SOCIOWOGY, M.A. & LAW, J.D.  
DUAL DEGREE

The Saint Louis University School of Law (https://www.slu.edu/law/) and  
the Department of Sociology and Anthropology (https://www.slu.edu/arts-  
and-sciences/sociology-anthropology/) offer a dual degree program (J.D./  
M.A.). This specialized program combines the J.D. and M.A., broadly focusing  
on the relationship between law and society. The dual degree capitalizes on the  
advantages of legal training and social science research expertise. Graduates of  
the J.D./M.A. are prepared to interpret legal issues and implement administrative  
policy.

This specialized program allows students to earn both degrees in roughly  
four years instead of the typical five, saving a considerable amount in  
time and tuition. The program attracts highly qualified students from  
outside the region as this is one of the only J.D./M.A. programs of its kind  
in the middle of the country.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Sociology students at SLU examine different ways people relate to one  
another through the organization of society and how it influences lives.  
Students explore large- and small-scale organizations, families, beliefs  
and social classes with opportunities for hands-on experience in the St.  
Louis area. In the J.D. program, students can then see how these families,  
organizations and social classes interact with the justice system and  
conceptualize new ways of problem-solving. SLU LAW’s legal clinics  
and field placements give students the opportunity to represent clients,  
advocate for neighborhoods, assist entrepreneurs, gain experience in  
government and the courts, intern for nonprofit agencies or corporate  
counsel offices, and work in criminal defense or prosecution offices.

Careers

Graduates of this program enjoy an increased number of job  
opportunities in federal and state law enforcement, corrections and  
judicial positions and are more competitive in the job market compared  
to graduates with only one of the degrees. Further, graduates find  
their education useful as social entrepreneurs applying their legal,  
administrative and research knowledge in policy areas from mental  
health, economic development, and environmental sustainability to  
issues of civil rights, immigration, international human rights, and  
employment discrimination. Graduates can pursue careers as nonprofit  
administrators, policy analysts, program evaluators or directors, market  
research analysts, policymakers and more. Graduates may also choose to  
practice at specialized law firms and incorporate pro bono work into their  
caseload or consider pursuing judiciary service.

Programs

For additional information see the catalog entries for the following  
programs:

Law, J.D. (http://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/law/juris-doctor/)  
Sociology, M.A. (http://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/  
sociology-anthropology/sociology-ma/)

Accreditation

Saint Louis University School of Law has been continuously accredited  
by the American Bar Association (ABA) since December 1924. The  
accrediting body is the Council of the Section of Legal Education and  
Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association, 321 North Clark  
Street, Chicago, IL 60654, 312-988-6738.

Admission

Students wishing to enter the J.D./M.A. program must fulfill all admission  
requirements for the School of Law and the Department of Sociology and  
Anthropology. They must apply to each separately. Students may apply to  
both schools during the same admission period, or may wait to apply to  
the M.A. program during their first year in the School of Law.

Requirements

Students must complete the basic first-year requirements for the School  
of Law before beginning their studies in the M.A. program. Thereafter,  
students attend classes in both the School of Law and Department  
of Sociology and Anthropology. Students complete a total of 106  
credits of academic work, including a summer internship, in order to  
complete the J.D./M.A. (82 credits in the School of Law and 24 credits  
in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Of the 91 credits  
required for the J.D. degree, nine credit hours are satisfied by sociology  
and anthropology courses and nine credits of law school courses are  
accepted toward the 33 credits required for the master’s degree.

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00  
in all graduate/professional courses.