The College of Law and Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences (EOAS) joint-degree program in Law and Aquatic Environmental Science, J.D./M.A.E.S., permits students to complete both degree programs concurrently. All applicants must have completed or expect to have completed a bachelor’s degree prior to law school matriculation. Applicants who have taken courses in environmental science, biology, or chemistry will be more competitive for admission into the joint-degree program.

Students who are applying for admission into the joint-degree program, prior to their first year of law school, will need to apply to each program separately. Applicants are responsible for informing both departments of their desire to pursue a joint-degree. Applicants for the College of Law apply at www.lsac.org. Applicants for the M.A.E.S. program apply through the Florida State University Graduate Application Portal at http://admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp/. Upon admission to both programs, the students should immediately submit a letter of intent and a completed joint-degree application to the College of Law Office of Admissions.

Students can also begin their study at the College of Law, and then apply for both the M.A.E.S. program and the joint-degree once enrolled for their first year in the Law program. Upon admission, they may concurrently take courses in both Law and Aquatic Environmental Science. Applicants desiring to pursue the joint-degree in this fashion must submit all necessary documentation and the joint-degree application to the Admissions Office of the College of Law by May 15th of their first year in the Law program. Applicants should contact the EOAS department directly to obtain specific information on the necessary GRE requirements. EOAS may waive the GRE requirement based on the applicant’s LSAT score.

### 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 Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences.
2. Complete the documentation.
3. Do not send or have documents pertaining to the joint-degree sent to the Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences. All documents must be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions by May 15th.

Applicants will need to:

1. Provide a completed **Joint-Degree Program Application** form.
2. Have official test scores on file with the Florida State University.
3. Provide a letter of intent explaining their interest in the joint-degree program.
4. Provide two letters of recommendation. Letters provided during application to the Florida State University College of Law are acceptable.

### Program Sequence

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

- **1st & 2nd Semesters**: 30 hours of Law
- **3rd & 4th Semesters**: 18 hours of M.A.E.S. & 12 hours of Law
- **5th & 6th Semesters**: 9 hours of M.A.E.S. (Including “Capstone Experience” course) & 21 hours of Law
- **7th Semester**: 15 hours of Law
- **Total Law Courses**: 79 hours
- **Total M.A.E.S Courses**: 27 hours
- **Cross Credit Courses**: 9 hours
- **Total J.D./M.A.E.S. Courses**: 106 hours

Specific J.D. degree requirements can be found online at www.law.fsu.edu.
Law & Aquatic Environmental Science Curriculum

**Four courses from the following list:**
- OCG 5266 The Earth System or OCE 5554 Habitable Planet or GLY 5265 (sec 1) Nuclear Geography
- OCP 5930 Physics & Flow of Water Bodies or OCP 5050 Basic Physical Oceanography
- OCE 5009L Coastal Oceanography and Marine Methods
- OCE 5009 Advanced General Oceanography or OCB Biological Oceanography
- OCB 5264 Estuarine and Costal Ecology
- OCB 5365 Marine Pollution or GLY 5805 Geo-hazard Assessment

**Two analytical courses from the following list:**
- GLY 5595 Geostatistics (Advanced Topic Sed-Strat)
- STA 5126 Introduction to Applied Statistics
- STA 5207 Applied Regression Methods
- STA 5206 Analysis of Variance and Design of Experiments
- STA 5507 Applied Non-parametric Statistics
- GIS 5100 Advanced Geographic Information Systems
- GIS 5101 Geographic Information Processing & Systems
- GIS 5106 Advanced Geographic Information Science
- GIS 5305 Geographical Information Systems for Environmental Analysis & Modeling

**Two of the following elective courses based on the student’s primary interest and capstone topic:**
- OCB 5639 Marine Biology Ecology
- OCC 5052 Aquatic Chemistry
- OCC 5062 Marine Isotopic Chemistry
- OCC 5415 Marine Geochemistry
- OCC 5554 Atmospheric Geochemistry
- OCE 5018 Current Issues in Environmental Science
- CHM 5086 Environmental Chemistry I
- CHM 5087 Environmental Chemistry II

**All of the following courses:**
- LAW 6470 Environmental Law
- LAW 6520 Administrative Law
- OCE 5934r Capstone Experience (in the final semester)

**Three courses from the following list:**
- Costal & Ocean Law
- Condominium & Community Housing Law
- Emerging Issues in Energy Law
- Energy Law
- Environmental Federalism
- Environmental Legal Research
- Florida Administrative Litigation
- Florida Administrative Practice
- Florida Environmental Law
- International Environmental Law Seminar

**Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Climate Science, Policy & Law**
- Land Use Regulation
- Local Government Law
- Natural Resources Law
- Oil & Gas Law
- Seminar in Climate Change
- Seminar on Cost Benefit Analysis in Environmental Law
- The Policy of Drilling & Fracturing for Fossil Fuels
- Water Law

For further information about applying, please contact:
- Office of Admissions
  - Florida State University
  - College of Law
  - (850) 644-3787
  - admissions@law.fsu.edu

For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:
- Shi-Ling Hsu
  - John W. Larson Professor & Associate Dean of Environmental Programs
  - Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences
  - (850) 644-0726
  - shsu@law.fsu.edu

- Jeff Chanton
  - Graduate Program Director
  - Department of Environmental Programs
  - (850) 644-7493
  - jchanton@fsu.edu

Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint-degree programs receive both degrees concurrently. Students must complete all graduation requirements in both the College of Law and the Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences. This includes the Law upper-level writing requirement, the skills training requirement, and the pro bono requirement.

Residency 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 Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences. All requirements for both degrees must be completed within four calendar years.