THE LAW SCHOOL AND THE STEPHEN M. ROSS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS offer a dual degree program that enables students to pursue concurrent work in Law and Business Administration. The program is arranged so that all requirements for both the JD and the MBA can be completed in four years of enrollment.

Law students who have pursued the dual degree program in Law and Business Administration have cited the professional flexibility provided by substantive knowledge of two distinct fields, as well as the intrinsic intellectual interest of studying very different subjects from different academic approaches and emphases. Students have also appreciated the increased social opportunities presented by enrollment in the two schools.

Students are required to take the complete sequence of first-year courses in one school during the first year of the dual program, and complete the sequence of first-year courses in the other school during the second year of the program. Each school will apply its own deferred admission standards to students who elect to take the first year in the other school. Beyond the basic requirements, students generally are not restricted in their selection of courses in the Law School.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JD

Students entering the Law School must complete the required first-year law curriculum. Fall starters must take one elective course of three or four credit hours during their second semester. All students must complete the following before graduation: at least one international or comparative law course of two or more credit hours, at least one upper-level course with a rigorous writing component, one statutory or regulatory course of three or more credit hours, one course in professional responsibility of two or more credit hours, and two credit hours of experiential learning. Separate courses must be taken to fulfill the upper-level course with a rigorous writing component, the professional responsibility course, and the experiential learning course.

The JD requires a minimum total of 83 credits earned between Law School courses and courses through the Stephen M. Ross School of Business. Students must earn at least 70 credits toward the JD through courses taken in the Law School. Twelve (12) credit hours may be earned toward the JD through courses taken in the Business School.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MBA

A total of 57 credit hours are required for the MBA, of which at least 45 credit hours must be Business School coursework. Students must complete the required MBA core curriculum. Students who successfully waive one or more Business Administration core courses will not receive credit for that coursework; additional elective coursework will need to be completed to fulfill the required 45 business credit hours.

Twelve (12) credit hours may be earned through courses taken in the Law School. At least three terms of full-time enrollment (9 credit hours or more of coursework) must be completed while registered under the Business Administration career.
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants interested in the JD/MBA dual degree program must gain separate and independent admission to both the Law School and the Ross School of Business. Applicants should contact the Admissions Office of each school for application and admission information. Students must take either the GRE or the GMAT for admission to Ross, and the LSAT for admission to the Law School. The GRE / GMAT or LSAT requirements will not be waived. Students must satisfy the degree requirements of each school and should consult with advisers in each school for the precise graduation requirements for each degree and for information about course offerings. Students should not expect any Law courses beyond first-year courses to be offered in the summer term. Students will not receive credit toward the JD for coursework taken prior to matriculation at the Law School.

During the third and fourth years of the program, students are permitted to elect courses in both schools. Tuition will be assessed at either the Law School or Business School rate, whichever is higher, when courses toward both degrees are taken in one term.

At the beginning of their final year of study in the combined program, students should consult with their Business School Academic Adviser and the Law School Registrar regarding progress toward graduation.

The dual degree program is not open to those who have already earned either the JD or the MBA. MBA students who are registered in the first year of Ross School of Business may apply to the dual degree program. JD students must apply and be accepted to the Ross School of Business during the first half of the JD degree program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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GENERAL DUAL DEGREE ITEMS OF NOTE

Any JD who enrolls concurrently in another degree program will be awarded the JD degree after completing all of the requirements for the dual, joint, or combined degrees. (As a practical matter, this means that the student will receive the JD degree either after or at the same time as he or she receives the degree(s) in the other program(s).) This policy will not affect the student’s class year for purposes of the Law School’s commencement ceremony or alumni events, and it will not apply if a student discontinues the other degree program(s). A law student who believes that he or she will experience some hardship as a result of this policy may petition the Associate Dean for Academic Programming for an exception.

JD courses traditionally have a later grading deadline than other degree programs. In some occasions, this later JD grading deadline may affect a student in his or her final term if another degree program desires all of the student’s grades prior to the JD grading deadline.