



# joint-degree program law and information

The College of Law and the School of Information joint-degree program in Law and Information, J.D./M.S.I. permits completion of both degree programs concurrently. Following admission to either program, a joint-degree student is required to submit the necessary joint-degree application. Interested applicants normally begin their study at the College of Law. A joint-degree student who wishes to enroll for any coursework in the other college or department before completing the first-year of law school must obtain prior written approval from the College of Law. Current law students may also apply to the joint-degree program by the deadline during their first or second year in law school. Once enrolled in the law school they will then complete all necessary documentation for the application process through the School of Information as well as a joint-degree application before **July 1st**. All required documents should be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions.

Applicants to the School of Information must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and an upper division (junior and senior) grade point average of 3.0 or better. Applicants who have scored 160 or better on the LSAT will have the GRE requirement waived.

## How To Apply

1. Visit the Florida State University College of Law Office of Admissions to obtain a joint-degree application and necessary documents for the School of Information.
2. Complete the documentation.
3. Do not send or have documents sent to the School of Information. All documents must be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions before **July 1st**.

Applicants will need to:

1. Provide a completed **JOINT-DEGREE PROGRAM APPLICATION** form.
2. Provide an updated legal resume.
3. Have official LSAT scores on file with Florida State University.
4. Provide a completed **SCHOOL OF INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION** form.
5. Two letters of recommendation (one academic and one professional).

## Program Sequence

The normal program sequence for a student in the joint-degree program is:

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	27 hours of Information
3rd & 4th Years	49 hours of Law
Total Law Courses	79 hours
Total Information Courses	27 hours
Cross Credit Courses	9 hours of Law, 9 hours of Information
Total J.D./M.S.I. Courses	106 hours

Specific J.D. degree requirements can be found online at [www.law.fsu.edu](http://www.law.fsu.edu).



## Information Studies Curriculum

The joint-degree program requires successful completion of 27 hours of coursework from the School of Information. Students must take four core courses (12 credit hours), as noted below, and choose additional elective courses (15 hours) either from one or more areas of specialization or by designing an individualized program of study that best meets their career goals. For more information, visit <http://ischool.cci.fsu.edu>.

### Core Course #1:

LIS 5271 Research Methods in Information Studies (3 credits)

### Core Course #2:

LIS 5411 Introduction to Information Policy (3 credits)

### Core Course #3:

LIS 5408 Management of Information Organizations (3 credits)

### Core Course #4:

LIS 5703 Information Organization (3 credits)

## Questions

The joint-degree must be completed within seven years, although most students complete the program in four years.

For further information about applying, please contact:

Joint-Degree Coordinator  
Office of Admissions  
Florida State University College of Law  
(850) 644-3787  
[admissions@law.fsu.edu](mailto:admissions@law.fsu.edu)

For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:

Elizabeth Farrell Clifford  
Director  
Florida State University College of Law Research Center  
(850) 644-1394  
[efarrell@law.fsu.edu](mailto:efarrell@law.fsu.edu)

Florida State University School of Information  
(850) 645-3280  
[ischooladvising@admin.fsu.edu](mailto:ischooladvising@admin.fsu.edu)

## Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint-degree programs receive both degrees concurrently. Students may not be certified as a graduate without having completed the graduation requirements in the College of Law and the School of Information. This includes the Law upper-level writing requirement, the skills training requirement, and the pro bono requirement.

## Residence Requirement

Unless otherwise approved by both advisors and the College of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, students enrolled in joint-degree programs must earn a minimum of seven semesters of residence credit. Based on the College of Law formula for determining residency, one semester of residency credit is earned for every 12 credit hours of courses taken in the College of Law and the School of Information.

Revised 2/26/2018