

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Reflecting the School's commitment to interdisciplinary teaching, practice, and research, dual degree programs have been developed with the University of Connecticut Schools of Law (MSW/JD), Public Policy (MSW/MPA) Medicine (MSW/MPH) and with the Yale Divinity School. This special feature offers an opportunity to seek degrees in two professions at the same time. Each program has constructed specific arrangements with the approval of both faculties. To enter a dual program, you must apply separately and be admitted to each school.

The **MSW/JD Dual Degree** is open to students whose interest in law is combined with a concern for the social impact of the legal system upon individuals, and who may want to prepare for careers in such fields as social service law, penology, mental health law, juvenile advocacy, and the like. The program is highly individualized in nature in order to provide each student with the best possible combination of these two disciplines. Under the program, students may earn a Master of Social Work and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree in four rather than the five years normally required, if the two degrees were pursued separately.

Students are permitted nine Clinical Education credits earned at the School of Law when taken as second year Field Placement at the School of Social Work. These credits are registered for at the School of Social Work as Field Education III (fall semester) and Field Education IV (spring semester). This placement is arranged with the School of Social Work and the School of Law so that it meets the requirements of both programs. Additionally, the School of Social Work will accept up to **nine elective credits** of non-clinical course work earned at the School of Law towards satisfaction of the MSW degree. The School of Law will accept up to **nine credits** earned at the School of Social Work in advanced courses towards satisfaction of the requirements for the JD degree.

Candidates admitted to both schools in the same year will ordinarily take their first year at the School of Law. However, a student in his or her first year at the School of Social Work may reverse this procedure if he or she is admitted to the School of Law for the following year. Applicants must be admitted separately by each school. No preference is given to applicants in the Dual Degree Program. Application to the Dual Degree Program must be made no later than the end of the first year of study at the School of Law or the School of Social Work. A faculty advisor is available for consultation regarding this program.

The **MSW/MPA Dual Degree** is an interdisciplinary program in social work/public administration and is a collaborative effort between the UConn School of Social work and the Department of Public Policy. This arrangement affords students the opportunity to earn the MSW and MPA degrees concurrently in three years, rather than the normally required four. The opportunity offers students interdisciplinary preparation in the fields of both public administration and social work. Students must be accepted into both programs separately, and prior to the completion of their first year in either program.

The **MSW/MPH Dual Degree** is an interdisciplinary program in social work/public health and is a collaborative effort between the UConn School of Social Work and the Department of Community Medicine and Health Care (Part of the School of Medicine) that affords students the opportunity to earn the MSW and Master of Public Health (MPH) degrees concurrently. The dual degree program offers students interdisciplinary preparation in the fields of both public health and social work.

Students in the MSW/MPH program are expected to complete a minimum of 36 credits in public health and a minimum of 51 credits in social work. The amount of credits earned in one program

(e.g., the MPH) that can be applied to the other degree (e.g., the MSW) is somewhat dependent on the student's concentration in the School of Social Work as certain methods (Administration, Community Organization, Policy Practice) have more courses relevant to public health than other methods (Casework and Group Work). In addition, certain social work electives are more relevant to public health as well. In any event, those social work courses that the student wants included in the MPH program must be pre-approved by the MPH program. Similarly, those public health courses that the student wants included in the MSW program must be pre-approved by the MSW program. All requirements for the MSW/MPH may be completed in 3-4 years in general. Because the social work program requires four semesters of field placements, the MPH group practicum is waived for MSW/ MPH students if at least one of the social work field placements (typically the advanced year placement) includes content relevant to public health. Brenda Kurz, Ph.D., MSW, MSW Program Director and Associate Professor of Social Work, with Jane Ungemack, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Community Medicine coordinate the MSW/MPH program.

Candidates must apply to both programs and meet the admission requirements of both the School of Social Work and the Master of Public Health Program. Application to the MPH program must be made no later than the end of the first year of the MSW program. Candidates are encouraged, however, to apply to and begin both programs at the same time, as this allows greater flexibility in the sequencing of courses and other requirements.

Joint Program with Yale Divinity School

In conjunction with the Yale University Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut, the School of Social Work offers a program in which students may earn the M.Div. and MSW degrees in four years instead of the five years required when these programs are taken separately. Both schools will accept up to **nine elective credits** earned in the other's program. The programs are individualized through the work of faculty advisors from the two schools. However, there are numerous courses in both programs that may count toward the dual degree so students will find considerable flexibility in their choice of course and field work. Applicants must obtain independent admission to both schools and must pay the appropriate fees at both schools. Student must be enrolled concurrently in both schools to benefit from this arrangement. The program of study is designed on an individual basis. Barris Malcolm, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Social Work is available for consultation on this program.