

MSW/JD DUAL DEGREE Curriculum Snapshot Children, Youth, and Families

The Master of Social Work and Juris Doctor (MSW/JD) dual degree program is a four-year program. Students are required to complete 121 units of course work, including 76 units in the USC Gould School of Law and 45 units in the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work.

Program Requirements:

To earn the JD, all students (including dual degree students) must complete 37 numerically graded law units at USC after the first year. The associate dean may make exceptions to this rule for students enrolled in law school honors programs. Students must apply to both programs prior to matriculation. The program of study is as follows:

First Year: Complete the first year JD program of study.

Second Year: Begin taking course requirements in the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, which includes the required courses outlined in the Social Work (MSW) section of the catalogue. Students will also begin to take department core courses specific to the MSW in either the AMHW, SCI or CYF department. Students will be advised into the appropriate courses.

Third Year: Complete the second year JD program.

Fourth Year: Complete the remaining required MSW courses, per advisement, and the final semester of the JD program in the spring.

MSW Required Courses:

Semester 1: 15 units

SOWK 506: Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3 units)
SOWK 536: Policy and Advocacy in Professional Social Work (3 units)
SOWK 544: Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups (3 units)
SOWK 546: Science of Social Work (3 units)
SOWK 589A: Applied Learning in Field Education (3 units)

Semester 2: 14 units

SOWK 608: Research and Critical Analysis for Social Work with Children and Families (3 units)
SOWK 609: Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth, and Families (3 units)
SOWK 630: Diversity, Social Justice, and Culturally Competent Social Work Practice (3 units)
SOWK 588: Integrative Learning for Social Work Practice (2 units)
SOWK 589B: Applied Learning in Field Education (3 units)

Semester 3: 10 units

SOWK 698A: Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice (1 unit)
SOWK 699A: Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education (4 units)
SOWK 698B: Integrative Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice (1 unit)
SOWK 699B: Advanced Applied Learning in Field Education (4 units)

Semester 4: 6 units

SOWK 613: Social Work Practice with Children and Families in Early Care (3 units)
SOWK 621: Social Work Practice with Adolescents (3 units)

The following courses represent the requirements for the JD Program. Please contact the Law Advisor regarding LAW course scheduling.

Student Completes First Year of the JD Program, which consists of the following classes:

The first-year curriculum consists of the following courses:

- Contracts
- Law, Language and Values
- Procedure I
- Torts
- Constitutional Law: Structure
- Criminal Law
- Property
- Legal Research, Writing and Analysis I and II

All students will take an elective course in the Spring semester. The elective course choices are:

- Fundamental Business Principles
- Constitutional Law: Rights
- Ethical Issues for Public Interest, Government and Criminal Lawyers (Legal Profession)

Students who do not take the Constitutional Law: Rights elective or a Legal Profession elective must take these classes as upper-division students (Semesters 5, 6, or 8 of the dual degree program). Legal Profession must be completed before the end of the second year of law school (Semester 6 of the dual degree).

Constitutional Law: Rights may be taken during the second or third year of law school (Semester 5, 6, or 8 of the dual degree). Successful completion of both classes is required for graduation.

Student Completes Second Year of the JD Program, which is primarily electives with two requirements:

- Satisfy Upper Division Writing Requirement

Enroll in Coursework that offers substantial instruction in professional skills generally regarded as necessary for the effective and responsible participation in the legal profession.