

Dual Degree: Master of Social Work &/Master of Divinity

The mission of the MSW/M.Div. Dual Degree Program is to provide an integrated course of study that prepares graduates for faith-based ministry, enhances students' identity and role in both social work and divinity and provides a convergence of conceptual frameworks from the bio-psycho-social-spiritual perspective at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels of social and spiritual assessment and intervention.

The Master of Social Work/Master of Divinity dual degree program is offered by Howard University School of social Work (HUSSW) and the School of Divinity (HUSD). Graduate-professional students may complete the dual degree program in 4 years concurrently. Students will be accepted into both programs independently and will receive degrees from both schools. These students complete two years of social work education and three years of divinity. Under the proposed program, students will be able to complete the dual degree in four years instead of the current five years required by matriculating through the two programs separately.

The objectives of this program are to:

- Prepare students for various forms of ministry in which clinical and administrative skills in social work and theology are needed
- Enable students to integrate both theological and social work knowledge, values and skills into a multifaceted approach to Christian service
- Sensitize students to nontraditional ministry opportunities by exposing them to theories and practice skills related to counseling approaches, person-in-environment, social and economic justice, human rights, and global perspectives from a Christian worldview.
- Give students an integrated approach to both theology and social work.
- Reduce redundancy by reducing the number of years needed to complete a Master of Social and Master of Divinity

Admission Requirements

Students entering into the MSW/MDIV dual degree program must have a 3.0 GPA or higher from an accredited undergraduate program. There is no requirement for the GRE or other pre-enrollment examinations. It is required that students entering the program have a liberal arts background although specific majors are not required. Personal interviews are conducted case-by-case depending upon recommendations from the faculty review of individual applications. Students will enroll under a dual degree enrollment code to be established by the university. Each school will review the applications for admission. A joint Admissions Committee will review application in cases where there is disagreement about student enrollment and

The benefits of MSW/MDiv, a dual degree, consisting of 60 Social Work credits and 66 Divinity credits will allow students to be eligible for a social work license and work under clinical supervision for two years; therefore leading to work independently utilizing both their social work and divinity knowledge after securing the clinical social work license.

According to the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, only six states license the title Pastoral Counselor. In other states Pastoral Counselors may qualify for licensure as Marriage and Family Therapists or Professional Counselors, but will have to take supplemental courses to match a model curriculum or take a certified post-graduate program.

MSW/MDiv candidates are accepted for the Fall Term only.

market the program. All students will be required to take the Expository Writing Examination upon entry into the program.

Applicants must meet the admissions requirements of both HUSSW and HUSD. Due to the sequential nature of the dual degree program, applicants will only be admitted in the fall semester, and must be full time.

MDiv Students who wish to pursue the MSW will:	MSW Students who wish to pursue the MDiv will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for the MSW program • Have one's application accepted at HUSD <p>http://divinity.howard.edu/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply to the MDiv program • Have one's application accepted by HUSSW <p>http://www.howard.edu/schoolsocialwork/about/default.htm</p>

Dual Degree Requirements

As designed, the MSW/M.Div. dual degree does not take away from the core requirements of either program. To ensure an integrated approach, the program design will include an *Introduction to Ministry and Social Work* in which ministry and social work foundational theory and professional writing will be taught. This course will be co-taught by faculty representatives from each program. Further, students will be required to take a capstone course in Ministry and Social Work at the end of their tenure which will require the submission of a comprehensive paper.

Reduction in Residency: Students will be able to complete the program in four rather than the established five year residency requirements. As designed, students will take at least one class per semester in each of the programs. Since both programs require field education, the School of Social Work in consultation with the School of Divinity, will be responsible for identifying and placing students in faith based organizations and programs. The School of Social Work has traditionally had faith based organizations in its cadre of field placements. Depending upon the setting, students may have dual supervision in their field placement. For example, students placed in hospice settings could benefit from supervision from the chaplain and social worker as long as the licensed social worker provides primary supervision as required by the Council on Social Work Education and state licensing boards. This practice often occurs with unique field experiences that are designed for the greatest benefit for the student. The School of Divinity currently offers 15 hours of electives and the School of Social Work offers six hours. These electives will be substituted for core required courses. In addition, students will be able to take MSW courses during the

Clinical practicum or Field Work Requirement

Are required to enroll in four semesters of field education through the School of Social Work. The field placements will offer experiences in both social work and ministry. For example, students may be placed in church counseling centers or other faith based organizations. Student will also be required to take either Preaching Ministry and Practicum or Teaching Ministry and Practicum offered through the School of

Thesis or Dissertation Requirement

While there is no thesis or dissertation required, all dual degree student must take a capstone course in which they must complete a major research paper which integrates social work and ministerial conceptualizations.

summer to lessen the course burden for working students. Many of the MSW courses can be taken as a hybrid course or fully online course.

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