

Juris Doctor-Master of Arts in Public Administration Dual Degree

*A program of Minnesota State University, Mankato and
William Mitchell College of Law*

The JD-MAPA dual degree program allows students interested in both law and public administration to concurrently enroll in the Juris Doctor (J.D.) program at William Mitchell College of Law and the Master of Arts in Public Administration (MAPA) program at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Unlike a joint degree, which combines two disciplines into one course of study and results in just one degree, the dual degree allows you to earn two degrees, each from a different institution. Upon completion of the dual degree program, you will be fully credentialed in two separate, but related fields.

Why pursue two degrees at once?

You will save time and money. Because up to nine credit hours of elective courses may be accepted at both institutions, you will spend less money and take fewer classes than if you were to pursue J.D. and MAPA degrees separately.

How quickly can I complete the program?

The program can be completed in as little as 4 years if you attend William Mitchell full-time and Minnesota State University, Mankato part-time in the evenings or on weekends. Each degree must be completed within 6 years.

Where are classes held?

All J.D. courses are held on the William Mitchell College of Law St. Paul campus. MAPA courses are offered either at MSU (approximately 80 miles southwest of the Twin Cities), or in Twin Cities metro area locations on evenings and weekends.

At William Mitchell College of Law, contact:

Office of Admissions
William Mitchell College of Law
875 Summit Ave
St. Paul MN 55105-3076
Phone: 651-290-6476
Email: admissions@wmitchell.edu

At Minnesota State University, Mankato, contact:

N. Doran Hunter
Department of Political Science/Law Enforcement
Minnesota State University, Mankato
109 Morris Hall
Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: 507-389-2721
E-mail: nevin.hunter@mnsu.edu

Course Requirements

MAPA – Minnesota State University, Mankato Required Courses (18 credits)

Research Methods (3)
Organization Theory (3)
Seminar: Theory and Practice of Public Administration (3)
Human Resource Management (3)
Budget and Fiscal Management (3)
Seminar: Bureaucracy and Administrative Process (3)

Required Proficiency in Advanced Research Method (3)
Seminar: Public Policy Analysis (3)
(recommended research tool)

Required Thesis or Alternate Plan Paper
Alternate Plan Paper (1-2)
Thesis (3-6)

Electives (10 – 15 credits)
This requirement may be satisfied in part by up to nine credit hours earned at William Mitchell College of Law.

J.D. – William Mitchell College of Law Required Courses (36 credits)

Civil Procedure (5)
Constitutional Law Liberties (3)
Constitutional Law Powers (2)
Contracts (6)
Property I (3)
Property II (3)
Professional Responsibility (3)
Torts I (2)
Torts II (3)
Writing and Representation: Advice and Persuasion (3)
Writing and Representation: Advocacy (3)

Required Skills/Statutory Courses (10 credits)
Students may choose from lists of skills and statutory courses to satisfy this requirement. Course listings are available in the Student Handbook or online at www.wmitchell.edu

Required Advanced Research and Writing (max. 4)

This requirement can be met by completion of MSU's required Thesis or Alternate Plan Paper.

Electives (40, depending on skills/statutory credits)

This requirement may be satisfied in part by up to 9 credit hours earned at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Obtaining a dual degree

Admission

Admission to both William Mitchell's J.D. program and to MSU's MAPA program is required. We recommend that you seek admission concurrently to both programs.

Tuition and Fees

Your tuition and fees are based on the fee structure of the school where the credits are earned. If enrolled in both schools simultaneously, submit financial aid data to the school in which you are primarily enrolled, and that school will process the application, incorporating your projected expenses for the other school.

Program of Study

Each school will accept up to 9 credits earned at the other school, which will be deemed electives at the non-offering school. Independent studies do not qualify for cross-credit courses. At William Mitchell, you must seek approval for transfer credits from an associate academic dean. At MSU, you must seek approval from your committee. You may alter your plan of study subject to the same approval process.

Although you may start with either the J.D. or the MAPA program, William Mitchell will grant credit for completed coursework at MSU only after you matriculate at William Mitchell. Once you matriculate in the J.D. program, you must take the first year J.D. courses (Torts, WRAP and Contracts at a minimum) in the same academic year and may not take MAPA courses during that year.

We suggest completing the foundation courses from both disciplines separately before pursuing cross-enrollment. Then to enhance the multidisciplinary experience, you should seek to take upper-level J.D. courses and MAPA courses concurrently.

You will establish a Graduate Examining Committee shortly after beginning the dual degree program. In consultation with your committee, you must prepare a proposed course of study, including a list of courses for which you will seek

transfer credit. You will then seek approval for the proposed course of study from both William Mitchell and MSU. Each school will evaluate the appropriateness of your proposed course of study. One member of this committee must be a full-time professor at William Mitchell; the other members will be full-time professors at MSU.

Governed by MSU's academic requirements, the committee will supervise your course of study, evaluate your Thesis or Alternate Plan Paper, and generally advise you on your dual degree program.

You must complete either the MSU Thesis or Alternate Plan paper requirements. Completion of the MSU Thesis or Alternate Plan Paper will satisfy the William Mitchell Advanced Research and Writing Requirement, although the credits and grade will not be counted toward the William Mitchell degree.

The offering school will not count grades received in cross-credited courses in determining your GPA and class rank.

You must complete all requirements of the J.D. degree to receive that degree and all requirements of the MAPA degree to receive that degree.

Graduation

Generally, a student must complete the J.D. and the MAPA programs within the times set by each school. Exceptions to this requirement will be handled on an individual basis following the process in place at each school.