

MD/JD and MD/MS in Jurisprudence

dual degree programs

**UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
and
Seton Hall University School of Law**



M.D./J.D. & M.D./M.S.J. In Jurisprudence

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School has an M.D./J.D. option with Seton Hall University School of Law. An M.D./M.S. in Jurisprudence (M.S.J.) program is also offered with Seton Hall University School of Law. Through both of these dual degree options students gain skills and knowledge, which will allow them to practice medicine and understand health care legal matters. Persons holding both a medical and a law degree can pursue many career options in medical management, managed care, policy development and consulting. Students must be accepted independently by the law school. Students may apply to the program in the fall of the third year. The LSAT exam is required. The combined M.D./J.D. degree may be completed in 6 years.

The M.D./M.S.J. degree may be completed in 5 years. Candidates are not required to take LSAT, GRE or GMAT for M.D./M.S.J. degree.

With some exceptions, students from all programs are enrolled together in the health law courses. This mix of professionals with varied backgrounds results in dynamic class participation and raises the level of class discussion as the students engage their faculty as well as each other.

U.S. News and World Report's 2002 Graduate School Guide ranked the Health Law & Policy Program as the 5th best health law program in the nation.

J.D. PROGRAM: HEALTH LAW CONCENTRATION

Seton Hall University School of Law offers a Concentration in Health Law to J.D. students. The student pursuing a health concentration may focus on traditional health law, drug law or biotechnology law. Students integrate the health concentration with the intellectual property courses.

ELECTIVE COURSES

BUSINESS LAW & LITIGATION

ANATOMY OF A MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CASE

This seminar provides students with the tools to prepare and try a medical malpractice case.

ELDER LAW: FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Estate planning for the aged and incapacitated; financial and contextual needs; planning for custodial healthcare costs; custodial care insurance; Medicaid and general assistance: resource and income limits, spousal impoverishment, support rights, transfer of assets and transfer penalties; planning strategies to protect assets: planned divestment to children or other third parties, spend-down of resources, income elections and assignment, and use of Medicaid qualifying trusts.

HEALTH CARE ANTITRUST

This course presents the fundamentals of antitrust law by review of the foundational case law and the basic antitrust statutes. It then applies these legal principles to developments in the health care industry with particular emphasis on mergers, acquisitions and consolidations, development of multi-provider networks and exclusion of providers within the health care industry. Finally, the course reviews traditional anti-trust defenses, and the various governmental policy statements on enforcement as they apply to current business activity within the health care industry.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD & ABUSE

This course examines the application of those laws in the context of commercial relationships, regulatory reviews, and criminal investigation and prosecutions. It also examines the burgeoning area of corporate compliance programs.

HEALTH EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

This seminar covers the special issues involving health care professionals that arise in the health care delivery system.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

This seminar focuses on the principles underlying the traditional medical malpractice liability regime and proposals to reform or supplant that system. Specifically, students review empirical studies on the propensity of patients to sue providers, the disposition of medical malpractice claims, and the impact of the traditional tort system on the cost and quality of medical care.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

This seminar examines state corporate law and the state and federal laws governing the taxation of non-profit health care organizations. It addresses issues of public charity, unrelated business income and private foundation status as they relate to corporate restructuring, financing and joint ventures.

PRODUCTS LIABILITY

This course provides an intensive investigation of this specialized area of tort law with particular emphasis on the problems of proof of liability and other features of trial of a products liability case.

Administrative Health Law

ADMINISTRATIVE HEALTH LAW

This course explores the powers and processes of administrative agencies in our governmental system, paying particular attention to why and how administrative agencies came to secure such a prominent place in our political, legal and constitutional landscape.

CURRENT ISSUES IN FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

This seminar is an in-depth study of current issues that shape federal and state regulation of food and drug products, with a special emphasis on the treatment of pharmaceuticals. It considers changing areas of the law and examines options available to meet public concerns.

Intellectual Property & Biotechnology

ADVANCED TOPICS IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

This course provides an intensive study of the law relating to the litigation and enforcement of intellectual property with a concentration on patents.

BIOTECHNOLOGY AND THE LAW

This seminar examines private law aspects of the biotechnology industry, with a focus on the legal and regulatory issues faced by commercial start-ups.

Bioethics & Public Policy

AIDS AND THE LAW

This seminar treats those issues from the perspective of the rights and responsibilities of HIV-infected persons; the rights and responsibilities of third parties, including health care workers; and government power and obligations.

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE & THE LAW

As consumers are increasingly relying upon alternative medicine as a complement to their conventional medical care, a host of legal issues arise, which this seminar will address.

DISABILITY LAW

This seminar explores the civil rights of Americans with disabilities under state and federal statutes. It will consider the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act as well as state anti-discrimination statutes, the rights of people with mental disabilities, and the rights of children with disabilities to an adequate education.

THE LAW OF DEATH & DYING

This seminar engages the student in an extensive study and analysis of empirical data, current statutes and cases as well as proposed changes to the law dealing with issues related to death and dying. Class topics include alternative definitions of death, organ donation, withholding and withdrawal of death-prolonging and life-sustaining treatment, advance directives, patient demands for futile treatment, the cost of end-of-life care, wrongful living, and physician-assisted death.

LAW & GENETICS

Rapid advances in the science of modular genetics now facilitate collection of genetic data, as well as the manipulation of genetic material to treat or prevent genetic diseases. This course explores the variety of ethical and legal issues raised by these unprecedented capabilities.

LEGAL MEDICINE & PUBLIC HEALTH

This course undertakes an in-depth study of the classical discipline of legal medicine, which includes consideration of the forensic sciences, legal principles and systems of death investigation, criminalistics, genetic markers and their use in court, and judicial receptivity to new scientific tests.

MENTAL HEALTH LAW

This course analyzes how clinical definitions of mental disease are used in a variety of legal contexts, including civil and criminal commitment proceedings, the insanity defense, incompetency hearings and the detention of sexual predators. Students explore the propriety of using clinical conceptualizations of mental illness and dangerousness to fashion legal standards of criminal culpability and involuntary civil detention, in light of documented limitations on the reliability of such evidence. In doing so, students consider alternatives which have been suggested to limit, or even eliminate, the use of psychiatric testimony in civil and criminal proceedings.

INFORMATION PRIVACY LAW

This course will provide an in depth analysis of privacy law in the United States, which is a complicated web of tort actions, constitutional rights, and statutory protections.

M.S. in JURISPRUDENCE

The M.S.J. candidate must complete 30 credit hours of course work at the Law School, including a thesis. The M.S.J. candidate's curriculum is substantially comprised of required courses. Additionally, the M.S.J. candidate must take two survey courses, Business Law Survey and Constitutional Law Survey, which are designed specifically to provide an overview of basic areas of legal study. Every student must take Torts I to provide background in common law reasoning and knowledge of a body of law critical to the health field. Additionally, every M.S.J. candidate must take Administrative Law or Administrative Health Law essential for anyone involved in this heavily regulated area and Health Care Organizations. The Master's Thesis adds 3 credits, leaving 8 credits of electives, to be chosen in consultation with an advisor. Full time students complete the program in one year.

Interested students should contact:

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