

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK**  
**WILLIAM H. BOWEN SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**&**  
**GRADUATE PROGRAM OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**  
**Concurrent Program for JD and MPA Degrees**

**I. Curricular Requirements:**

A student at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock may pursue the JD and MPA degrees under a program which allows cross-credit for certain specified courses. The program offers a potential savings of 27 credit hours in the total credit hours otherwise required for both degrees. A student in the concurrent degree program must complete all requirements for the JD degree as specified by the School of Law, and all requirements for the MPA as specified by the Graduate Program of Public Administration. The concurrent degree program is subject to the following conditions:

- A. In order to receive cross-credit, credit must be earned for the course in the degree program in which the course is offered. For instance, courses in the MPA program listed in Section IV below will receive credit in the JD program only if the student receives credit for the courses in the MPA program.
- B. In the MPA program, a student may receive elective credits for 15 semester hours of approved courses in the JD program completed with a minimum grade of C-. A list of the approved JD courses is set out below.
- C. In the JD program, a student may receive elective credits for 12 semester hours of approved courses in the MPA program completed with a minimum grade of B. A list of approved MPA courses is set out below.
- D. In the JD program, a student must complete Administrative Law in addition to courses otherwise required for the JD degree. The student may not receive credit for the Administrative Law course offered in the MPA program.

**II. Administrative Policies and Procedures:**

- A. The MPA Program Coordinator of the Graduate Program of Public Administration 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.
  - 1. 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, and make recommendations for amendments of the program to their respective faculties.
  - 2. Each of the above persons or their designees 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 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 MPA program. Once admitted to both programs, a student enters the concurrent program by filing the attached Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees.
- D. A student currently enrolled in one program may enter the concurrent program by obtaining admission to the other program and filing the 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.
- 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 MPA Program Coordinator of the Graduate Program of Public Administration.
- F. A student who has completed one degree may not enter the concurrent program to complete the other degree.
- G. After filing the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees, the student shall schedule a concurrent meeting with the MPA Program Coordinator and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Times of enrollment in each program, preliminary course selection, and potential conflicts shall be discussed.
- H. A student who enters the concurrent program must select which program to pursue first and notify the other program in order that enrollment may be deferred.
- I. Concurrent enrollment in classes in both programs is normally permitted, except that under no circumstances will concurrent enrollment be permitted during the first year of the JD program.
  - 1. Concurrent enrollment requires the written permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the School of Law and the MPA Program Coordinator of the Graduate Program of Public Administration.
  - 2. 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 MPA Program Coordinator of the Graduate Program of Public Administration.

- J. Grade point averages and class standings in each program are determined without consideration of the credit hours accepted from the other program.
- K. Except as modified by Sections I and II of this statement of the Concurrent Program for JD and MPA Degrees, a student must comply with all degree requirements established for each program including any provision that requires law students to complete their degree within a set number of years from their initial enrollment. For example, currently a student enrolled in the concurrent program must earn any credit hours in the MPA program to be applied to the JD degree within six years of enrolling in the School of Law and any credit hours in the JD program to be applied to the MPA degree within six years of enrolling in the Graduate Program of Public Administration.

### III. JD Courses Approved for MPA Program

The following courses offered by the School of Law may be used for elective credit in the MPA program:

LAW 6203	Alternative Dispute Resolution	2
LAW 6256/6393	Civil Liberties	2 or 3
LAW 6257/6300	Communications Law	2 or 3
LAW 6259	Correctional Law	2
LAW 6399	Disability Law	3
LAW 6361	Employment Discrimination	3
LAW 6269	Employment Law	2
LAW 6300	Environmental Law	3
LAW 6283/6387	Health Law	2 or 3
LAW	Public Health Law	2 or 3
LAW 6371	Labor Law	3
LAW 6372	Land Use	3
LAW 6374	Legislation	3
LAW 6375	Local Government	3
LAW 6404	Mediation Clinic	4
LAW 6378	Poverty Law	3
LAW 6279	State & Local Taxation	3
LAW 6249	Workers' Compensation	2

### IV. MPA Courses approved for JD Program

The following courses offered by the Graduate Program of Public Administration may be used for elective credit in the JD program:

PSPA 7331	Urban Planning	3
PSPA 7333	Administrative Leadership and Public Management	3
PSPA 7334	Grantwriting and Fund Raising	3
PSPA 7335	Urban Management	3

PSPA 7339	State Administration and Reform	3
PSPA 7340	Ethics in Public Administration	3
PSPA 7353	Seminar in Intergovernmental Management	3
PSPA 7363	Public Policy Analysis	3
PSPA 7380	Public Program Evaluation	3
PSPA 7385	Seminar in Public Policy	3

Approved by the Faculty, School of Law: January 1999

Approved by the Faculty, Graduate Program of Public Administration, and UALR Graduate Council:  
April 1999

Revised: April 2003, October 2006

**DECLARATION OF INTENT TO PURSUE  
CONCURRENT DEGREES**

Copies of this Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees must be filed with the Registrar of the School of Law and with the MPA Program Coordinator of the Graduate Program of Public Administration. You are not enrolled in the Concurrent degree program until this form has been completed and filed in both offices. By signing and filing this Declaration, you (i) acknowledge receipt of the rules of the UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK Concurrent Program for JD and MPA Degrees and (ii) understand it is your responsibility to make sure you satisfy all requirements for the Concurrent degree program as described in the rules. Failure to meet the Concurrent degree program requirements can result in failure to meet the requirements for either degree individually.

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Student Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Will you first enroll in the JD or MPA program? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Date of enrollment in the first program: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Anticipated date of enrollment in second program: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
MPA Program Coordinator  
Graduate Program of Public Administration

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
School of Law

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_