

## DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Dual Degree Programs The dual degree option enables students in the VU School of Law to take advantage of the range of programs offered through Valparaiso University's Graduate School in a way that saves both time and money. Completion of the 36- or 37-credit Master's degree takes approximately one additional year before, during or after the three-year JD program, with the exception of the CMHC degree, which takes an additional two years and should be started prior to entering law school due to clinical and licensure requirements. The flexible and specialized nature of the Valpo Master's degrees make them ideal and efficient enhancements to the JD degree. Specifically, students may:

- Choose from a variety of graduate courses, many of which are offered in the evening and summer;
- Receive each degree upon completion of the requirements - degrees need not be awarded simultaneously;
- Apply up to 6 law credits toward the Master's degree and 6 graduate credits toward the JD;
- Enhance their marketability with an interdisciplinary graduate and legal education;
- Achieve a level of competitiveness necessary to distinguish them from peers with substantive knowledge in two distinct fields.

### AVAILABLE DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS: *Master of Arts in Chinese Studies*

The MA in Chinese Studies is designed to prepare students with any undergraduate degree who have at least two years of college Chinese language for the opportunities and challenges posed by the emergence of China as a formidable political and economic force on the world stage. The curriculum emphasizes developing fluency in the Mandarin Chinese language as well as understanding Chinese culture, politics, and history. It also provides opportunities for students to grow professionally by enrolling in graduate level coursework in their field of interest. Applicants must demonstrate two years of Chinese language proficiency or enroll in 1st and 2nd year Chinese language while completing their law studies and prior to beginning the MA program.

*Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling* The MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling ("CMHC") serves students having a variety of goals related to the growing integration of law and psychology, including legal practice with a focus in mental health and social service; mental health and social service administration where understanding of the law or interaction with legal systems is required; government employment dealing with regulatory procedures and laws that impact mental health and social service agencies, professionals, and clients; and legal work for national, regional, or state mental health organizations and associations.

Applicants must have at least 15 credits of social and behavioral science course work, including introductory psychology and statistics.

*Master of Arts in Liberal Studies* The MA in Liberal Studies degrees appeal to people with broad interests in the humanities and social sciences. These programs provide an opportunity for advanced study tailored to meet individual interests and needs. The MALS degree requires four core seminars, five courses in the concentration, and three electives. Available concentrations are: English, Ethics & Values, Gerontology, History, Human Behavior & Society, Individualized, and Theology.

*Master of Arts in Psychology* The MA in Psychology augments the JD with a 30-credit MA and provides a general foundation in theories of personality and counseling. Coursework in professional issues and ethics for mental health counselors, as well as integrative work in law and psychology, is also required. This program is suited for law students whose practice may require understanding of and sensitivity to psycho-social issues (family law, mental health, children, the elderly, social

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services, etc.), but may also benefit others planning to work in settings where any understanding of human behavior is advantageous. Applicants must have at least 9 credits of social and behavioral science course work. *Master of Science in International Commerce & Policy* The MS in International Commerce & Policy ("ICP") is designed to meet the needs and interests of U.S. and international students who want to develop proficiency in and a broad understanding of areas related to international relations, economics, commerce, law, and policy. Applicants must have completed microeconomics or its equivalent, or they can complete this course work concurrent with ICP course work. *Master of Science in Sports Administration* The MS in Sports Administration program is for individuals interested in developing competence and pursuing careers in the management of sports personnel and facilities. The program builds upon and interfaces with the University's NCAA Division I status and prepares graduates to work in a variety of settings, including public recreation systems, volunteer agencies, facility and event management, community-based athletic programs, college athletic administration, and professional sports organizations. Applicants should have the equivalent of a minor in Physical Education, a related area such as Recreation and Leisure, or Business. [Click here](#) to view the application deadlines for your programs of interest.

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