COMBINED DEGREES

The Combined Degree program allows undergraduate students who qualify academically to obtain both a bachelor’s and master’s degree. Minimum qualifications for many programs include a 3.2 GPA and a competitive GRE score for admission to graduate school.

Meet with an academic advisor to determine the most-appropriate combined-degree option. Qualified students can pursue the graduate degree outside the undergraduate major or department. Application normally occurs in the junior or senior year. If accepted, students must take the GRE the first semester of their senior year.

More Info

Financial aid is available for the graduate portion of the program. Undergraduate degree costs should be satisfied with existing financial aid such as Bright Futures and Prepaid Tuition. Bright Futures can cover the undergraduate costs of up to 12 hours of graduate courses that apply to the undergraduate degree. Each student is responsible for the difference in tuition between the undergraduate and graduate course rates. If available, the Florida Prepaid Tuition Program can fund the first 120 hours. Graduate courses that apply toward the undergraduate degree are funded at the undergraduate rate, and the student is responsible for the difference.

Q: What is a combined bachelor’s and master’s degree program?
A: A combined-degree program allows students to complete a specific number of graduate-level credits (typically ranging from 12 to 21 hours of approved coursework) while enrolled as an undergraduate. Approved hours satisfy degree requirements for both degrees.

Q: Why should I participate in a combined-degree program?
A: The program allows students to take graduate coursework before they make a decision to complete a graduate degree. If the student continues in a graduate program, they'll save at least one full semester of graduate enrollment.

Q: At what point in the undergraduate program should I apply?
A: Students can apply as early as the second semester of their sophomore year or as late as their senior year depending upon the combined-degree program.

Q: At what point do I enroll in graduate courses?
A: If approved, students can take graduate courses during their junior and senior years as specified by the particular combined-degree program.

Q: What is required for approval?
A: As an undergraduate applying for entry into a combined-degree program, students must have a minimum cumulative 3.2 UF GPA (some majors require a higher GPA) and have completed all critical-tracking requirements to enroll in graduate coursework while they are completing their undergraduate degree. After students apply for admission to the Graduate School, however, they must meet the minimum cumulative GPA requirement and GRE/GMAT score the particular master program requires.

Q: What is required so that 12 to 21 hours of graduate coursework (depending on the major) can also count toward my master’s degree?
A: To apply the graduate credit to both degrees, students must be admitted to the Graduate School and receive a grade of B or higher in each course. A graduate coordinator can provide the admission requirements for a particular department.

Q: If I do not continue in graduate school, can the graduate coursework I complete still be used to satisfy my undergraduate degree requirements?
A: Yes.

Q: What about my financial aid?
A: Bright Futures and/or the Florida Prepaid Tuition Program will pay the undergraduate tuition rate for the graduate courses students take; each student will have to pay the difference between undergraduate and graduate course costs.

Q: Why would I want to pay additional tuition to enroll in graduate courses?
A: If a student continues to graduate school, they will save on the tuition costs for the 12 to 21 graduate credits (depending on the major) taken while still classified as an undergraduate. Remember that graduate course costs will be partially paid by the student’s undergraduate financial aid.

Q: How do I apply?
A: Contact an undergraduate advisor and complete the combined degree application. Students will need the approval of the undergraduate coordinator, the graduate coordinator, and the dean’s office of their undergraduate college.

Q: What if I want to create my own combined-degree program? What do I do?
A: Students should contact the coordinator in the graduate department of the new combined-degree program.

Q: Are there other accelerated degree programs available other than combined degrees?
A: Yes, there are several accelerated degree programs available.