PharmD/Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences Concurrent Degree at SIUE

Students with a solid science foundation who are interested in pharmaceutical research can pursue a Master of Science in pharmaceutical sciences while also working toward completion of a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD/MSPS).

Designed to meet the rapidly growing need for highly trained individuals working to develop new treatments and improve patient outcomes, this program increases marketability in the pharmaceutical industry and prepares students for additional training in pharmaceutical sciences and other related fields.

Program Format

- Doctor of Pharmacy/Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Course Format

Students pursuing a PharmD who are admitted to the MSPS program will:

- Use selected pharmacy courses to meet requirements within the MSPS curriculum
- Use selected MSPS courses as electives required for completion of the PharmD

Students in the concurrent program may earn their MSPS shortly after earning a PharmD.

Admission Requirements

Prior to applying for the concurrent program, applicants must obtain approval from the Office of Professional and Student Affairs in the School of Pharmacy.

The PharmD student may be admitted into the concurrent program after the completion of at least the first professional year, unless the student has earned a baccalaureate degree prior to entering the pharmacy program. The latest entry point into the concurrent program is the fall semester of the third professional year.

Applications for the Master of Science in pharmaceutical sciences program must be submitted to the Graduate School by March 1 in the same year of program entry.

There is a cap on the number of accepted concurrent PharmD/MSPS students based on available resources.

Only PharmD students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 in the PharmD program (or with the approval of the MS program director) and in good academic standing are eligible to apply for the concurrent program.
Graduation Requirements
Students must fulfill the graduation requirements of the MSPS program, which includes:

- At least 30 hours of MSPS courses or approved substitutions
- At least 10 semester hours of research
- A thesis based upon the student’s original research
- An oral defense of the thesis

In addition, students must fulfill all requirements of the PharmD program, including 10 semester hours of electives and a final ImPaCT project.

A student in the concurrent program who is unable to accumulate at least 10 credit hours from MSPS courses would be required to complete additional courses to fulfill the elective requirements for the PharmD. It is possible that a delay in obtaining the PharmD could occur if the student drops out of the concurrent program.

Required Credit Hours/Tuition and Fees
- 164
- Visit siue.edu/graduate-tuition for detailed tuition information

Curriculum
Instead of 154 credit hours in the PharmD program and 30 credit hours in the MSPS program, students in the concurrent program will take 144 credit hours in the PharmD program and 20 credit hours in the MSPS program for a total of 164 credit hours. This results in a savings of 20 credit hours toward both degrees. The curriculum guide demonstrates course progression.

MSPS Requirements
The MSPS program consists of at least 30 credit hours, of which 12 hours must be earned from core courses. Students must take a minimum of four hours of electives and at least 10 hours of research, complete a thesis and defend the thesis. PharmD students in the concurrent program will meet 10 of these credit hours with the following PharmD courses:

- PHPS 700 Principles of Drug Action I (4 hours) will substitute for PHPS 420 Principles of Pharmacology (3 hours). The additional credit hour will be awarded one elective credit hour.
- PHPS 702 Biochemical Principles for Pharmacy (3 hours) will substitute for PHPS 402 Biochemistry for the Pharmaceutical Sciences (3 hours) as an elective course. Along with the one elective hour from PHPS 700, these fulfill the elective requirement of the MSPS program.
- PHEP 789 ImPaCT (3 hours) will substitute for three hours of PHPS 598 Pharmaceutical Sciences Research. The research project must be pharmaceutical science focused that also fulfills the ImPaCT requirement for the PharmD program.

Students will be required to take:
- PHPS 500 Cellular Targets for Drug Discovery (3 hours)
- PHPS 501 Principles of Rational Drug Discovery (3 hours)
- PHPS 510 Pharmaceutical Sciences Foundations and Research (1 hour)
- PHPS 540 Pharmacokinetics (3 hours)
- PHPS 595 Graduate Seminar in the Pharmaceutical Sciences (2 hours)*
- PHPS 598 Pharmaceutical Sciences Research (at least 7 more hours)
- PHPS 599 Pharmaceutical Sciences Thesis Preparation

Students may take additional elective courses, research hours, or PHPS 599 Pharmaceutical Sciences Thesis Preparation to ensure a minimum of 30 credit hours for the MSPS program.

*Attendance to all the graduate seminars is required, regardless of whether a student is registered for PHPS 595.

PharmD Requirements
The School of Pharmacy will accept the following MSPS courses as credits toward the elective requirement of the PharmD program:

- PHPS 500 Cellular Targets for Drug Discovery (3 hours)
- PHPS 501 Principles of Rational Drug Discovery (3 hours)
- PHPS 515 Introductory Biostatistics for the Pharmaceutical Sciences (3 hours)
- PHPS 539 Evolutionary Medicine (3 hours)
- PHPS 540 Pharmacokinetics (3 hours)
- PHPS 595 Graduate Seminar in the Pharmaceutical Sciences (1 hour each, may repeat up to 2 hours total)

A total of at least 10 credit hours from these approved courses will fulfill the elective requirement of the PharmD program.

Contact Information
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This information is concurrent with the 2022-2023 academic catalog. Courses are subject to change at any time.