



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

February 5, 2016

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal for a new dual degree in Juris Doctor (J.D.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) will be an agenda item for the February 12, 2016, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

William K. Vencill, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

The University of Georgia
Dual Degree Proposal for Juris Doctor (JD) and Master of Public Health (MPH)

1. Institution: The University of Georgia
2. Date: September 28, 2015
3. Schools/Colleges: School of Law
College of Public Health
4. Degrees: Juris Doctor (JD)
Master of Public Health (MPH) with an Area of Emphasis in Health Policy and Management
5. Start Date: Fall 2016

6. Program abstract:

The University of Georgia School of Law and the College of Public Health propose to establish a dual JD-MPH. This dual degree will integrate legal and public health knowledge and skills at the professional and scholarly levels. Similar to other dual degree programs approved by the University of Georgia, this program will meet the educational requirements of a professional level law practitioner and a master's level public health practitioner.

The proposed JD-MPH dual degree will prepare graduates to address the legal needs of public health organizations and private healthcare providers at the local, state, national, and international levels while preparing them to interpret and create policies that govern and direct these same organizations.

Healthcare is a growing industry and already accounts for almost one-fifth of our nation's GDP. Graduates of the proposed JD-MPH program will be well positioned to become leaders in this field. Georgia State University, Emory University, and many other peer institutions offer the JD-MPH degree. The addition of the JD-MPH program to the University of Georgia will enable both the Law School and the College of Public Health to attract students who are interested in this dual degree program, but currently have to consider alternatives to the University of Georgia. Furthermore, a JD-MPH dual degree program will advance Strategic Direction II, "Enhancing the Graduate and Professional Program," of The University of Georgia 2020 Strategic Plan by furthering the goal of "increase(ing) interdisciplinary/joint-degree graduates degrees awarded from 2010 levels." (*Building on Excellence*, 2010, p. 10)

7. Objectives of the program:

The primary objective of the JD-MPH dual degree is to create an interdisciplinary graduate program that excels in creating public health law professionals and scholars. Increasingly, there are career opportunities where both legal and public health expertise are required. A JD-MPH program would:

- a. Foster further collaborative research efforts between these two schools and community partners.
- b. Increase the diversity of professional expertise and experience in the JD and MPH classrooms.

- c. Secure more firmly UGA's position as a leader in the areas of healthcare and law.
- d. Increase potential professional opportunities for Law and Public Health students.

To prepare for a career spanning the legal and public health professions, students must meet the academic requirements of both programs. With careful planning, they will be able to complete the JD-MPH dual degree in four academic years of coursework.

8. Justification and need for the program:

Benefits and Student Demand: The JD-MPH dual degree would benefit both the JD and MPH programs by increasing enrollment, especially considering that currently approximately 30 schools offer the JD-MPH degree, with only two of those schools located in Georgia. A full list of schools currently offering the JD-MPH degree can be found in Appendix E.

The healthcare services industry workforce in the United States is expected to grow by approximately 22 million people or 13.5% of the total workforce by 2020, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Georgia is the 8th most populous state and will see a proportional increase in health services providers and clients. The demand for healthcare administrators and policy makers has been rising in recent years, and the necessity of understanding the intricacies of healthcare law and policy while having a firm foundation in public health has never been more important than in the current climate of healthcare reform.

With expected increases in the healthcare industry workforce both statewide and nationally, this dual degree will position UGA to become a national leader in healthcare policy and law education. Students who graduate from this dual degree program will obtain the requisite knowledge and skills in the principles of population-based health—as well as in the laws and policies that govern public health, enabling them to be effective leaders, policy makers, and consultants in health-related agencies and organizations. In addition, this degree will be suitable for students who are interested in careers as healthcare law professionals.

Faced with an increasingly competitive job market, constricted further by the economic recession, many students are interested in educational opportunities that will differentiate them from their peers—opportunities that will give them an edge in securing employment in their areas of interest. In fact, administrators and professors in both the Law School and the College of Public Health report receiving inquiries every semester from prospective and current students regarding the availability of the JD-MPH degree at the University of Georgia.

9. Program development:

Discussions regarding this dual degree program date back to 2012. Over this time, faculty members and administrators from the School of Law and the College of Public Health met periodically to hold some initial, formative discussions. Administrators and faculties of the School of Law and College of Public Health have discussed this program and refined the curriculum to ensure that students will receive the best possible experience and instruction.

10. Curriculum:

The program involves 4 years of study, with a total of 118 credit hours. Years A and B will consist of courses exclusively in the Law School, including the first-year curricular requirements as well as other upper-level required courses. Years A and B must be taken consecutively. Year C will include courses exclusively in the College of Public Health and will provide the MPH Core and Area of Emphasis requirements. The available MPH area of emphasis for students enrolled in the JD/MPH dual degree program is limited to Health Policy and Management. The sequence of years A, B, and C can be C-A-B or A-B-C. This means that a student can begin their studies either in the MPH program or JD program when completing the JD-MPH dual degree.

During the summer between the students' third and fourth year of study, JD-MPH candidates will complete a required 6 credit hour MPH Field Placement. The field placement corresponds with the PBHL 7560 course and requires 300 clock hours in an appropriate Public Health setting. Students choose the site of their field placement with the assistance of the MPH Academic Advisor and MPH Field Placement Coordinator. Depending on the relevance of the MPH Field Placement site to both disciplines, JD-MPH candidates could potentially receive credit towards meeting both the JD and MPH requirements through this field placement.

Year D, the final year of study, will consist of courses taken in both the Law School and College of Public Health, with the student completing the curricular requirements of both the JD and the MPH, which include the MPH Capstone course, a 3 credit hour culminating experience that can only be completed during the student's final semester.

The proposed JD-MPH dual degree program will not require a change in curriculum or credit hours currently required for either program. Rather, the MPH program will accept 9 hours of credit for electives taken at the Law School, and the Law School will accept 6 hours of credit for coursework completed in the MPH program. The Law School will also accept 6 additional credit hours when the field placement meets the Law School's and ABA requirements regarding such placements. The following documents are attached and contain detailed curriculum information:

- a. JD-MPH Dual Degree Proposed Curriculum (Appendix A)
- b. Law School Courses to Count Towards MPH Required Electives (Appendix B)
- c. Regular JD Program of Study (Appendix C)
- d. Regular MPH Program of Study for the Health Policy and Management Area of Emphasis (Appendix D)

Independent of this proposed dual degree program, the MPH is awarded after completing a 45-credit hour program of study and the JD is awarded after completing an 88-credit hour program of study. The total number of credit hours for both programs of study taken independently is 133; however, in the proposed JD-MPH dual degree program of study, 15-21 credit hours are counted jointly towards the completion of both degrees, thus reducing the number of credit hours needed in the combined program to 118.

11. Administration:

The JD-MPH program will be advertised on both the Law School's and College of Public Health's websites and in recruitment material. Both schools will collaborate on the information presented to insure accuracy and comprehension, as well as maximize the prospective students exposed to information about the program. To be eligible for the JD-MPH dual degree program, applicants must apply separately and be admitted into both programs offering the degrees. Thus, they must meet all of the requirements for admission to each program, with the exception that the MPH program has agreed to waive the GRE requirement and consider LSAT scores instead.

The College of Public Health and the School of Law will work in partnership to implement the dual degree program and insure a coordinated learning experience for students throughout their tenure in the dual degree program. Neither school will award a degree to a student admitted to the dual program until the student has satisfied the degree requirements of both schools. However, advisement on academic courses will be handled separately, with each program focusing on the portion of the curriculum for which it is responsible. When needed, advisors in each program will communicate to resolve any possible problems, conflicts, or unexpected concerns of the students in the program.

The Dean of the School of Law is responsible for all Law programs, including the JD program. The authoritative decision maker for the dual degree program in the Law School will be the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, in consultation with the Dean. Admission to the JD program will be coordinated by the Law School Admissions Office. Advisement in the School of Law will be handled through the regular student advising process.

The Dean of the College of Public Health is likewise responsible for all Public Health programs, including the MPH program; however, the MPH degree is conferred with the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Admission to the MPH program will be coordinated by the College of Public Health admissions team, with all applicants submitting an application via a centralized application service, and the final confirmation of matriculation communicated by the UGA Graduate School. Prospective students must have completed a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution and met the minimum admissions requirements of the Graduate School for domestic and international applicants. Advisement in the College of Public Health will be handled by the Health Policy and Management Department Head and appointed dual degree faculty member.

12. Assessment:

The College of Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH) and is required to collect data annually on all degree programs. Thus the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Public Health will formulate goals and establish criteria for assessing the quality and progress of the dual degree program for these reporting purposes. Baseline indices for program growth will include the number and quality of student applicants. Suggested criteria to determine formative and summative effectiveness of the program, as well as the success of students earning the dual degree, could include but are not limited to:

- a. Longitudinal review of graduates, assessing annually the employment status and positions held.
- b. Student and advisor feedback regarding experiences as they progress in the program.
- c. Participation in exit interviews and/or surveys that include the use of standardized measures to assess students' experiences with and perceptions of the program.
- d. Annual review of GPAs.
- e. Time to degree and degree completion rates.

13. Fiscal and enrollment impact and estimated budget:

No additional fiscal impact as a result of creating a dual degree program is anticipated in the early years of the program; thus, no additional faculty or staff resources will be necessary for its administration. All academic courses identified in the program of study for the proposed dual degree program are currently being offered. We anticipate an increase in student enrollment, which should be supported by students' tuition/fees.

Appendix A

JD-MPH Dual Degree Proposed Curriculum

Year A

JD Courses, Credit Hours = 28-29

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
JURI 4010/6010, Civil Procedure I or JURI 4020/6020, Civil Procedure II	3
JURI 4030/6030, Contracts and Sales I	3
JURI 4050/6050, Criminal Law	3
JURI 4070/6070, Legal Research I	2
JURI 4120/6120, Torts I	3
	Total = 14
Spring Semester	Credit Hours
JURI 4010/6010, Civil Procedure I or JURI 4020/6020, Civil Procedure II	3
JURI 4040/6040, Contracts and Sales II	3
Elective	3-4
JURI 4080/6080, Legal Research II	2
JURI 4130/6130, Torts II	3
	Total = 14 or 15

Year B

JD Courses, total credit hours for the year = 28

(If a student took a below named course as elective in Year 1,
then that course is replaced with a law elective in Year 2.)

Either Fall or Spring Semesters	Credit Hours
JURI 4090/6090, Property	3-4
JURI 4180/6180, Constitutional Law I	3
JURI 4300/6300, The Law and Ethics of Lawyering	3
Practical Skills Requirement (from the list in Appendix C)	Minimum of 6
Electives*	varies
11-18 credit hours each semester to total 28	Total = 28

*6 credit hour electives can be selected to count towards the MPH required electives. See Appendix B for list of approved courses.

The available MPH area of emphasis for students enrolled in the JD/MPH dual degree program is limited to Health Policy and Management. Core requirements for each concentration are listed below.

Year C

MPH courses, total credit hours = 33

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
BIOS 7010, Introductory Biostatistics I	3
EPID 7010, Introduction to Epidemiology I	3
EHSC 7010, Fundamentals of Environmental Health Science	3
HPAM 7010, Introduction to Health Policy and Management*	3
HPRB 7010, Social and Behavioral Foundations in Public Health	3
	Total = 15
Spring Semester	Credit Hours
HPAM 8400, Policy Analysis in Public Health*	3
HPAM 8600, Health Economics*	3
HPAM 8650, Healthcare Finance	3
HPAM 8700, Management of Public Health Organizations	3
Electives	6
	Total = 15

* HPAM 8400 and HPAM 8600 to count towards Law School elective hours, for a total of 6 hours.

Summer	Credit Hours
PBHL 7560, Internship in Public Health	6
	Total = 6

Year D

Split between coursework in the JD and MPH programs. Total credit hours required for JD-MPH candidates vary based on coursework completed in Years A, B, and C.

Fall and Spring	Credit Hours
JD electives to reach at least *88 credit hours (JD coursework + courses completed in MPH but given dual credit in JD)	varies
Spring	Credit Hours
MPH Culminating Experience/Capstone	3

*Under ABA Standards, at least 64 of those credit hours must be in courses that require attendance in regularly scheduled law school classroom sessions.

Appendix B – Law School Courses to Count towards MPH Required Electives

Students can select for up to 12 credit hours

Course Name	Course Number	Credit Hours
Bioethics	JURI 5585/7585	2-3
Health Care Business Organizations	JURI 5626/7626	2-3
Health Care Fraud and Abuse	JURI 5621/7621	2-3
Law and Science Seminar	JURI 5579/7579	2-3
Law and Medicine	JURI 5623/7623	2-3
Public Health Law	JURI 5622/7622	2-3
Community Health Law Partnership	JURI 5628	2
Community Health Law Partnership (year-long course)	JURI 5628 (Fall semester)	2
Community Health Law Partnership	JURI 5628 (Spring Semester)	2

Appendix C – Regular JD Program of Study

Requirements for the Juris Doctor (JD) degree are:

1. Successful completion of at least 88 credit hours, including all required courses;
2. Six resident semesters as a full-time student;
3. Cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0, according to the grading system utilized by the Law School;
4. Satisfaction of the Advanced Writing Requirement;
5. Satisfaction of the Practical Skills training requirement;
6. Completion of JURI 4300, The Law and Ethics of Lawyering; JURI 4180, Constitutional Law I; JURI 4090, Property.

To be eligible to participate in the Law School Commencement, during the spring semester, students must be within 15 credit hours of completing their degree requirements. No student shall graduate or participate in commencement if a disciplinary action or hearing is pending, or if the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs finds such participation inappropriate.

The normal full-time credit load is 12 to 18 semester credit hours in the fall and spring semesters and 6 to 8 credit hours in the summer term. A semester requires enrollment in at least 12 semester hours, but under unusual circumstances, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may grant permission for a student to undertake fewer hours. In the final semester of study, enrollment in at least 10 semester credits qualifies for full-time resident status. Students may not enroll in more than 18 hours in any fall or spring semester, or more than 8 hours in the summer term.

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
JURI 4010/6010, Civil Procedure I or JURI 4020/6020, Civil Procedure II *	3
JURI 4030/6030, Contracts and Sales I	3
JURI 4050/6050, Criminal Law	3
JURI 4070/6070, Legal Research I	2
JURI 4120/6120, Torts	3
	Total = 14
Spring Semester	Credit Hours
JURI 4010/6010, Civil Procedure I or JURI 4020/6020, Civil Procedure II *	3
JURI 4040/6040, Contracts and Sales II	3
Elective	3 or 4*
JURI 4080/6080, Legal Research II	2
JURI 4130/6130, Torts II	3
	Total = 14-15 Credit Hours

* Both Civil Procedure courses will be taken in the first year. The order in which they are taken by a particular 1L section will be determined by the instructor(s) involved.

Additional Required Courses:

	Credit Hours
JURI 4300/6300, The Law and Ethics of Lawyering	3
JURI 4090/6090, Property	3-4
JURI 4180/6180, Constitutional Law I	3
	Total = 10 Credit Hours

Practical Skills Requirement:

The Law School and the ABA require, as a condition for graduation, that each law student complete at least one practical skills course. The law faculty has designated the following courses as satisfying the practical skills requirement.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced Trial Practice• Advanced Writing Seminar: Appellate Practice• Alternative Dispute Resolution Seminar• Atlanta Externship Clinic• Anatomy of a M&A Deal• Appellate Advocacy• Appellate Litigation Clinic (Summer Semester)• Appellate Litigation Clinic I• Appellate Litigation Clinic II• Business Negotiations• Business Law Clinic• Capital Assistance Project• Civil Clinic I• Civil Clinic II• Community Health Law Partnership Clinic• Constitutional Litigation (Eaton)• Community Economic Development Clinic• Corporate Counsel Externship• Criminal Defense Clinic I• Criminal Defense Clinic II• D.C. Externship Clinic• Dispute Resolution and Design• Document Drafting: Survey• Document Drafting: Contracts• Document Drafting: Litigation• Environmental Dispute Resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental Law Practicum• Estate Planning• Family Violence Clinic• Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiating• Labor Arbitration• Legal Drafting for Transactional Practice• Life Cycle of a Corporation• Mediation Practicum I• Mediation Practicum II• Patent Prosecution and Procedure• Prosecutorial Clinic II• Public Interest Practicum• Summer Externship• Trial Practice
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Appendix D – Regular MPH Program of Study

Requirements for a Master of Public Health Degree with an Area of Emphasis in Health Policy and Management

The MPH degree requires a minimum of 45 semester hours of course credit, including successful completion of the following: 36 hours of coursework, a field placement (6 hours), and passing a final culminating experience known as the capstone (3 hours).

All dual degree students are required to take 15 hours of MPH core classes, 12 hours of departmental core requirements. The additional 9 hours of electives will be completed in the JD program and will count towards the MPH. Only those JD courses approved by departmental advisors will be permitted into a student's program of study.

MPH CORE REQUIREMENT COURSES: 15 HOURS

- BIOS 7010, Introductory Biostatistics I
- EHSC 7010, Fundamentals of Environmental Health Science
- EPID 7010, Introduction to Epidemiology I
- HPAM 7010, Introduction to Health Policy and Management
- HPRB 7010, Social and Behavioral Foundations in Public Health

Departmental Requirements: 12 hours

- HPAM 8400, Policy Analysis in Public Health
- HPAM 8600, Health Economics
- HPAM 8650, Healthcare Finance
- HPAM 8700, Management of Public Health Organizations

Electives: 9 hours

To be selected with an advisor from the JD program

Appendix E

Other Schools that Currently Offer JD-MPH Degree

- Boston University School of Public Health
- Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
- Drexel University School of Public Health
- Emory University Rollins School of Public Health
- George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health
- Georgia State University School of Public Health
- Harvard School of Public Health
- Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Rutgers School of Public Health
- Saint Louis University College for Public Health and Social Justice
- Temple University Department of Public Health
- Thomas Jefferson University, School of Population Health - MPH Program
- Tufts University School of Medicine, Public Health Program
- Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
- UCLA Jonathan and Karin Fielding School of Public Health
- University at Buffalo SUNY School of Public Health and Health Professions
- University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
- University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health
- University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health
- University of Iowa College of Public Health
- University of Miami Department of Public Health Sciences
- University of Minnesota School of Public Health
- University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health
- University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center College of Public Health
- University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health
- University of South Florida College of Public Health
- University of Tennessee Department of Public Health
- University of Virginia MPH Program
- University of Washington School of Public Health
- Yale School of Public Health