses	79 hours
Total Social Work Courses	32 hours
Cross Credit Courses	7 hours of Law, 9 hours of Social Work
Total J.D./M.S.W. Courses	111 hours

• Specific J.D. degree requirements can be found online at www.law.fsu.edu.



Social Work Curriculum

The College of Social Work programs require two internships for the traditional programs and one internship for the advanced standing programs. Students in the joint-degree program would complete their final M.S.W. internship in a law and social work placement, such as the College of Law's Children's Advocacy Clinic or the Attorney General's Office. Approved internship sites are coordinated through the Office of Field Education at the College of Social Work. There would need to be access to both an attorney and a M.S.W. supervisor at the internship site. Students who choose the Children's Advocacy Clinic for their internship may not take the course for law school credit.

The College of Social Work programs also require that a certain number J.D. credit hours be chosen from an approved list. Because a joint-degree allows a student to complete each curriculum by taking fewer hours overall, these J.D. hours serve as a replacement for the number of hours reduced from each of the M.S.W. program options. The requirement for each concentration is as follows:

- Traditional Master's Program, Clinical Social Work Concentration: 7 hours
- Advanced Standing Master's Program, Clinical Social Work Concentration: 6 hours
- Traditional Master's Program, Social Work Leadership Concentration: 7 hours
- Advanced Standing Master's Programs, Social Work Leadership Concentration: 7 hours

The following law courses have been approved to count toward this requirement:

- LAW 6545 Employment Law Survey (3-4 hours)
- LAW 7710 Family Law (3 hours)
- LAW 6720 Health Law and Policy (3 hours)
- LAW 6520 Administrative Law (3-4 hours)
- LAW 6310 Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 hours)
- LAW 7549 Employment Discrimination (3 hours)
- LAW 7930 Human Trafficking (3 hours)
- LAW 7930 Nonprofit Organizations (2 hours)
- LAW 7930 Poverty Law (2 hours)
- LAW 7930 Sexuality and the Law (2 hours)



Questions

The joint-degree must be completed within seven years, although most students complete the program in four years.

For further information about applying, please contact:

- Joint-Degree Coordinator
- Office of Admissions
- Florida State University College of Law
- (850) 644-3787
- admissions@law.fsu.edu

For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:

- Manuel A. Utset, Jr., William & Catherine VanDercreek Professor & Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- Florida State University College of Law
- (850) 644-3400
- mutset@law.fsu.edu
- Jennifer Farinella, Academic Program Specialist, MSW Academic Advisor
- Florida State University College of Social Work
- (850) 645-6932
- jfarinella@fsu.edu



Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint-degree programs receive both degrees concurrently. Students may not be certified as a graduate without having completed the graduation requirements in both colleges. This includes the Law upper-level writing requirement, the skills training requirement, and the pro bono requirement.

Residency Requirement

Unless otherwise approved by both advisors and the College of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, students enrolled in joint-degree programs must earn a minimum of seven semesters of residence credit. Based on the College of Law formula for determining residency, one semester of residency credit is earned for every 12 credit hours of courses taken in the College of Law and the College of Social Work.

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