Guidelines for the Establishment of Combined Master’s Programs at the Masters Level

- The combined master’s program represents two master’s degrees that are pursued and awarded simultaneously. Combined degree programs may allow a shorter time for completion due to the “double-counting” of some coursework. Where this is the case, programs must explain how the quality and integrity of each degree involved is maintained. Absent appropriate justification, the minimum number of unduplicated combined credit hours should be 60 credit hours, 30 credit hours for each program. In appropriate cases, however, the total unduplicated combined credit hours may be less than 60. In such a case, the programs must (a) identify the specific courses that will count toward both degrees, and (b) offer a compelling, academic rationale as to why each course is applicable to the content area of each program.
- Combined master’s programs must be approved as defined by the University Curricular Processes.
- Students should declare their intentions to enroll in combined master’s programs at the time of application to their graduate studies or early in their education process. This will ensure the maximum benefit from a combined master’s program.
- All approved combined master’s programs will be listed in a separate section, Combined Master’s Programs,” in the Graduate Catalog as well as in the individual college sections.