J.D./Ph.D. Joint Degree Program
Department of Educational Administration & Policy

In November of 1997, the College of Law, the College of Education, and the Graduate School approved a joint degree program culminating in both a Juris Doctor degree awarded by the College of Law, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree awarded by the College of Education. Within this joint degree program, a student can obtain both degrees in approximately one year less than it would take to obtain both degrees if pursued consecutively.

The rationale for this program reflects the increased market demand for individuals trained both in law as well as in educational research and policy. Individuals with this combination of training and background can also be found in schools of education, local educational agencies, state legislative agencies and federal agencies as well.

Program Features

Students must be admitted both to the College of Law and the Department of Educational Leadership, Policy and Foundations in the College of Education, and must have indicated to both colleges their intent to pursue a joint degree program.

Students who have already earned one of the two degrees are not eligible for admission to the joint degree program.

Students must be admitted to the second program by the fourth consecutive semester of the initial degree program.

The curriculum requirements for both degrees must be satisfied before either degree is awarded.

A student may spend the first year of the joint degree program in either the College of Law or the Department of Educational Leadership, Policy and Foundations in the College of Education.

Students in the joint degree program must satisfy the Advanced Writing Requirement of the Law School. However, a doctoral dissertation completed in the College of Education may satisfy this requirement if certified by a College of Law faculty member.

If a joint degree student withdraws from either College, that student will be expected to fulfill the requirements for the remaining degree program fully and completely. The reduced requirements of the joint degree program will no longer apply for students who withdraw from either program.

Students in the joint degree program must select a dissertation topic that pertains to both education and law.

Recent Education Law Dissertations

“An Examination of the Implications of California’s Proposition 187 and Plyler v. Doe”

“An Analysis of the Florida Community College System Policies and Procedures Regarding Drug Testing of Employees”
“An Analysis of Judicial and Special Interest Group Efficacy Involved in Legislative Adjustments to the Florida Education Finance Program”

“An Examination of the Effects of Local School District Discretionary Levys on the Fiscal Equity of a State Foundational Distributional System”

“Fiscal Equity in Magnet High School Programs as Related to Mandated Desegregation in a Selected School District”

“An Examination of the Equity of Capital Outlay Funding of Public Education”

“The Effects of Additional Revenue for Scarcity on the Equity of a State School Finance System”

“The Florida Education Lottery: Its Use as a Substitute for Existing Funds and its Effects on the Equity of Public School Funding”

“An Analysis of Performance Based Funding for Public Education”

“An Analysis of Hickrod’s Conceptual Framework of Per-Pupil Expenditures as a Result of Educational Finance Litigation”

“An Examination of Selected Legal Issues Pertaining to Action versus TLO in the Public Schools of the United States”

“An Analysis of Selected Legal Principles in Civil Rights Case Law and Education Finance Equity Cases”

For More Information

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