

Law Original Curriculum Required Courses	Credits	Public Policy Original Curriculum Required Courses	Credits
Introduction to Legal Research, Writing, and Analysis (LRWA)	2	PUBP 700 Theory and Practice in Public Policy	3
Contracts I	2	PUBP 502 Governance and Policy Processes	4
Torts	4	PUBP 503 Culture, Organization, and Technology	4
Property	4	PUBP 704 Statistical Methods in Policy Analysis	3
Economic Foundations of Legal Studies	3	ITRN 503 Investment and Macroeconomics	4
Civil Procedure	4	PUBP 720 Managerial Economics and Policy Analysis	3
The Founders' Constitution	2	PUBP 741 U.S. Financial Policy	3
Introduction to LRWA II	3	Advanced Methods (705, 711, 712, or 713)	3
Contracts II	3		
Criminal Law	3		
Appellate Writing	2		
Constitutional Law I	4		
Legal Drafting	2		
Professional Responsibility	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>
Electives	49	Electives	12
		Professional Experience (Internship)	3*
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>42</b>
Joint Program New Combined Total = 116 Credits			
Required Course Work	40	Required Course Work	27
Electives	40	Electives	9
Total Law	80	Total Policy	36* or 39*
<b>New Combined Total = 116 Credits</b>			



## Location Is Our Greatest Advantage

George Mason University School of Law and School of Public Policy are just across the Potomac River from downtown Washington, D.C., the nexus for the creation of the world's most important legislation and jurisprudence. Metropolitan Washington offers students access to hundreds of opportunities and legal resources of tremendous scope and depth, including year-round employment opportunities with major executive branch agencies, congressional commissions and federal agencies, and hundreds of private law firms located in the Washington, D.C., area.

In addition to its professional advantages, Mason's location in Northern Virginia offers diverse social, cultural, and educational opportunities unequalled by any other metropolitan region. Arlington County, where the schools are located, has vibrant commercial districts that host a number of industry leaders and Fortune 500 companies; the city of Alexandria houses the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and provides a venue for the headquarters of many national associations; and Fairfax County, a world center of commerce and trade and the technology hub of the United States' East Coast, has offices of more than 4,000 technology companies and national law firms located within its borders.

During the past decade, the Law School has been in the forefront of curricular innovation. Recognizing the rapid changes that are occurring in legal practice and profession, Mason has pioneered three core competencies—often neglected at more traditional institutions—for its students: specialized substantive preparation for practice, intensive development of legal writing and research skills, and the legal application of economic tools and methods. Our demanding curriculum offers students unique advantages in today's competitive employment market.

Many Mason law and policy students take advantage of the area's subway system to travel easily between home, work, and classes. With 11 stops in Arlington, including a stop for the law and policy schools, Metro provides an integrated transportation network throughout the National Capital Area, including the Virginia and Maryland suburbs.



Front cover: View from the steps of the Jefferson Memorial looking across Washington's Tidal Basin toward the lighted Washington Monument

# Joint Degree Program in Law and Public Policy Studies



On the Doorstep of the Nation's Capital



WHERE INNOVATION IS TRADITION

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Law School Admissions Information

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#### School of Public Policy Admission Information

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Study Law and Policy  
at Mason and

**THE CHOICES  
ARE YOURS.**



## THE JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM IN LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES

The JD/MPP Joint Degree Program in Law and Public Policy provides students an opportunity to master the fundamentals of legal and policy analysis. Students receive full legal training and a solid understanding of public policy, preparing them for careers in legal academia, government, and policy making.

On completion of the graduation requirements of both schools, students in the program will receive a JD from the School of Law and an MPP from the School of Public Policy.

Both degrees can be achieved on a full-time basis in approximately four years instead of the five years that would be required if the degrees were pursued sequentially.

For more information, visit [policy.gmu.edu/joint-degree](http://policy.gmu.edu/joint-degree).

### PURSUING THE JOINT DEGREE

Students interested in pursuing the joint degree should begin their studies in the School of Law. The program expects students to complete the first-year- or first-year-and-a-half-required course work in the School of Law and apply to the joint program in the spring of the first year or fall of the second year.

If admitted to the joint degree program, students spend either the entire second year or the spring of the second year and the fall of the third year pursuing the MPP in the School of Public Policy, and the third or remaining third and fourth years completing the JD plus any remaining MPP course work.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

### Basic Requirements for the JD

Joint degree students admitted to the School of Law must earn a minimum of 80 credits toward the JD and must complete all 40 credits of the required law curriculum. Forty additional law credits are required in upper-division course work to complete the JD. Students must fulfill the upper-level writing requirement within these 40 additional law credits.

### Basic Requirements for the MPP

The MPP requires a total of 36\* credits. Joint degree students must complete all 27 credits of the required curriculum. Nine additional policy credits are required in upper-division course work to complete the MPP. Any student entering the program without relevant work experience will be expected to complete a policy-related internship.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should apply to the joint degree program in either the spring of their first year or the fall of their second year of law school. Applications consist of the Joint JD/MPP Degree Supplemental Admissions Form, a current resume, and a 500-word statement addressing why the applicant would like to pursue the joint degree.

Applications should be sent to the School of Law Admissions Office by June 1 for a fall start in the MPP program or by December 1 for a spring start in the MPP program. Applicants may not receive a decision on their application until after spring law class grades have been posted.

Joint degree applicants must qualify for admission in the respective programs according to the standards independently established by the School of Law and the School of Public Policy. Those who have already earned either the JD or the MPP are not eligible for the combined degree program.

For expanded information on the joint degree program, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/llm](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/llm).

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

On admission to the joint degree program, students will pay tuition at the School of Public Policy rate for two semesters beginning with the semester in which they enter the public policy program. Students will pay tuition at the School of Law rate for all other work in the law or joint degree program, even if the student is taking additional classes in the School of Public Policy during the time of that work.

Students will have five years from matriculation in the School of Law to complete the JD requirements and six years from matriculation in the School of Public Policy to complete the MPP requirements. At the beginning of the final year of study, the Combined Degree Electives Reduction Form must be submitted by the student for approval from both schools because the joint degree program reduces the total number of credits needed for graduation from 131 (89 law, 42 public policy) to 116 (80 law, 36\* public policy).

Students in the joint degree program will not receive a cumulative GPA but instead will have two separate transcripts maintained by the separate departments. If a student decides at any point to abandon the joint degree program and pursue one degree or the other, the credit reduction will not remain and students will be expected to complete the entire credit load to receive the degree (89 hours for the JD and 42 hours for the MPP).

*\* Students who do not meet the professional work experience requirement of the School of Public Policy will be expected to complete a 3-credit internship that does not count toward the 36-credit degree completion total.*



For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/specializations](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/specializations).  
For individual course descriptions, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/courses](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/courses).