Joint Graduate Pathway Law and Information

The College of Law and School of Information joint graduate pathway in law and information J.D./M.S.I., permits the completion of both degrees concurrently. Current law students must meet with and submit all documents for admission to the College of Law Joint Graduate Pathway Coordinator before **July 1st** of their first year or second year of law school. The College of Law Joint Graduate Pathway Coordinator will then submit their completed packet to the College of Law and the School of Information for approval. Any student who has completed M.S.I. coursework prior to matriculating to the College of Law or who wishes to apply for the joint graduate pathway after beginning their third year of law school must obtain prior written approval from the College of Law before applying for the joint graduate pathway.

Applicants to the M.S.I. program 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 should contact the School of Information to obtain specific information on the necessary GRE requirement. The School of Information will waive the GRE requirement for current College of Law Students.

How To Apply

1. Visit the Florida State University College of Law Office of Admissions to obtain a joint graduate pathway application and necessary documents for the School of Information.
2. Complete the documentation.
3. Do <u>not</u> 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. Complete the graduate application at: ***https://admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp/*** for the Master of Science in Information (M.S.I.). Please note that all supporting documents must be submitted to College of Law Office of Admissions.
2. Provide a completed ***Joint Graduate Pathway Application*** form.
3. Provide an updated legal resume.
4. Provide a ***Statement of Purpose*** as specified on the School of Information's Web site at: ***https://ischool.cci.fsu.edu/programs/grad-programs/master-of-science-in-information/#admissions***.
5. Have competitive GRE scores on file with the Florida State University. The School of Information will waive the GRE requirement for current College of Law students.

Program Sequence

The normal program sequence for a student in the joint graduate pathway is:

1st Year	30 hours of Law
2nd Year	30 hours of Information
3rd & 4th Years	49 hours of Law
Total Law Courses	79 hours
Total Information Courses	30 hours
Shared Credit Courses	6 hours of Law, 9 hours of Information
Total J.D./M.S.I. Courses	109 hours

Specific J.D. degree requirements can be found online at **www.law.fsu.edu**.

Information Studies Curriculum

The joint graduate pathway requires successful completion of 30 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 (18 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 *https://ischool.cci.fsu.edu/programs/grad-programs/ master-of-science-in-information/#degree-requirements*. The core courses are:

LIS	5271	Research Methods in Information Studies (3 hours)*
LIS	5411	Introduction to Information Policy (3 hours)*
LIS	5408	Management of Information Organizations (3 hours)
LIS	5703	Information Organization (3 hours)

* Required courses for the joint graduate pathway from the M.S.I. curriculum that will also be used as shared credit toward the J.D. degree. The following course is also required and will be used as shared credit toward the J.D. degree:

LIS	5362	Design and Production of Networked Multimedia (3 hours)

The following courses from the J.D. curriculum are required and will be used as shared credit for the M.S.I. degree:

LAW	5522	Legislation & Regulation (3 hours)
LAW	7930	Introduction to Intellectual Property (3 hours)

Note on Shared Credit: Because a joint graduate pathway allows a student to complete each curriculum by taking fewer hours overall, each program will require that certain courses be taken from the other curriculum to cover the number of hours reduced from their respective curriculum. These courses are part of the respective program's curriculum and are not counted toward the credit requirement for the other curriculum. They may or may not be included in the normal core requirements of the respective program's curriculum.

Questions

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

For further information related to applying for this joint graduate pathway, please contact:

Ralph Keiffer
Senior Admissions Officer & Recruitment Specialist
Florida State University College of Law
(850) 644-3787
rkeiffer@law.fsu.edu

For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:

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

Amy Mosher, Graduate Admissions Coordinator
Florida State University School of Information
(850) 645-3280
ischooladvising@cci.fsu.edu

Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint graduate pathways 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 graduate pathways 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 6/30/2019