

# PUBLIC POLICY AND JURIS DOCTOR DUAL DEGREE (M.P.P./J.D.)

<https://carsey.unh.edu/mpp-jd>

## Description

The Carsey School of Public Policy and the UNH School of Law offer a dual MPP/JD degree program that provides highly valuable and marketable skills and credentials to make an impact on public policy.

This dual degree program is designed to train students who wish to effectively combine legal training with public policy skills for careers that benefit from specialized training in both fields, gain a deep understanding of how legal and policy issues relate, and how to use this understanding to have an impact and make a difference in the complex contemporary world of law and public policy.

The two degrees are generally awarded after three and a half years in the program. Taken separately and sequentially it would normally take four and a half years to earn both degrees. Thus, the combined program offers substantial savings in time and expense.

## Admission Requirements

Students wishing to pursue the MPP/JD dual degree program must be accepted separately into each of the two degree programs. Current students in either program can apply to the second program and tuition will be adjusted accordingly.

### MPP Admission Requirements

The MPP program welcomes applicants from many disciplinary backgrounds. All applicants must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. Admission decisions are based on the applicant's overall record of achievement, both academic and otherwise and his/her potential for success in the MPP program. Applicants may be asked to interview either in person or by conference call with the program director and/or the graduate program coordinator.

### MPP Applications include:

- **An application to the Graduate School**
- **Transcript(s)** from undergraduate programs
- **3 letters of recommendation;** letters should include academic and professional references
- **GRE test scores.** GRE test scores are normally required but applicants may submit LSAT (have them sent from your Law School) or GMAT scores in lieu of the GRE. If you plan on providing the LSAT or GMAT scores please notify us via email of this so we may update your application accordingly. Request official test scores to be sent directly to the Graduate School by the testing service.
- **Personal Statement.** This should be a clear, concise statement of the applicant's relevant past experiences, including academics, research, and/or work experience. The statement should also include an expression of interests and an explanation of the student's goals in pursuing the MPP degree.
- **Resume**

**Note:** For students who are in their first year at the UNH School of Law when they apply to the MPP/JD dual degree, their application to the UNH School of Law can be part of the application to the MPP program, and students should request that the application be shared with the UNH Graduate School. In addition to the Law application, students need to submit an application to the MPP program, including submission of: a resume, a personal statement, and one additional letter of recommendation.

### JD Admission Requirements

Detailed information on the admission requirements for the JD degree offered by the UNH School of Law can be found here (<https://law.unh.edu/admissions/jd-admissions/how-apply>).

## Requirements

For the MPP/JD program, most students will attend law school courses in year one where they will follow the standard year one law school curriculum. The second year is when students will complete all required, core MPP courses (including the J-Term) and three MPP electives. The particular elective courses chosen will depend on the Track the student is following – either Policy Analysis or Strategy and Communication. More information about the Tracks can be found here (<http://carsey.unh.edu/mpp/degree-tracks>). Following this year of intensive focus on public policy, students will then finish up with three additional semesters of law courses in years three and part of four. It is during these final three semesters that students will acquire their final three MPP elective courses by completing law school courses relevant to public policy. The Internship and Capstone project required for the MPP can be completed in the summers between the academic years (note: the MPP Internship requirement may be satisfied through a law school externship).

More information about the requirements for the UNH School of Law's JD degree can be found here (<https://law.unh.edu/academics/degrees/juris-doctor-degree>).

### Required Courses in the MPP program:

PPOL 902	Strategy and Practice of Public Policy	3
PPOL 904	Economics for Public Policy	3
PPOL 906	Fundamentals of Policy Analysis	3
PPOL 908	Quantitative Methods for Policy Research	3
PPOL 910	Policy Across Borders	3
PPOL 950	Washington DC Colloquium	3
PPOL 990	Policy Capstone <sup>1</sup>	3
PPOL 990A	Policy Capstone Planning	1
PPOL 998	Policy Internship <sup>1</sup>	3
PPOL 998A	Policy Internship <sup>1</sup>	0

### Elective Courses:

2 Elective Courses based upon the chosen track: Strategy and Communication Track or Policy Analysis Track <sup>2</sup>	6
3 Approved JD Elective Courses from the UNH School of Law <sup>3</sup>	9
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>40</b>

- <sup>1</sup> The Internship and Capstone project required for the MPP can be completed in the summers between the academic years. In some cases the Policy Internship will be a credit-bearing internship (PPOL 998), supervised by a faculty member who will provide the academic structure to parallel the applied experience. In other cases, a policy internship may not be appropriate for academic credit; in such cases the internship experience fulfills the requirement but does not provide credits (PPOL 998A). **Note: (1) If the Internship is not taken for credit (PPOL 998A), students will be required to take an additional MPP Approved Open Elective course** (<http://carsey.unh.edu/mpp/curriculum/electives>). **(2) The internship requirement may be satisfied through a UNH School of Law externship.**
- <sup>2</sup> Students choose two (2) elective courses from either the **Policy Analysis** or **Strategy and Communication** Track. To view the required and elective courses for each track, visit the Degree Tracks (<http://carsey.unh.edu/mpp/degree-tracks>) webpage.
- <sup>3</sup> Three (3) successfully completed Elective Courses (9 credits) from the UNH School of Law's approved JD course list can be taken to fulfill this elective requirement.