CJC On-Campus Combined Degree Program Information

What is a combined degree?
The combined degree program allows undergraduate students to get a head start on their graduate education by taking up to four graduate-level classes as a junior or senior. Approved hours satisfy degree requirements for both degrees.

What are the advantages of combined degrees?
- If you qualify, you can earn an undergraduate and graduate degree in much less time than two separate degrees
- The cost of both degrees is reduced, since at least 12 credits apply toward both degrees
- Your marketability is greatly enhanced many professions now require a master's degree for entry-level positions
- It's a great way to take advantage of your time at UF as a Gator!

What financial considerations are there?
Graduate-level tuition is higher than undergraduate tuition. 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. Financial aid may be available to assist with the graduate portion of the program. You can visit the UF Office for Student Financial Affairs to learn more about this.

What combined degrees are offered?
We offer combined degrees in all four of our majors (Advertising, Journalism, Public Relations, Telecommunications) and another option leading to a degree in the Professional (Pro) Master's program.

When should I apply to the combined degree?
You can apply as early as your second semester of your sophomore year. You can apply as a senior as long as you still have available elective hours.

When should I apply to the Master's program?
Students can be admitted to the combined degree program to begin taking graduate classes in their junior year and be admitted to the graduate program in the spring of their senior year to begin the Master's program the following fall semester. It is recommended that students apply for this program after completing 60 — 75 credits. Students admitted to the undergraduate portion of the combined degree program still must complete all normal application requirements to be admitted to the master's program. Admission to the undergraduate portion of the combined degree program does not guarantee admission to the master's program.

How do you qualify for a combined degree?
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 to apply to the combined degree program.
- Have a designation as a junior or senior.
- Have at least 6 hours of available elective credits.

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Plan to take the GRE and apply to the master's program after two graduate-level courses have been completed.
Maintain at least a 3.0 GPA.

What steps should I take if I want to apply to the combined degree program?

- Fill out the Combined Degree Interest form (FORM 1).
- Meet with your undergraduate adviser in PATH to make sure you are eligible for our program. Have the Combined Degree Interest form and the statement of goals with you. When your eligibility has been determined, fill out the Combined Degree Program Plan (Form 2). The adviser will sign the forms.
- When your eligibility has been determined, fill out the Combined Degree Program Plan (FORM 2). The PATH adviser will sign the form and you will keep it for your records.
- Complete the UF Combined Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree Request form (FORM 3).
- Meet with the Chair of your undergrad program to review your Statement of Goals and sign FORM 3.
- Go to Weimer 2014 (Jody) to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and obtain the signature of Sr. Associate Dean, Dr. Treise on FORM 3.
- Go to the PATH office to obtain the signature of Associate Dean Michael Weigold on FORM 3.
- Return FORM 3 to the GRADUATE DIVISION for submission to Toby Shorey.

Where can you learn more about the combined degree program?

Make an appointment with the Graduate Dean, Dr. Debbie Treise dtreise@jou.ufl.edu

How do I register for graduate courses for the combined degree program?

Once you're accepted, before the semester starts, meet with your department chair or Dr. Treise if you're interested in the Pro Master's.

What is a statement of goals?

300 words describing your reasons for wanting to pursue a combined degree.

Here are some guiding questions:

- Why did you decide to pursue this degree?
- What do you feel you will accomplish during and after you have completed the combined degree?
- What interests you about the given field of study?
- To which master's program and interest area do you intend to apply?
- What are your career goals and how will this combined degree help you achieve them?

How many graduate courses should I take per semester?

We recommend that students take one graduate elective course per semester/term during their undergraduate studies, starting with the first semester of the junior year.
What is required so that 12 hours of graduate course work can also count toward my master's degree?

To apply the graduate credits taken as an undergraduate, students must receive a grade of B or higher in each course. During first term in the Master's program, you will need to complete a Transfer of Credits form and submit to Jody Hedge in Weimer 2014. Forms are available in the Graduate Division.

What graduate courses are available to take as the 12 credits that will be shared?

**ADVERTISING**
- Advertising Creative Strategy and Research
- Advertising Management
- Communication in Healthcare
- Communication Leadership (Pro MA)
- Content Marketing (Pro MA)
- Data Visualization (Pro MA)
- Digital Storytelling (Pro MA)
- eHealth
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- International Communication
- MC and Society
- Race, Sports and Culture
- Video for the Web

**JOURNALISM**
- Advanced Law (in lieu of MMC 4200)
- Advertising Creative Strategy and Research
- Advertising Management
- Applied Theory (Pro MA)
- Communication in Healthcare
- Communication Leadership (Pro MA)
- Content Marketing (Pro MA)
- Data Visualization (Pro MA) Digital Storytelling (Pro MA)
- eHealth
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- International Communication
- MC and Society
- PR Management
- Race, Sports and Culture
- Research Theory
- Video for the Web

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**
- Communication in Healthcare
- Communication Leadership (Pro MA)
- Content Marketing (Pro MA)
- Data Visualization (Pro MA)
- Digital Storytelling (Pro MA)
- eHealth
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- International Communication
- MC and Society
- PR Management
- Race, Sports and Culture
- Video for the Web

**TELECOMMUNICATION**
- Advertising Creative Strategy and Research
- Advertising Management
- Applied Theory (Pro MA)
- Communication in Healthcare
- Communication Leadership (Pro MA)
- Content Marketing (Pro MA)
- Data Visualization (Pro MA) Digital Storytelling (Pro MA)
- eHealth
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- International Communication (students in Media and Society track will take World Communication Systems instead)
- MC and Society
- PR Management
- Race, Sports and Culture
- Research Theory
- Video for the Web

**PROFESSIONAL MASTER’S (Pro MA)**

If interested in pursuing the Professional Master’s plan at the Master’s level, students should contact Bridget Grogan at bgrogan@jou.ufl.edu regarding graduate courses to take in the combined degree program that will also count toward the undergraduate degree in any of the four areas—ADV, JOU, PUR, or RTV. [https://www.jou.ufl.edu/graduate/research-and-theory/promasters-combined-bsma-degrees/](https://www.jou.ufl.edu/graduate/research-and-theory/promasters-combined-bsma-degrees/).

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