

FORMAL DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Formal Dual Degree Programs

A formal dual degree program links two master's degrees or a master's program with a JD program and leads to two degrees. The Graduate Council and the Senior Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education must approve all proposals for formal dual degree programs.

There are two types of formal dual degree programs. Type one incorporates two distinct disciplines where students complete two separate sets of core courses and reduce electives. Type two incorporates two areas of study within one discipline where students can cross-count a common set of core courses and take separate sets of electives.

Dual degrees must be pursued concurrently, not consecutively. In order to meet this requirement, students interested in pursuing a dual degree must be matriculated in both programs for one full academic year (three quarters or two semesters). Students in a one year program must matriculate into the second program no later than the first admission term following fifty percent (50%) coursework completion of the first program.

Students are required to complete both degree programs within five years of matriculation in to the first program. Students must apply for graduation for both programs and both degrees will be awarded at the same time.

With fully developed and approved curricula, these programs are available to graduate students who are admitted to both schools and submit the Graduate Formal Dual Degree Verification Form (found on the Office of Graduate Education's website (<https://www.du.edu/graduate-education/current-student-resources/academic-resources/>)) during the program's first term. For program details, please contact the school, college or department.

Non-Course Requirements

All non-course requirements must be fulfilled for both programs. If one of the non-course requirements of both intended programs is the writing and defense of a thesis, then (with prior approval from both departments) a combined thesis may be written as long as both departments are equally represented (from original proposal to completion) and so long as the most rigorous requirements are adhered to for completion and oral defense.

Students who decide to only complete one degree must inform the units, program advisors and the Office of Graduate Education in writing of their intention to nullify the formal dual degree. Students must complete all the original requirements for the remaining degree in order to graduate.