

Dual Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Doctor of Pharmacy

Overview

The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences offers both the professional Doctorate of Pharmacy (PharmD) and the thesis-based Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (MSPS). The MSPS program offers students a wide array of research focus areas (using electives) in which to develop their Master's thesis and research, including pharmacology; medicinal chemistry and drug development; pharmaceuticals and drug delivery; pharmacogenomics; biomedical sciences; pharmacoeconomics and healthcare data analytics; and Biopharmaceutical Sciences and Technology. The intent of this dual degree option is to expand the opportunities available to pharmacy graduates, particularly those pursuing clinical fellowships or residencies with an eventual goal of working in the pharmaceutical industry, academics, or at an academic medical center.

This is a dual degree program, where students completing the requirements for each program will receive two separate degrees, the PharmD degree and the MSPS degree, within five years of entry as a PharmD student. Initially, students admitted by the College's Admissions are only admitted into the PharmD degree portion of the program. Transition into the MSPS program is not automatic, nor is acceptance into the MSPS program guaranteed, but requires application and acceptance into the MSPS program. The MSPS program admission requirements can be found in the "Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences" program description in this catalogue.

PharmD students would be eligible to apply for admission to the MSPS degree program after January 1st during their first year in the PharmD program. Application to the MSPS program could occur later in the PharmD program; however, such later application and enrollment in the MSPS program could impact on the timeline to completion. Candidates must successfully submit their application materials to be considered for enrollment in the MSPS portion of the dual degree option.

The PharmD program consists of 146 credits (refer to "Doctor of Pharmacy Major" in this catalogue for details) and the MSPS program consists of 38 credits (refer to "Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences" in this catalogue for details). The dual degree option was designed to take advantage of courses already part of the PharmD program, so the two programs can share credits. With required and elective course sharing, the dual degree program can be accomplished in 5 years, 1 year past the completion of the PharmD degree. In addition, to accommodate those students who elect to delay taking of the NAPLEX/MPJE (the pharmacist licensing examinations) until they finish the MSPS program, the mock NAPLEX examinations, and week of NAPLEX/MPJE review would be available to these dual degree students as an option during the fifth year of the dual degree program.

Total MSPS Credit Hours: 38

Degree Requirements

The semester-by-semester PharmD-MSPS dual degree program course will accept 9 credits of PHAR courses as the electives for the MSPS. The PharmD will also accept up to 6 credits of (PHRSC-designated courses), as elective credits toward the PharmD. Students in the dual degree program will be waived out of 6 credits, PHRSC 557 and PHRSC 527, due to similar content being covered within the PharmD degree.

Suggested Course Sequence

Credits counting toward both programs = 15 credits + 6 credits waived = 21 credits

MSPS specific credits = 17 credits

Course Sequence

2nd Year PharmD/1st Year MSPS - Summer Semester

PHAR 642/643	IPPE Community or Health System	2 cr.
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2nd Year PharmD/1st Year MSPS - Fall Semester

PHRSC 526	Analytical Techniques Lab	1 cr.
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2nd Year PharmD/1st Year MSPS - Spring Semester

PHRSC 572	Advanced Therapeutic Medicinal Products	3 cr.
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3rd Year PharmD/2nd Year MSPS - Summer Semester

PHAR 642/643	IPPE Community or Health System	2 cr.
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3rd Year PharmD/2nd Year MSPS - Fall Semester

PHRSC 510	Seminar & Journal Club 1	1 cr.
PHRSC 582	cGXP and Regulatory Affairs	3 cr.

3rd Year PharmD/2nd Year MSPS - Spring Semester

PHRSC 520	Seminar & Journal Club 2	1 cr.
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4th Year PharmD – Summer, Fall, and Spring Semesters

No PHRSC	No MSPS Courses	
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5th Year Post-PharmD/3rd Year MSPS - Summer Semester

PHRSC 528	Thesis Research 1	2 cr.
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5th Year Post-PharmD/3rd Year MSPS - Fall Semester

PHRSC 618	Thesis Research 2	3 cr.
PHRSC 630	Scientific Communication	3 cr.
PHRSC 529	Responsible Conduct of Research	3 cr.

5th Year Post-PharmD/3rd Year MSPS - Spring Semester

PHRSC 628	Thesis Research 3	3 cr.
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Total MSPS Credit Hours: 38