

Academic Affairs Policy Statement No. 16

Dual Degree Programs

1. References

- a. Academic Affairs Handbook, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia, July 1987.
- b. Bylaws of the University Council of the University of Georgia, 1988.
- c. Degrees, Policy Manual Section 3.8, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia.
- d. Program Length, Core Requirement, Principle 9.2, Resource Manual, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- e. Dual Degrees, Academic Affairs Handbook Section 2.3.9, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia.
- f. Agreements Involving Joint and Dual Academic Awards, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, July 2018.
- g. Program Content, Core Requirement, Principle 9.1, Resource Manual, Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- h. Quality and Integrity of Academic Credentials, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Policy Statement, December 2018.
- i. Post-baccalaureate rigor and curriculum, Principle 9.6, Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges.
- j. Last revised November 21, 2016.

2. Policy

Policy and implementing guidance outlined herein are applicable to all dual degree programs. No provisions stated herein are intended to conflict with the Bylaws of the University of Georgia or the Academic Affairs Handbook of the Board of Regents.

3. Definition

A dual degree program is a combination of two separate approved degree programs, including undergraduate/undergraduate, undergraduate/graduate, undergraduate/professional, graduate/graduate, and graduate/professional. Upon completion of a dual degree program, a student will be conferred with the two separate degrees included in the dual degree program. This does not preclude individual students from completing multiple degrees.

This policy applies both to dual degrees within the University of Georgia and to agreements between the University of Georgia and another degree granting institution of higher education. When an agreement exists to offer a dual degree program between the University of Georgia and another institution, each institution will award a separate program completion credential that bears only its name, seal, and signature.

- a. Undergraduate/Undergraduate Dual Degree Programs
Courses may count in more than one undergraduate program of study.
- b. Bachelor's/Master's Dual Degree Programs

PROPOSED

A maximum of 12 credit hours of graduate coursework may be counted towards an undergraduate degree and also used to satisfy requirements for a graduate degree program of study. The resulting dual degrees will consist of 120 credit hours counted towards the undergraduate degree and 30 credit hours counted towards the graduate degree, with up to 12 credit hours of overlapping graduate coursework.

Graduate courses counted towards the undergraduate degree must be appropriate for that degree program, consistent with SACSCOC core requirement, Principle 9.1, that degree programs embody a coherent course of study and the SACSCOC Policy on Quality and Integrity of Undergraduate Degrees. Conversely, the integrity of the graduate program must be maintained, despite inclusion of dual bachelor's/master's students in graduate courses, per SACSCOC Principle 9.6 (Post-baccalaureate Rigor and Curriculum). Programs will set appropriate admissions standards to ensure that dual bachelor's/master's students are adequately prepared for graduate-level coursework.

c. Bachelors/Professional Dual Degree Programs

Courses may be used to satisfy the requirements for both an undergraduate degree and a professional degree.

d. Graduate/Graduate Dual Degree Programs

Graduate courses in excess of the 30-hour minimums may be counted in both graduate degrees in a dual degree program.

e. Graduate/Professional Dual Degree Programs

Courses may be used to satisfy the requirements for both a professional degree and a graduate degree.

4. Responsibility

a. Faculty

The responsibility for developing a new dual degree program resides with the faculty in each academic unit. Such proposals should be submitted when faculty identifies a need or an interest that is best served by offering two degree programs in a dual degree program.

b. Administrative

It shall be the responsibility of each school or college to ensure that all proposals receive appropriate faculty review prior to submission to the next higher administrative level. Both the head of the academic unit and the appropriate dean of each school or college submitting a proposal must review the proposal before it is submitted to the next higher administrative level. The Office of Instruction shall be responsible for reviewing proposals and providing any needed internal and external coordination of procedures. This shall include making appropriate recommendations to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost and the President of the University on program proposals which are transmitted to the Board of Regents for information. The Office of Instruction shall keep unit (institute,

PROPOSED

department, school, or college) heads informed of the current status of proposals as they move through the review stages required by governance procedures.

5. Procedure

Proposals for new dual degrees should be routed through the following approval sequence:

- a. Faculty of the academic unit(s) proposing the dual degree
- b. Department Head(s) or Director(s) of academic unit(s) proposing the dual degree
- c. Dean(s) or Vice President(s) of academic unit(s) proposing the dual degree
- d. Graduate School Program Committee, if the dual degree includes graduate programs
- e. Graduate Council, if the dual degree includes graduate programs
- f. Dean of the Graduate School, if the dual degree includes graduate programs
- g. Office of Instruction (for review)
- h. Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- i. University Curriculum Committee
- j. Executive Committee of the University Council (for information)
- k. University Council (for information)
- l. Board of Regents (for notification)

Substantive Change Review: The Office of Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness will evaluate the new dual degree for substantive change as it moves through the approval sequence. If it is determined that the new dual degree is a substantive change as defined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), additional approval will be required.

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- a. Academic Affairs Handbook, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia, July 1987.
- b. Bylaws of the University Council of the University of Georgia, 1988.
- c. Degrees, Policy Manual Section 3.8, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia.
- d. Program Length, Core Requirement, Principle 9.2, Resource Manual, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- ~~d. Program Length, Core Requirement 2.7.1 and Federal Requirement 4.4, Resource Manual, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.~~
- e. Dual Degrees, Academic Affairs Handbook Section 2.3.9, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia.
- f. Agreements Involving Joint and Dual Academic Awards, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, July 2018.
- g. Program Content, Core Requirement, Principle 9.1, Resource Manual, Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- h. Quality and Integrity of Academic Credentials, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Policy Statement, December 2018.
- i. Post-baccalaureate rigor and curriculum, Principle 9.6, Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges.
- ~~f. Agreements Involving Joint and Dual Academic Awards, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, 2012.~~
- ~~g. Program Coherence, Core requirement 2.7.2, Resource Manual, Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges.~~
- ~~h. Integrity of Undergraduate Programs, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Policy Statement.~~
- ~~i. Post-baccalaureate degree rigor, Comprehensive Standard 3.6.1, Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges. Last revised November 21, 2016.~~

2. Policy

Policy and implementing guidance outlined herein are applicable to all dual degree programs. No provisions stated herein are intended to conflict with the Bylaws of the University of Georgia or the Academic Affairs Handbook of the Board of Regents.

3. Definition

A dual degree program is a combination of two separate approved degree programs, including ~~undergraduate/undergraduate~~, undergraduate/graduate, undergraduate/professional, graduate/graduate, and graduate/professional. Upon completion of a dual degree program, a student will be conferred with the two separate degrees included

in the dual degree program. This does not preclude individual students from completing multiple degrees.

This policy applies both to dual degrees within the University of Georgia and to agreements between the University of Georgia and another degree granting institution of higher education. When an agreement exists to offer a dual degree program between the University of Georgia and another institution, each institution will award a separate program completion credential that bears only its name, seal, and signature.

a. Undergraduate/Undergraduate Dual Degree Programs

Courses may count in more than one undergraduate program of study.

b. Bachelor's/Master's Dual Degree Programs

A maximum of 12 credit hours of graduate coursework may be counted towards an undergraduate degree and also used to satisfy requirements for a graduate degree program of study. The resulting dual degrees will consist of 120 credit hours counted towards the undergraduate degree and 30 credit hours counted towards the graduate degree, with up to 12 credit hours of overlapping graduate coursework.

Graduate courses counted towards the undergraduate degree must be appropriate for that degree program, consistent with SACSCOC core requirement, Principle 9.1, that degree programs embody a coherent course of study and the SACSCOC Policy on Quality and Integrity of Undergraduate Degrees. Conversely, the integrity of the graduate program must be maintained, despite inclusion of dual bachelor's/master's students in graduate courses, per SACSCOC Principle 9.6 (Post-baccalaureate Rigor and Curriculum). Programs will set appropriate admissions standards to ensure that dual bachelor's/master's students are adequately prepared for graduate-level coursework.

c. Bachelors/Professional Dual Degree Programs

Courses may be used to satisfy the requirements for both an undergraduate degree and a professional degree.

d. Graduate/Graduate Dual Degree Programs

Graduate courses in excess of the 30-hour minimums may be counted in both graduate degrees in a dual degree program.

e. Graduate/Professional Dual Degree Programs

Courses may be used to satisfy the requirements for both a professional degree and a graduate degree.

4. Responsibility

a. Faculty

The responsibility for developing a new dual degree program resides with the faculty in each academic unit. Such proposals should be submitted when faculty identifies a need or an interest that is best served by offering two degree programs in a dual degree program.

b. Administrative

It shall be the responsibility of each school or college to ensure that all proposals receive appropriate faculty review prior to submission to the next higher administrative level. Both the head of the academic unit and the appropriate dean of each school or college submitting a proposal must review the proposal before it is submitted to the next higher administrative level. The ~~Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost~~Office of Instruction shall be responsible for reviewing proposals and providing any needed internal and external coordination of procedures. This shall include making appropriate recommendations to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost and the President of the University on program proposals which are transmitted to the Board of Regents for information. The Office of ~~the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost~~Instruction shall keep unit (institute, department, school, or college) heads informed of the current status of proposals as they move through the review stages required by governance procedures.

5. Routing of Proposals Procedure

~~Establishment of a dual degree program proposal should begin with the academic units offering the majors included in the dual degree program proposal. After the proposal is approved by the dean of each school or college, it is submitted to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Dual degree program proposals including graduate programs must first be reviewed by the Dean of the Graduate School who will then forward them to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Dual degree program proposals will be reviewed by the University Curriculum Committee and subsequently forwarded with a recommendation to the University Council for consideration. University Council recommendations on proposals are forwarded to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost who will transmit the same to the President of the University for consideration. After approval by the President of the University of Georgia, dual degree program proposals will be forwarded to the Office of the Chancellor, Board of Regents, for information. Proposals for new dual degrees should be routed through the following approval sequence:~~

- a. Faculty of the academic unit(s) proposing the dual degree
- b. Department Head(s) or Director(s) of academic unit(s) proposing the dual degree
- c. Dean(s) or Vice President(s) of academic unit(s) proposing the dual degree
- d. Graduate School Program Committee, if the dual degree includes graduate programs
- e. Graduate Council, if the dual degree includes graduate programs
- f. Dean of the Graduate School, if the dual degree includes graduate programs
- g. Office of Instruction (for review)
- h. Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- i. University Curriculum Committee
- j. Executive Committee of the University Council (for information)
- k. University Council (for information)
- l. Board of Regents (for notification)

a. Substantive Change Review: The Office of Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness will evaluate the new dual degree for substantive change as it moves through the approval sequence. If it is determined that the new dual degree is a substantive change as defined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), additional approval will be required.

6. Process

a. Undergraduate/Undergraduate Dual Degree Programs

~~Courses may count in more than one undergraduate program of study.~~

b. Bachelor's/Master's Dual Degree Programs

~~A maximum of 12 credit hours of graduate coursework may be counted towards an undergraduate degree and also used to satisfy requirements for a graduate degree program of study. The resulting dual degrees will consist of 120 credit hours counted towards the undergraduate degree and 30 credit hours counted towards the graduate degree, with up to 12 credit hours of overlapping graduate coursework.~~

~~Graduate courses counted towards the undergraduate degree must be appropriate for that degree program, consistent with SACSCOC core requirement 2.7.2 requirement that degree programs embody a coherent course of study and the SACSCOC Policy on Quality and Integrity of Undergraduate Degrees. Conversely, the integrity of the graduate program must be maintained, despite inclusion of dual bachelor's/master's students in graduate courses, per SACSCOC Comprehensive Standard 3.6.1 (Post-baccalaureate Program Rigor). Programs will set appropriate admissions standards to ensure that dual bachelor's/master's students are adequately prepared for graduate-level coursework.~~

d. Graduate/Graduate Dual Degree Programs

~~Graduate courses in excess of the 30-hour minimums may be counted in both graduate degrees in a dual degree program.~~

e. Graduate/Professional Dual Degree Programs

~~Courses may be used to satisfy the requirements for both a professional degree and a graduate degree.~~

~~Last revised November 21, 2016~~