



OLIVER MUNDAY

## Joint MD/JD Program Launches in Fall

*Students will complete both degrees in six years*

A new program that is so selective it will accept only two students in its first year will offer a joint Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Juris Doctor (JD) degree starting in the fall. Simultaneous admission to both the School of Medicine and the School of Law will be required, and applicants must take the LSAT and MCAT exams to be considered.

Citing the increasing interaction between the fields of health and law and recent changes to government regulations and health policy, MED and LAW administrators believe that the program will appeal to students interested in health care administration, health care legislation, medical licensing, and intellectual property issues focused on medical research.

"This degree, which combines medical and legal expertise, is excellent preparation for students considering hospital or health care system leadership opportunities or careers in medical policy and academic administration," says Karen Antman, provost of the Medical Campus and dean of MED.

**TO LEARN MORE** about the joint MD/JD program, contact Megan Sandel, a MED associate professor of pediatrics and MED program director of the joint degree program, at [msandel@bu.edu](mailto:msandel@bu.edu) or David Walker, a LAW professor and associate dean for academic affairs, at [dwalker@bu.edu](mailto:dwalker@bu.edu).

Megan Sandel, a MED associate professor of pediatrics and MED program director of the joint degree program, says students will spend the first three years in a medical curriculum, focusing on the basic sciences during the first two years and the eight core clerkships, among them surgery, pediatrics, and internal medicine, the third year. They will spend their fourth and fifth years completing the first two years of law school, with some medical clinical experiences built in to maintain skills.

The final year of the program will include a mix of elective courses from both MED and LAW that will complement an area of concentration of their choice.

Boston University becomes the 19th university in the country to offer a joint MD/JD program. Other schools include Yale, Duke, the University of Miami, the University of Chicago, Vanderbilt, and Texas Tech. Almost all of the programs, like BU's, allow students to complete the two degrees in six years.

"The MD/JD degree program advances the University's 'One BU' philosophy and the law school's strategic plan to establish dual degree programs," says LAW Dean Maureen O'Rourke. "We are launching this new degree with the School of Medicine at a time when the growing fields of technology, health care management, and health law need professionals who possess both medical and legal expertise." JOHN O'ROURKE

## Out-of-the-Park Education

*With online baseball class, BU enters a new era*

THREE WEEKS AFTER THE RED SOX opened their season at Fenway Park, baseball fans around the world were offered another opening day of sorts, when a baseball-centered class debuted as BU's first MOOC (massive open online course).

Sabermetrics 101: Introduction to Baseball Analytics kicked off what will be several MOOCs that BU will offer via edX, the online platform spearheaded by

Harvard and MIT. MOOCs allow students anywhere to take university classes free, for no credit.

For sabermetrician Andy Andres, a College of General Studies senior lecturer in natural sciences and mathematics, the MOOC was a chance to put online a course he had previously taught in a traditional classroom at Tufts. (Andres is also a Major League Baseball datacaster, tracking and notating every play, from hits to foul balls, for Red Sox home games.) Sabermetrics is the statistical analysis of baseball.

Three more MOOCs will be offered in the fall: War for the Greater Middle East, taught by Andrew Bacevich, a College of Arts & Sciences professor of international relations and history; The Art of Poetry, taught by three-time US poet laureate Robert Pinsky, a CAS professor of English and creative writing; and Alien Worlds: The Science of Exoplanet Discovery and Characterization, taught by Andrew West, a CAS assistant professor of astronomy. RB

→ Learn more about BU's MOOCs, or register for a class, at [www.bu.edu/dli/projects](http://www.bu.edu/dli/projects).

**WEBEXTRA** Andy Andres, a College of General Studies senior lecturer, discusses the practical application of baseball analytics, the topic of his Sabermetrics 101 MOOC, in a video at [bu.edu/bostonia](http://bu.edu/bostonia).

JACKIE RICCIARDI



Andy Andres