DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

This document is a template and serves only as a guide. It is not final or binding. The specific sequence of courses must be developed by the student and the respective department advisor semester by semester, along with a final Plan of Study. Students are expected to meet with their advisors in each department regularly to discuss their course of study and progress.

DEGREES AWARDED UPON COMPLETION: Juris Doctorate & Master’s of Social Work (JD / MSW)

SPONSORING SCHOOLS/COLLEGES: School of Law & College of Social Work

# OF YEARS TO COMPLETE DUAL DEGREE: 4 to 4.5, depending upon Summer study.

# OF CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED FOR EACH DEGREE: JD – 81 of 90; MSW – 54 of 60; 6 hrs. of law study may be applied toward completion of the JD degree; 9 hrs. of MSW study may be applied toward completion of the JD degree. Shared courses are negotiated on a case-by-case basis, depending on a student’s individual POS, with approval from both departments AND from the Graduate School. At the beginning of every semester, please discuss your course selections with your advisors in each department. If field placement is to be shared, students must seek prior approval from the MSW field office.

HOW TO APPLY: Separate applications must be made to the School of Law and to the Graduate School. Students may apply to the Graduate School during their first year of study in the School of Law. The Law School application requires Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores. The College of Social Work may require Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, depending on Grade Point Average (GPA).

NOTE: Students will specialize in one of five areas of specialization during their advanced year (Year 2) of MSW study (i.e., Aging; Children, Youth, & Families; Military; Health and Mental Health, and Community, Social, & Economic Development). To enroll in any advanced year courses in SW, students must complete the entire foundation year (including field placement). Students will choose their SW specialization when they enroll in SOWK 777, typically during the spring semester of their foundation year.

* MSW specialization courses are sorted by section number.

** Most advanced year courses in the MSW curriculum may satisfy the requirement for the advanced year practice elective. Students should consult with the MSW dual degree coordinator for final approval of their choice for specialization elective.
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Students should plan to begin their studies in the Law School; they should plan to complete one year of Law School studies before initiating their MSW studies.

Social Work Foundation (15 Hours): Fall
- SOWK 716 – HBSE I: Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- SOWK 714 – Exploring Diversity and Social Justice
- SOWK 791 – Research in Social Work Practice
- SOWK 781 – Field Instruction I / Generalist Social Work Practice: Introduction to Social Work Practice & Professional Development

Social Work Foundation (15 Hours): Spring
- SOWK 722 – Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families and Small Groups
- SOWK 732 – Social Work Practice in Communities & Organizations
- SOWK 742 – Social Work Policy and Practice
- SOWK 777 – Advanced Theory for Social Work Practice (specialization-specific)*
- SOWK 782 – Field Instruction II / Generalist Practice: Introduction to Social Work Practice & Professional Development

NOTE: In order to enroll in any advanced year courses, students must complete the entire foundation year (including field placement). Students will choose their specialization when they enroll in SOWK 777.

* Specialization courses are sorted by section number.

Social Work Advanced (SOWK 15 Hours): Fall
- SOWK 779 – Advanced Social Work Interventions (specialization-specific)*
- SOWK 783 – Field Instruction III / Advanced practice
- SOWK 792 – Evaluation of Practice OR SOWK 793 – Evaluation of Programs
- 6 credits of electives (any combination of 1, 2 or 3 credit MSW courses)

Social Work Advanced (SOWK 15 Hours): Spring
- SOWK 718 – Systems Analysis of Social Work Practice (Capstone Course)
- SOWK 778 – Advanced Analysis of Social Policy, Programs, & Services (specialization-specific)*
- SOWK 784 – Field Instruction IV / Advanced practice
- 3 credits of ACANCED PRACTICE elective
- 3 credits of electives (any combination of 1, 2 or 3 credit MSW courses)
IMPORTANT:

1. Dual MSW / JD students must begin their studies in the Law School. They will complete their first year there before switching over to the COSW.

2. Students will use a combination of SOWK and LAWS courses, if these are completed in accordance with Law School guidelines (i.e., to be able to share MSW courses with the JD, students must take at least one LAWS course concurrently with the MSW course to be shared.

3. to fulfill program requirements for both degrees. Specifically, to be able to apply SOWK courses as shared courses in the JD program, students must take LAWS courses concurrently with SOWK courses.

4. Students may be able to arrange a shared field placement that satisfies requirements for both degree programs; they must seek approval from both departments (in the COSW, specifically from the Field Office) prior to beginning placement.

5. At the beginning of every semester, please seek approval for your course selections from your advisors in each department. Shared courses are negotiated on a case-by-case basis, depending on a student’s individual Plan of Study, with approval from both departments AND the Graduate School; students should discuss shared hours AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

GENERAL PROGRESSION OF STUDY:

Year 1 – Law study
Summer after Year 1 – Law study
Year 2 – Social work study; please note the requirement for concurrent enrollment in Law coursework for sharing
Summer after Year 2 – Law and social work joint study
Years 3 & 4 – Law and social work joint study

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