

UNIVERSITY SENATE
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Introduced by: Graduate Academic Council

Date: April 19, 2004

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A JOINTLY REGISTERED DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM
M.A. (PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY) UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY /
J.D. (LAW) ALBANY LAW SCHOOL

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

1. That the University Senate approve the attached proposal for Dual Degree Program, Master of Arts in Public Affairs & Policy and Juris Doctor, to be offered with the Albany Law School, as approved by the Graduate Academic Council.
2. That this proposal be forwarded to the President for approval.

University at Albany, State University of New York and Albany Law School
Proposed Dual Degree Program
Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy (MPP) and Juris Doctor (J.D.)

Proposed Program Title: Dual Degree Program in Public Policy and Law

Titles and Program Code Numbers of Currently Registered Programs which are to be combined:

Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy 03040.
Juris Doctor (J.D.) (Albany Law School)

Proposed Degrees: Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy/Juris Doctor

HEGIS Classification and Number: MA Public Affairs and Policy 2102 and Law 1401 (Albany Law School)

Academic Units That Will Offer the Program: Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, State University of New York and Albany Law School of Union University.

Proposed Beginning Date: September 1, 2004.

Summary of Program: The Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany offers an approved Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy. The Albany Law School offers an approved Juris Doctor degree. This proposal is to offer a dual degree program in Public Policy and Law. The proposed dual degree program is 111 credits: 36 credits (of 44 minimum) of Master of Public Affairs and Policy courses and 75 credits (of 87 minimum) of Juris Doctor courses. Students will take all of the courses required for the Public Affairs and Policy degree because courses in the Juris Doctor program will satisfy the degree's requirements for an elected public policy field. Similarly, courses in the Public Affairs and Policy program will serve as electives for the Juris Doctor program. The dual program will take 4 academic years if completed full-time. The first year of study will be taken at the Albany Law School. We anticipate admitting two students to four students a year.

The curriculum for the proposed dual degree program is displayed in Tables 1 and 2.

Rationale for the program: The proposed dual degree will give students a strong foundation in the law and in the skills for designing and evaluating public policy. Because the law both constrains and facilitates the design and implementation of public policies, while the design and evaluation of public policy help shape the law, the two programs are complementary. The curriculum of the dual degree program will teach the student to reason according to these multiple perspectives.

The Masters of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy (henceforth referred to as the MPP) prepares students for careers as policy analysts and leaders in public service. It provides students with strong statistical and analytic skills and background in economics and public finance, as well as an understanding of the politics of public policy formation and the challenges of public policy implementation. The MPP also requires specialization in a choice of public policy fields, such as education, environment, health, analytic methods or, with the approval of the Director of the Public Policy Program, a field of study designed by the student.

The J.D. degree prepares students for the practice of law and for positions in other diverse settings, including state government offices, not-for-profit agencies, education, and community development. It prepares them for many settings where knowledge of the law and the ability to interpret state and federal laws and apply them to agency practices is valued. Beyond the courses taken in the first year of law school, all of which are required, the student largely designs his or her own curriculum.

In the proposed dual degree, students will take the courses required by each program. In the MPP, the students will take the standard program, using courses in the law school to satisfy the program's requirement for an elected public policy field. In the J.D., students will take Public Policy courses as the electives permitted by the J.D. curriculum. In other words, both degrees will count courses in the other program as meeting requirements for elective courses.

Potential Demand: We expect two to four students a year.

The MPP program enrolls about 30 students a year. Enrollment in the J.D. program at the Albany Law School is 250 students a year.

General requirements for program completion of each separate program:

The Juris Doctor offered by the Albany Law School requires 87 credits, including 12 courses and a research paper that are required, and 52 credits of elective courses. These requirements are listed in Table 3.

The Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy (MPP) offered by the Rockefeller College includes nine core courses, three courses in a public policy field chosen by the student, and a master's essay on a topic in the student's elected policy field. The public policy fields draw on courses offered by other departments on campus. The required courses are listed in Table 4. In addition, students must complete a non-credit internship of at least one semester.

Specific requirements for the dual Master's program:

a. Listing of all required courses.

The required courses for the proposed Dual Degree Program in Public Policy and Law are listed in Table 1. The 111 credit degree program includes 75 credits at the Albany Law School, 9 required Public Affairs and Policy courses (courses listed as PUB), and a master's essay. The requirement for a public policy field in the MPP program will be satisfied by elective courses taken at the Albany Law School.

b. Courses and credits that will be used to satisfy requirements for both degrees.

Table 2 indicates how credits will be allocated toward each degree. The courses that meet requirements of both degrees are in the center column of Table 2. The three required Public Policy courses in the center column will serve as electives in the J.D. program. The appropriateness of these Public Policy courses as electives for the J.D. program is demonstrated by the broadly similar courses offered by the Albany Law School [shown in brackets]. Twelve credits of Albany Law School courses will serve as the elected Public Policy field in the MPP program.

Toward the MPP degree, students take all 9 required core courses and will write a master’s essay. Students will complete an internship in a public or non-profit agency (unless waived because the student has approved employment experience in the public or nonprofit sector). The requirement for 9 to 12 credits in an elected Public Policy field will be satisfied by 12 credits of Albany Law School electives. No required content is lost.

Toward the J.D. degree, students take all 12 required courses. Of the 52 required elective credits, 12 will come from three of the required courses for the MPP degree. No required content is lost.

c. Number of semesters required for dual program completion. The model program is laid out in Table 1. The degree will normally take four academic years to complete.

d. Other program requirements. There are no additional requirements. Students must satisfactorily complete all courses, an internship requirement (unless waived because the student has approved experience in the public or nonprofit sector), and a master’s essay.

e. Assuring program quality: The Juris Doctor program is accredited by the American Bar Association, which reviews the program periodically according to rigorous standards. The Rockefeller College has elected not to pursue accreditation for the MA in Public Affairs and Policy degree. However, the program was reviewed and assessed in 2003 by the program’s faculty and a team of external site visitors as part of a review of all campus programs required by the State University of New York central administration. Overall program supervision will be the responsibility of the Registrar at Albany Law School and the Chair of the Department of Public Administration and Policy at the University at Albany.

f. Admissions: Students must be eligible to matriculate in both programs and must be accepted through the admissions process of each program. Students will complete their first year of study at the Albany Law School.

g. Advisement: Students enrolled in the MPP/JD program will have a faculty advisor at the University at Albany to assist them in planning their program.

Table 1
Proposed Dual Degree
Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy and Juris Doctor
Curriculum and Model Program (111 credits)

Time Frame	Juris Doctor	Master of Public Affairs and Policy
Year 1 Fall	Legal Methods (1 credit) Contracts I (3 credits) Property I (3 credits) Introduction to Lawyering (2 credits) Introduction to Civil	

	Procedure (4 credits)Torts (4 credits)	
Spring	Contracts II (3 credits) Property II (3 credits)Criminal Law (3 credits) Introduction to Lawyering (2 credits) Constitutional Law (4 credits)	
Year 2 Fall		PUB 503 Economics & Finance (4 credits) PUB 504 Data, Models & Decisions I (4 credits) PUB 522 Politics and Policy (4 credits) PUB 507 Professional Applications (2 credits)
Spring		PUB 505 Data, Models & Decisions II (4 credits) PUB 506 Implementation and Impact (4 credits) PUB 514 Economic Analysis for Public Affairs II (4 credits) PUB 508 Current Research Topics in Public Policy (2 credits)
Year 3 Fall	The Legal Profession (3 credits)ALS Electives (4 credits)	PUB 502 Philosophical & Ethical Issues in Public Policy (4 credits) OR PUB 529 Law and Policy (4 credits) Public Policy Internship (non-credit)
Spring	ALS Electives (12 credits)	PUB 698 Masters Essay (4 credits)
Year 4 Fall	ALS Electives (12 credits)	
Spring	ALS Electives (12 credits)	
Total credits	75	36

Table 2
Proposed Dual Degree
Master of Arts in Public Affairs and Policy and Juris Doctor
Allocation of Credits to the Degree Programs

Credits counting toward Juris Doctor only	Credits counting toward both degrees	Credits counting toward Master of Public Affairs and Policy only
Legal Methods (1 credit) Contracts I (3 credits) Property I (3 credits) Introduction to Lawyering (2 credits) Introduction to Civil Procedure (4 credits) Torts (4 credits) Contracts II (3 credits) Property II (3 credits) Criminal Law (3 credits) Introduction to Lawyering (2 credits) Constitutional Law (4 credits) The Legal Profession (3 credits)	PUB 503 Economics and Finance (4 credits) [Similar to ALS Law and Economics (3 credits)] PUB 502 Philosophical and Ethical Issues in Public Policy (4 credits) [Similar to ALS	PUB 504 Data, Models & Decisions I (4 credits) PUB 505 Data, Models & Decisions II (4 credits) PUB 506 Implementation and Impact (4 credits) PUB 507 Professional Applications I (2 credits)
Albany Law School Electives (28 credits)	Government Ethics (3 credits)] OR PUB 529 Law and Policy (4 credits) [Similar to ALS Jurisprudence (3 credits)] PUB 522 Politics and Policy (4 credits) [Similar to ALS Current Legal Issues in Government (3 credits)]	PUB 508 Current Research Topics in Public Policy (2 credits) PUB 514 Economic Analysis for Public Affairs II (4 credits) PUB 698 Master's Essay (4 credits)
	Albany Law School Electives (12 credits) [Serve as the Public Policy field	Public Policy Internship (non-credit)

	courses]	
63 credits	24 credits	24 credits

Table 3
Albany Law School
J.D. Curriculum

First Year	credits
first semester	
Legal Methods	1
Contracts I	3
Property I	3
Introduction to Lawyering	2
Introduction to Civil Procedure	4
Torts	4
second semester	
Contracts II	3
Property II	3
Criminal Law	3
Introduction to Lawyering	2
Constitutional Law	4
Second Year	
The Legal Profession	3
Electives	24
Third Year	
Electives	28
Total credits	87

Table 4

Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy
University at Albany-State University of New York

**Master of Public Affairs and Policy
Curriculum**

Core Courses	credits
PUB 503 Economics and Finance I	4
PUB 514 Economic Analysis for Public Affairs II	4
PUB 504 Data, Models and Decisions I	4
PUB 505 Data, Models and Decisions II	4
PUB 506 Implementation and Impact	4
PUB 507 Professional Applications	2
PUB 508 Current Topics in Public Policy	2
PUB 522 Politics and Policy	4
PUB 502 Philosophical and Ethical Issues in Public Policy OR PUB 529 Law and Policy	4
Policy Field Courses	
Policy Field course	3 or 4
Policy Field course	3 or 4
Policy Field course	3 or 4
Master's Essay	
PUB 698 Master's Essay	4
Internship	
Public Policy Internship (non-credit)	0
Total credits	45-48