

Guidelines for the Establishment of Two-Degree programs at the Masters Level

- The creation of two-degree programs by combining existing non-thesis degrees is encouraged and permissible as long as the requirements for each degree remain unchanged. Degree programs which currently require more than 36 hours may reduce the required number of hours to 36 for students in the two-degree program by recognition of some credits on the second degree plan. Any individual course may not appear on both degree plans, however. Non-thesis degree programs that currently require a minimum of 30 or 36 hours must continue to carry the minimum number of hours required for the specific degree.
- The two-degree masters programs will involve a formal development of the programs between the two colleges, departments, or programs involved.
- Two-degree masters programs must be approved by the dean of each of the colleges involved. The Dean of Graduate Studies will be the final approval authority for the two-degree programs. The program may be referred to the Graduate Council for discussion and comments.
- Students should declare their intentions to enroll in two-degree programs at the time of application to their graduate studies or early in their education process. This will ensure the maximum benefit from a two-degree program.
- All approved two-degree programs will be listed in a separate section, “Two-Degree Masters Programs”, in the *Graduate Catalog* as well as in the individual college sections.

Procedural Issues:

- **Application:** A single application will be processed simultaneously by the two-degree programs.
- **Admission:** The applicant must be admitted by both programs to be a participant in the two-degree program. If once admitted and subsequently resigned from, or dropped by one of the degree programs, all requirements revert to those of the remaining department.
- **Degree plan:** Two degree plans, one for each program, will be submitted signed by a graduate advisory committee and the respective department heads or deans. Although the committees for each degree plan will have different chairs/co-chairs, the committee membership may be identical for both degrees.
- **Graduation:** Students will graduate simultaneously with both degrees.

