



joint-degree program law and urban & regional planning

The College of Law and Department of Urban and Regional Planning's joint-degree program in Law and Urban and Regional Planning, J.D./M.S.P., permits completion of both degree programs concurrently. Interested applicants must first begin their study at the College of Law. Once enrolled in the first-year law curriculum they will then complete all necessary documentation for the application process through the Department of Urban and Regional Planning as well as a joint-degree application by the end of the first year in law school. All required documents should be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions.

For the joint-degree program, both the GRE and LSAT must be taken in order to be considered. Applicants to the Urban and Regional Planning program should contact the department directly to obtain specific information on the necessary GRE requirements. The College of Law's fall 2011 entering class median LSAT score and GPA were 162 and 3.5.

• 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 Department of Urban and Regional Planning.
- 2. Complete the documentation.
- 3. Return all documents to the College of Law Office of Admissions by July 1st.

• The student will need to provide:

- 1. Completed joint-degree application and M.S.P. application
- 2. Official GRE scores
- 3. Three letters of recommendation
- 4. Statement of purpose

• Program Sequence

• The normal program sequence for a student in the joint degree program is:

• 1st Year	30 hours of Law
• 2nd Year	24 hours of Planning
• 3rd & 4th Years	48 hours of Law & 9 hours of Planning
• Total Law Courses	78 hours
• Total Planning Courses	33 hours
• Cross Credit Courses	10 hours
• Total J.D./M.S.P. Courses	111 hours

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



• Urban & Regional Planning Curriculum

• A student enrolled in the joint-degree program must complete 33 credit hours of classes, 21 of which are core classes, from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. All students in the master's program are required to take the following three credit classes:

- URP 5101 Planning Theory and Practice
- URP 5125 Plan Implementation
- URP 5847 The Growth & Development of Cities
- URP 5201 Planning Research Methods
- URP 5211 Planning Statistics
- URP 5261 Forecasting for Plan Development
- URP 5222 Planning Alternatives Evaluation



• Students must also complete and defend the capstone research paper, project or thesis. This requirement cannot be done until all core courses have been completed. Students will earn up to six credit hours, depending on which option they choose. Remaining credit hours may be fulfilled by taking additional courses within the Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

• In addition to the core courses, students are required to complete a 400-hour internship in a planning or planning-related agency. The internship may be paid or unpaid. In practice, the internships are generally paid positions.

• Questions

• The joint degree must be completed within five years, although most students complete the program in four years. For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:

- Dave Markel, Steven M. Goldstein Professor
- Florida State University College of Law
- (850) 644-1596
- dmarkell@law.fsu.edu

- Jeffrey R. Brown, Associate Professor and MSP Program Director
- Florida State University Department of Urban & Regional Planning
- (850) 644-4510
- jrbrown3@fsu.edu



Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint-degree programs receive both degrees concurrently. Law students may not be certified as a graduate without having completed the degree requirements in both the College of Law and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

Residence 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 law and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. All requirements for both degrees must be completed within five calendar years.