

## **DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL GUIDELINES AND POLICIES FOR JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Drake University Law School maintains several programs leading to joint degrees. These guidelines and policies govern admission, operation and completion requirements for those programs.

The joint degree programs subject to these guidelines and policies are the following:

- (1) JD/MBA with the College of Business and Public Administration, Drake University.
- (2) JD/MPA with the College of Business and Public Administration, Drake University.
- (3) JD/MA in Political Science with the Department of Political Science, Iowa State University.
- (4) JD/MA in Agricultural Economics with the Department of Economics, Iowa State University.
- (5) JD/MSW with the School of Social Work, The University of Iowa.
- (6) JD/MPH or JD/MHA with Des Moines University.

The Law School also has a joint degree program with the College of Pharmacy and Natural Sciences at Drake University. The joint degree program leading to a JD/Pharm D. shall not be subject to the rules and regulations in these Guidelines and Policies.

### **II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS**

The joint degree programs are based on the idea that there are synergistic educational effects from the studying, concurrently and in a disciplined manner, law and another field of academic inquiry. Therefore, the joint degree programs are designed to advance the intellectual, academic and professional relationships between law and other disciplines. These programs reflect an institutional belief that law and legal institutions greatly influence, and, reciprocally, are greatly influenced by, other social, political and economic forces and institutions.

The joint degree programs also recognize that legal training is important to many occupational callings and professional aspirations, including, among others, business, government, economics and political science. Increasingly, our graduates are selecting careers in business, politics, and government and believe that the joint training and education in law and another area of study have materially advanced their career objectives. Further, a solid training in business, political science, public administration and other disciplines can make the lawyer more competent and confident in the practice of law.

### III. PROCEDURES

#### A. Admissions

(1) Each student must separately apply to the Drake University Law School and to the department or college from which is sought another degree. Each college or department shall establish and administer its own admission policies, student policies and procedures and curricular requirements, and each may require a separate admission fee and official transcript from the joint degree student.

(2) It is contemplated that every joint degree student shall be admitted to both the Law School and the other discipline simultaneously; and that every joint degree student shall refrain, during his or her first year of law study, from taking any courses in another college or department. Following the completion of his or her first year of law study, joint degree students shall begin to concurrently work toward their law degree and other degree.

(3) Students with advanced standing in another college or department shall be admitted to the joint degree program only under the following circumstances:

(a) Where such student has not completed more than one-half of the total course work toward their graduate degree required by the other college or department; provided that a prospective law student who shall have completed more than one-half of the total course work toward their graduate degree in another college or department may elect to take additional courses in the other program so that at least one-half of their cross-disciplinary work was performed during their law school studies; or

(b) Where any student has been simultaneously admitted to both the Law School and another college or department, and such student has received a fellowship or assistantship from another college or department which requires that he or she study and teach full time during the first year in another college or department; or

(c) Where such student successfully petitions the Curriculum Committee of the Law School for permission to join the joint degree program notwithstanding the student's failure to satisfy the foregoing requirements.

#### B. Credits and Course Requirements in the Law School

(1) Each joint degree student may receive up to 9 hours of ungraded credit in the Law School for approved course work in another college or department.

(2) The course work taken in another college or department for credit in the Law School shall be determined by the Joint Degree Advisor in the Law School, in cooperation with the student.

(3) No student may receive credit in the Law School for any course taken in another department or college prior to his or her matriculation in Law School, except where such student was admitted to the joint degree program with advanced standing pursuant to section A. 3 (b) above.

(4) Each joint degree student must meet every semester with the Joint Degree Advisor in the Law School, and shall meet regularly with his or her advisor in another college or department according to regulations or requirements imposed in such other institution.

(5) Grades earned in other colleges or departments shall not be computed in grade point averages for law studies and credit in the Law School shall not be granted for course work taken in another college or department unless the student earns a grade of "B" or better.

### C. Completion of Joint Degree Program

(1) It is contemplated that students shall earn their joint degrees concurrently and that students shall be awarded their degrees at the same time. However, a student may complete his or her studies in another discipline during the summer following graduation from law school, where the student gives assurances to the Joint Degree Advisor in the Law School that such course work will be completed during the summer session and where the student has six or less hours of course work remaining in the other department or college.

(2) At the completion of the joint degree studies, a student will earn two degrees; one from the Law School and another from a college or department participating in the joint degree program.

(3) Where a student fails to complete a joint degree program, he or she is eligible to apply up to six hours of course work taken at another college or department pursuant to the Interdisciplinary Option available in the Law School. Otherwise, joint degree students may not enroll in and receive academic credit for course work taken in another college or department pursuant to the Interdisciplinary Option.

Approved by action of the Law School Faculty on May 7, 1992, as amended on September 19, 1996. The Law School Faculty approved the DMU joint degree programs (referenced in the opening portion) in fall 2007.