

**2009-2010**

**DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAM:**

**J.D./M.A. IN PRESERVATION STUDIES**

**Boston University**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Historic Preservation is both a popular movement and a specialized professional field. Although it may once have represented only an informal private decision by the owner of an individual building, historic preservation now involves individuals, private agencies, and various government units in complex issues of zoning, financing, and community planning. Through a program that was the first of its kind in the country, Boston University is playing a significant role in educating preservation legal professionals. An inter-disciplinary program involving both the School of Law and the American & New England Studies Program in the Graduate School of Boston University allows a student to graduate in seven semesters with both a law degree (Juris Doctor) and a master's degree in Preservation Studies. Normally, three semesters (rather than one additional) would be required to complete the M.A. degree.

**II. APPLICATION TO THE J.D./M.A. PROGRAM**

- A. Students first must apply to, and be accepted by, the School of Law. For application procedures for the School of Law, please consult the current Boston University School of Law Catalogue.
- B. Once students are accepted to the School of Law, they then submit a separate application to, and must be accepted by, the Graduate School.
- C. Students normally apply to the Graduate School during their first year of law school to begin the master's degree program during their second year of law studies. Students may also apply to the Graduate School to begin their master's degree program in January of their second year of law studies; in that case they would be behind one master's degree course, and may need to take more than four GRS courses after completing the J.D. degree. These students must contact Associate Dean Marx at the School of Law and Claire Dempsey at the Preservation Studies Program to plan their programs.
- D. **The Graduate School requires:**
  - 1. LSAT score (in lieu of GRE)

2. Non-refundable application fee, payable to Boston University;
  3. Personal statement;
  4. Two letters of recommendation (may use copies of law school recommendations);
  5. Transcripts (may use copies of transcripts that were submitted to the Law School).
- E. The Graduate School application deadline is February 1 (for September admission).

### III. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- A. To earn the M.A. degree, law students take law and preservation courses during the second and third year in law school and four additional courses after completing the J.D. degree. Students may complete these additional four courses in one additional semester, for a total of seven semesters, but they may also attend the Graduate School on a part-time basis.
- B. Students must take two LAW courses: JD 855 Land Use or JD 914 Real Estate Finance and Tax, and JD 891 Seminar in Historic Preservation (usually offered every other year).
- C. **Suggested** relevant law courses include: JD 801 Administrative Law; JD 833 Environmental Law; JD 855 Land Use; JD 889 Introduction to Federal Income Taxation; JD 961 Housing Law.
- D. Other requirements for the **M.A.** degree include:
1. Three core courses:
    - GRS AM 546 Historic Preservation
    - GRS AM 751 Financing Historic Preservation
    - GRS AM 754 Planning and Preservation
  2. One course in Architectural History
  3. A final preservation project, which may be a Master's thesis, a Master's project, or a group project in AM 755 Preservation Planning Colloquium.
  4. Three preservation electives, from those listed in the GRS Bulletin and the American & New England Studies Program website. (such as: AM 553 Documenting Historic Buildings; AM 747 Building Conservation; AM 750 Neighborhood Conservation; AM 780 Problems in Historic Preservation; AM 901,

902 Directed Study, or courses in Archaeology, Art History, or Urban Affairs in MET).

5. A three-month paid Preservation Studies Internship taken in the summer after the second year of law school. Internships have been arranged in prior years with, e.g., Historic New England, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, as well as agencies and firms with an interest in historic preservation. (**NOTE:** Persons with extensive preservation experience may be exempted from this internship requirement by the Director of the Preservation Studies Program).

E. After the first year of law school, students ordinarily may apply toward the J.D. (law) degree up to **3 credits per semester** (12 credits **total**) of graduate-level work taken at the Boston University Graduate School. J.D./M.A. students therefore may take four of their required GRS courses while in law school. **NOTE:** Rules governing accreditation of law schools require that the School of Law grant credit according to the number of hours a course meets per week. Thus, Graduate School preservation courses meet three hours per week, and the Graduate School grants four credits for those courses, but the School of Law ordinarily can apply toward the J.D. only **three** credits for that course. Check with the School of Law to be certain about course credits.

F. Ordinarily, a typical program is as follows:

-Year 1: First-Year LAW program

-Year 2: **Each semester**, three (or more) LAW courses and one preservation course; including GRS AM 546 and JD 891 when available.

-Year 3: **Each semester**, three (or more) LAW courses and one preservation course; including JD 891 if not yet completed.

-End of Year 3: J.D. degree awarded.

Semester/Year 4: Four additional courses, including:

Three preservation courses.

**AND** a final preservation project, which may be a Master's thesis, a Master's project, or a group project in AM 755 Preservation Planning Colloquium.

End of Semester/Year 4: M.A. degree awarded.

G. During their three years of law school, students in the dual-degree program pay only one tuition, even though they also are taking courses at the Graduate School after their first year of law school. After graduation from law school, students pay tuition to the Graduate School for the completion of their master's degree requirements.

- L. Students should not count on receiving financial aid from the Graduate School for the period of time after they graduate from the School of Law, and when they are completing their master's degree requirements, since the Graduate School's small amount of aid are normally allotted to first-year graduate students.

**IV. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

- A. (For Graduate School admissions information):

Assistant Manager of Admissions  
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University  
705 Commonwealth Avenue - Room 112  
Boston, MA 02215  
(617) 353-2413

- B. (For **M.A.** program information):

Preservation Studies requirements at [www.bu.edu/amnesp](http://www.bu.edu/amnesp)

Claire Dempsey, Director  
Preservation Studies Program  
226 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215  
(617) 353-9910

- C. (For **School of Law** information):

Associate Dean for Student Affairs Christine Marx  
Boston University School of Law  
765 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215  
(617) 358-1800