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 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 following either the 1L or 2L year.

Applicants will need to:

1. Provide a completed Joint Graduate Pathway Application form.
2. Provide an updated legal resume.
4. 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:

- Karusha Y. Sharpe
  Assistant Dean for Academic Programs
  Florida State University College of Law
  (850) 645-0091
  ksharpe@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.

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