

University of Florida
College of Pharmacy and Fredric G. Levin College of Law
PharmD/JD Joint Degree Program

FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

The college's curricular strengths include tax law, business law, estates and trusts, environmental law, dispute resolution, international law, intellectual property law, criminal law, and family and children law. The three-year curriculum develops students' analytical ability, knowledge of the theory and practice of law, communication skills, and an understanding of the codes of professional responsibility and ethics central to the practice of law.

The college is named for alumnus Fredric G. Levin of Pensacola, a prominent trial lawyer who made possible an endowment to support excellence in legal education at the University of Florida. The College is housed in the Holland and Bruton-Geer Halls. A Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center and a Student/Faculty Academic Center are new additions to the College's education facilities.

Since its establishment in 1909, the College of Law has been educating leaders in law, business, education, and government. The college is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

The College of Pharmacy is one of the most outstanding colleges of pharmacy in the country with a ranking among the top ten programs over many years. Since 1923, the College of Pharmacy has produced highly qualified pharmacy graduates and prominent pharmaceutical scientists. The College of Pharmacy promotes the health and welfare of the people of Florida and the nation by preparing graduates to take independent professional responsibility for the outcome of drug therapy in patients. Graduates have the scientific and cultural background necessary to assume leadership roles in the profession and the community.

The College of Pharmacy is located in the Health Science Center in Gainesville and in three distance education campuses in Jacksonville, Orlando, and St. Petersburg.

The College of Pharmacy is accredited by the Accreditation Council on Pharmaceutical Education, 20 North Clark Street, Suite 2500, Chicago, IL 60602-5109 (Phone: 312-664-3575).

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the PharmD/JD joint degree program is to facilitate the process of Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) students to obtain the Juris Doctorate (JD) degree; and, of law students to obtain the PharmD degree. A joint degree program through the College of Pharmacy and the Levin College of Law will allow pharmacy students who desire a degree in law to gain the requisite knowledge and skills to reach their future professional goals. The joint degree program will provide Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) students with legal skills in a variety of areas. The graduates of this program should be prepared for careers in a diverse range of health care and legal areas. Law students may want to obtain a Doctor of Pharmacy degree as means of becoming experts in pharmacy and related health care issues to solidify their career goals in the pharmaceutical and health care systems. Thus, graduates of this joint degree program should be prepared for careers in a diverse range of health care and legal areas.

The joint degree program is not open to students who have already earned one degree.

Each college will award its own degree and will have its own admissions process. **Pharmacy students** interested in participating in the joint degree program may apply for entrance to the Levin College of Law during the second professional year of the Pharm.D. program. This application process is competitive and admission is not guaranteed to pharmacy students. Once students are admitted to the Levin College of Law, they officially enter the “Pharm.D./J.D. joint degree program” and are classified as CD (combined degree) students by the University Registrar’s Office. At the completion of the second year in the College of Pharmacy admitted students to this joint degree program will take classes in the Levin College of Law beginning in the fall semester. After completing a year of law courses, students will return to the College of Pharmacy to complete the final two years of the Pharm.D. curriculum. Students may take law courses as electives within the Pharm.D. program. After graduating with the Pharm.D. degree, students will continue to take law courses until they have completed all requirements for the Juris Doctorate (J.D.) degree program.

Law students interested in participating in the joint degree program may apply for entrance to the College of Pharmacy at any time after they have completed the preprofessional science and math courses and other requirements as listed below. The College of Pharmacy application process is competitive and admission is not guaranteed to law students. Once law students are admitted to the College of Pharmacy, they officially enter the “PharmD/JD Joint Degree Program.” It is anticipated that law students will enter the College of Pharmacy after they have completed the first year of required law courses. Thus, they will become full time pharmacy students for four years and will take additional law courses during their PharmD program. After receiving the PharmD degree, students will continue to take courses in the Levin College of Law until they have completed all requirements of the JD degree program.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In the joint degree program, students will be able to complete both degrees in less time than would be required for the two separate programs.

Doctor of Pharmacy Degree Requirements

To obtain the Doctor of Pharmacy degree, students must earn 146 credits including 10 credits of didactic electives. The College of Pharmacy will allow students to use all 10 credits obtained in the Levin College of Law in full-filling this 10 hour didactic elective requirement. Students must attain at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average in required pharmacy coursework and have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average for all coursework attempted in the College of Pharmacy. Students must complete four credits of introductory pharmacy practice experiences and 44 credits of advanced pharmacy practice experiences. At least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average must be attained in the nine advanced pharmacy practice experience courses. Students must also make at least a C grade in Pharmacotherapy IV and Pharmacotherapy V.

Juris Doctorate Degree Requirements

To obtain the J.D. degree, students must earn 88 semester credits, of which 59 must have been completed in the Levin College of Law. No more than four of these credits can be earned through co-curricular activities. The Levin College of Law will allow students to use 12 credits obtained in the College of Pharmacy in fulfilling this 88 credit hour requirement. Students must make a grade of S or better in Legal Research and Writing and Appellate Advocacy. Passing grades must be made in Professional Responsibility and the Legal Profession, and Legal Drafting. Students must have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on all graded work attempted in the College. Students must fulfill all prescribed course requirements. Students must satisfy the American Bar Association (ABA) Residency Requirement, which requires a full-time course of study extending over at least three academic years with a minimum of 10 credit hours per semester. Students may earn no more than one semester of residency credit by taking two summer sessions of at least five credits each. Students must complete a seminar or advanced course and satisfy the Advanced Writing Requirement.

SEQUENCE OF COURSEWORK

The total time to complete both the PharmD and JD programs could be six years, one year less than the time required to complete both programs independently. A student in this program may complete the requirements for one degree before the other is awarded. The following time line describes the possible sequencing of courses for students who enter the joint degree program as either pharmacy or law students.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Pharmacy Students</u>	<u>Law Students</u>
1	Complete 1 st year PharmD courses	Complete 1 st year law courses Take PCAT exam in Oct., Jan. or Mar. Apply to College of Pharmacy By Mar. 1. Preprofessional requirements must be met prior to attending the Levin College of Law
2	Complete 2 nd year PharmD courses. Take LSAT either in Sept., Dec., or Feb Apply to Levin College of Law by established deadline.	Enter PharmD program. Complete 1 st year PharmD courses.
3	Complete 1 st year law courses.	Complete 2 nd year PharmD courses. Take elective law courses in summer.
4	Complete 3 rd year PharmD courses Take law courses as electives Begin clerkships in summer semester.	Complete 3 rd year PharmD courses. Take law courses as electives Begin clerkships in summer semester.
5	Complete 4 th year PharmD clerkships and coursework. Graduate from PharmD program. Take pharmacy licensing examinations.	Complete 4 th year PharmD courses. Graduate from PharmD program. Take pharmacy licensing exams.
6	Complete requirements for the JD degree. Graduate from the Levin College of Law.	Complete JD degree. Graduate from the Levin College of Law.

An alternative for law students is shown below.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Law Students</u>
1	Complete 1 st year law courses. Take the PCAT exam in Oct., Jan. or Mar. Apply to pharmacy school by Mar. 1.
2	Complete 2 nd year of law courses Enter PharmD curriculum.
3	Complete 1 st year PharmD courses. Take law courses in summer semester.
4	Complete 2 nd year PharmD courses. Take law courses in summer semester.
5	Complete 3 rd year PharmD courses Take law courses as electives. Graduate from Levin College of Law. Complete 4 th year PharmD clerkships and courses. Graduate from PharmD program.

ELECTIVE OPTIONS IN THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

The following are pharmacy courses that could serve as electives for law students in this joint degree program. A maximum of 12 credits can be used toward the Juris Doctor degree.

Didactic electives:

- PHA 5237 State and Federal Pharmacy Laws* (1)
- PHA 5233 Pharmacy Law and Ethics* (2)
- PHA 5933 Pharmaceutical Industry and Public Policy (2)
- PHA 6235 Advanced Pharmaceutical Law (2)
- PHA 6236 Health Sciences Liability Law (2)
- PHA 6250 The Patient in the Drug Use Process (3)
- PHA 6251 Drugs and Society (3)
- PHA 6252 Prescribing and the Medication Use Process (3)
- PHA 6937 Topics in Pharmaceutical Administration (2)

Experiential electives:

PHA 5652 Pharmacy Management Clerkship (4)

PHA 5684 Pharmacy Elective Clerkship (4)**

*Required courses in the PharmD curriculum.

** Focus of clerkship would involve legal matters in health care

Law courses that could serve as electives for pharmacy students will be listed in the Law catalog. The above courses except for PHA 5237 and PHA 5233 may serve as electives for pharmacy students also.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

College of Pharmacy

Students should access the College of Pharmacy web site at www.cop.ufl.edu for detailed information about preprofessional coursework, application process, admission criteria, curriculum, and student affairs. Applications are processed through a centralized application service called PharmCAS (www.pharmcas.org).

Admitted students to the College of Pharmacy should decide if they want to apply for the joint degree program during the fall semester of their second professional year in order to prepare for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and the Levin College of Law application process. The format of the joint degree program requires pharmacy students to take a leave of absence from the College of Pharmacy between the second and third professional years of the PharmD program. Since this leave will provide result in a significant academic challenge, only students with a 3.0 grade point average in required pharmacy coursework will be eligible to apply to this program.

Levin College of Law

Law students should decide if they want to apply to the joint degree program during the fall semester of their first professional year in order to prepare for the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) and the College of Pharmacy application process.

The Levin College of Law seeks to enroll students who excel academically, attain the highest standards of professional excellence and integrity, and bring vision, creativity and commitment to the legal profession.

The academic performance of students reflected by undergraduate grade point average, professional program grade point average, and scores on the LSAT are significant factors. However, all information submitted by applicants are evaluated such as difficulty of prior

academic programs, academic honors, letters of recommendation, or graduate training provide additional information about academic preparation and potential. Information about work experience, leadership, community service, and overcoming prior disadvantages in life are considered.

Students should consult the [Prospectus for the Fredric G. Levin College of Law](#) for more information about admission requirements, application procedures, curriculum, faculty, student affairs, and tuition and financial aid. The College of Law web site is www.law.ufl.edu.

FINANCIAL AID

Federal and University financial aid is handled through the Office for Student Financial Affairs for the University of Florida at P113 Peabody Hall (352-392-1275). Each College administers college-based financial aid.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The Associate Dean for Students for the College of Law and the Associate Dean for Professional Affairs in the College of Pharmacy will oversee the development, implementation, and evaluation of the joint degree program. Both law and pharmacy students will be informed about the various aspects of the joint degree program during their first year on campus.

Joint degree students must have their academic schedules approved by the respective Student Affairs Offices for both colleges. Grade averages for the Pharm.D. and J.D. program are computed separately. Students are eligible for honors in each college based on the existing criteria. Students must meet satisfactory academic standing requirements in each college to continue in the joint degree program. If a student is academically dismissed from one program, but is passing requirements in the other, he or she may continue in the degree program in which he or she is passing.

IMPLEMENTATION

Target date for implementation is the fall semester 2004 pending approval of college and university curriculum and administrative processes.

CONTACTS

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