

# Revision of Dual Degrees and Double Majors Policy Proposal Summary

## SUBJECT SPECIFICATION

This proposal seeks to revise the policies governing students declaring dual degrees/double majors at the undergraduate level and dual degrees at the graduate level.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Undergraduate Dual Degree and Double Majors Policy

The EPC Ad Hoc Committee for Academic Policies was asked to review the policy on dual degrees/double majors at the undergraduate level. The policy has long been an issue with advisors and students because it treats double majors and dual degrees differently, is unclear with some restrictions and stipulations and covers only concurrent degrees and not subsequent.

The EPC Ad Hoc Committee reviewed similar policies at 32 other institutions, read articles, analyzed institutional data and discussed at length the benefits and challenges of students being enrolled simultaneously in two degree programs (see attachment A).

From the deliberations have come the following recommendations from the EPC Ad Hoc Committee:

CURRENT POLICY	RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE
<p>"A double-major program of study combines two major fields of study within the same degree program. Students completing a double major are awarded a single degree with two majors."</p> <p>"A dual degree combines two majors from distinct degree programs. Any combination of major fields of study involving undergraduate degree programs in more than one college is a dual degree even if both degrees bear the same title. Students completing a dual degree are awarded two distinct degrees."</p>	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Redefine "double major" as two majors within the same degree even if the majors are in different colleges.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Current definition is due to diplomas issued pre-2018 (previously, students received one diploma for double majors and two diplomas for dual degrees; students today receive a diploma for each major no matter the degree).</p>
<p>"Students pursuing a double major for a bachelor's degree must complete a minimum 120 semester hours."</p> <p>"Students pursuing a dual degree at the baccalaureate level must complete a minimum of 140 total semester hours."</p>	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Eliminate the 140-credit hour requirement for dual degrees.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The 140 number is arbitrary and may be achieved by coursework not related to either program. What matters is the students meet the requirements for their declared programs.</p>

CURRENT POLICY	RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE
<p>“Students pursuing concurrent associate degrees must successfully complete all the requirements for both and a minimum of 15 credit hours beyond those required for the primary degree.”</p>	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Eliminate the additional 15-credit hour requirement for associate degrees.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> If we say the additional 20 (140 total) for the bachelor’s is arbitrary, then the additional 15 for associate is arbitrary as well, especially since applied associate degrees have very few, if any, electives in their curriculum.</p>
<p>“Students who hold an associate, bachelor’s or graduate degree and wish to pursue an associate degree may do so by successfully completing all program and residency requirements, in addition to a minimum 15 semester hours.”</p>	<p><b>Recommendation:</b> Eliminate the additional 15-credit hour requirement for associate degrees.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> If we decide on no additional requirements for a second bachelor’s, then there’s no reason to have additional requirements for a second associate. In addition, current policy has always been open to interpretation, and the credit hours are arbitrary.</p>

These recommendations were endorsed by the Undergraduate Deans Council. In addition, members of the EPC Ad Hoc Committee sent the recommendations out for feedback from their colleagues, especially with those who administer or receive questions about declaring majors and those affected by the policy. Feedback was unanimously positive. Some comments:

*I liked that [the revised policy] removed some of the arbitrary standards ... [and] closed the loophole for double majoring in broad degrees.*

*The revisions make the policy easier to interpret and understand. Thank you!*

*I think the [revised] policy removes some of the bureaucratic red tape for students to earn two degrees and is definitely easier to explain.*

*The current policy is very difficult to explain to students, especially the requirement for additional credit hours that may not apply to either degree program.*

### Graduate Dual Degree Policy

While the EPC Ad Hoc Committee was reviewing the undergraduate policy, the Graduate Dean’s Advisory Council was reviewing the graduate policy on dual degrees. The impetus for that review was the recent establishment of an initiative to allow students to pursue simultaneously specific master’s and doctoral degree programs in different disciplines (e.g., Master of Public Health degree with the Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree). As neither the policy on dual degrees nor the one on combined bachelor’s/master’s degree programs addressed dual master’s/doctoral degrees, the council recommended that the dual degree policy include this initiative.

In addition, during the review of the policy, the council updated language and returned admission and plan deadlines to the prerogative of the colleges.

## ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES

The alternative to the proposed policy revisions is status quo, and the consequences will be outdated policies that do not address current situations and practices and may discourage students from pursuing more than one degree program.

## SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION

The EPC Ad Hoc Committee for Academic Policies, Undergraduate Deans Council and Graduate Dean’s Advisory Council recommend that revisions to the policy on dual degrees and double majors—as listed on the next pages—be approved effective for fall 2020 to alleviate issues in practice by the current policy.

## TIMETABLE AND ACTIONS REQUIRED

Approval by the Graduate Dean’s Advisory Council.....	February 2020
Approved by the Undergraduate Deans Council.....	February 2020
Approval by Educational Policies Council.....	April 2020
Approval by Faculty Senate.....	May 2020
Implementation .....	Fall 2020

## University Catalog (Mark-up of Revisions)

Added    Removed    Moved From    Moved To

### Undergraduate Dual Degrees/ ~~and~~ Double Majors

Kent State University ~~In certain cases,~~ students may be able to simultaneously pursue ~~complete the requirements for more than one~~ two associate or bachelor's degree programs ~~academic major~~ through either a double major or a dual-degree ~~program of study~~. A double-major program ~~of study~~ combines two majors ~~fields of study~~ within the same degree (e.g., Accounting and Finance majors in the B.B.A. degree) ~~program~~. ~~Students completing a double major are awarded a single degree with two majors. Students pursuing a double major for a bachelor's degree must complete a minimum 120 credit hours.~~

A dual-degree program combines two majors within different degrees (e.g., Architectural Studies major in the B.A. degree and Construction Management major in the B.S. degree) ~~from distinct degree programs~~. ~~Any combination of major fields of study involving undergraduate degree programs in more than one college is a dual degree even if both degrees bear the same title. Students completing a dual degree are awarded two distinct degrees. Students pursuing a dual degree at the baccalaureate level must complete a minimum of 140 total credit hours. Students pursuing concurrent associate degrees must successfully complete all the requirements for both and a minimum of 15 credit hours beyond those required for the primary degree. Because of the similarity in program requirements, the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees may not be earned concurrently; nor may either be awarded as an additional degree when one or the other has been previously conferred.~~

Certain major combinations ~~are not appropriate and~~ are not permitted by the colleges. Students interested in a double major or dual degree must consult with their advisor (and an advisor for the second major if in a different college) ~~the offices of the appropriate colleges and/or campus to~~ determine whether the desired combination of majors is permitted. Declaring a double major or dual degree in the same department or school is allowed only when the department or school offers different majors. For example, a student may declare the Spanish major and the French major even though both majors are offered by the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. Some departments or schools may allow a student who earned a Bachelor of Arts degree to return to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in the same major.

Because of their generalist nature, the Associate of Technical Study degree (Individualized Program), Bachelor of Science degree in Educational Studies and Bachelor of Integrative Studies degree may not be earned as a double major or dual degree with another major and cannot be earned as an additional degree after another degree at the same level has been earned previously.

In addition, due to ~~Because of~~ the similarity in program requirements, the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees may not be earned concurrently with each other; nor may either be awarded as an additional degree when one ~~or the other~~ has been earned previously conferred.

Students cannot be on academic probation and declare another major or degree at either the associate or bachelor's level. ~~Students seeking concurrent associate degrees must be in good academic standing and enrolled officially for a first, or primary, associate degree. If the combination is permitted, the college offices will assist the students in formally declaring the degrees/majors and will provide the students with major sheets for both of the degrees/majors showing the course requirements to be satisfied for both majors. The students must complete all requirements for both degrees/majors.~~

~~Students who hold an associate, bachelor's or graduate degree and wish to pursue an associate degree may do so by successfully completing all program and residency requirements, in addition to a minimum 15 credit hours.~~

~~The students pursuing a double major or dual degree concurrently or subsequently must be officially declare admitted to the programs and complete all requirements for both degrees/majors in addition to the university's undergraduate and residence requirements. Students are required to file a graduation application for each degree/major program of study. Students must officially declare any degree/major in time to meet the graduation application deadline for the semester in which they expect to complete the program of study.~~

## Graduate Dual Degrees

Graduate dual degree programs allow students to simultaneously pursue two graduate degrees at the same level (two master's degrees or two doctoral degrees) or two graduate degrees at different levels (one master's degree and one doctoral degree).<sup>1</sup> Rather than sequentially completing first one degree and then the other, the amount of time required to complete both sets of degree requirements may be reduced by completing the programs in a coordinated way. Graduate dual degrees are distinct from combined "Combined" degree programs, which allow students to simultaneously pursue two degrees at the undergraduate and graduate different levels (see policy on Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program in the University Catalog for details).

Coursework common to both programs must constitute a well-planned and meaningful part of each program. A minimum of 60 percent of the total credit hours required for each degree program must be unique to that degree program, after which some courses may be double counted. The percentage of unique hours that must be completed in each degree program may vary from the 60 percent minimum only when the graduate dual degree program has been formally approved by the university.

Graduate credit transferred from another institution is limited to a maximum of 12 credit hours across both degree programs. Doctoral-level courses may be applied toward a master's degree. Under no circumstances may master's-level courses be applied toward a doctoral degree.

The maximum time limits for completing degree requirements and graduation apply to each degree individually (see the policy on Academic Standing—Graduate Student in the University Catalog for details). ~~six years from the term of first attendance to complete each master's; 10 years from the term of first attendance to complete each doctoral degree beyond the bachelor's; and nine years from the term of first attendance to complete each doctoral degree beyond the master's).~~

Kent State University allows for both informal and formal dual degree programs, as described below.

### Informal Dual Graduate Degree Programs

Students may simultaneously pursue two graduate degrees ~~at the same level from~~ in different programs through an informal dual degree program (those that have not received official university approval). Informal dual degree programs offer students the flexibility to double-count some coursework, given that the two programs in question approve the arrangements. ~~A minimum of 60 percent of total hours required for each degree must be unique to that degree, after which some courses may be double counted.~~

#### Admission

~~An applicant who is not currently a graduate student at Kent State University must submit an application and an application fee for each program.~~

~~Students who are currently enrolled in one graduate program at Kent State University must submit an application and an application fee for the second program.~~ (moved to procedures) **Application to the second program must be made no later than the end of the student's second semester in the first program.**

## Requirements

Once admitted to both degree programs, the ~~The~~ student and advisor(s) must plan an integrated course of study. The plan must be approved by both programs and filed with the respective college(s) ~~no later than the end of the student's second semester in the first program.~~

Culminating experiences (e.g. capstone courses, theses, dissertations, applied projects) and comprehensive examinations cannot be shared (i.e. double counted) toward both degree programs.

## Formal Dual Graduate Degree Programs

A formal dual degree program is one that has been officially approved by the university. It has one curriculum established by two programs resulting in the completion of two graduate degrees at the same level. The following programs have been formally approved by the university:

- Master of Architecture [degree](#) / Master of Business Administration [degree](#)
- Master of Architecture [degree](#) / Master of Urban Design [degree](#)
- Master of Arts [degree](#) in Communication Studies / Master of Business Administration [degree](#)
- Master of Arts [degree](#) in Translation / Master of Business Administration [degree](#)
- Master of Business Administration [degree](#) / Master of Science in Nursing [degree](#)
- Master of Business Administration [degree](#) / Master of Library and Information Science [degree](#)
- [Master of Business Administration degree / Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree](#)
- Master of Education [degree in Educational Technology in Instructional Technology](#) / Master of Library and Information ~~and Information~~ Science [degree in School Library Media K-12 \(School Library concentration for both\)](#)
- [Master of Public Health degree / Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree](#)

## Admission

~~An applicant who is not currently a graduate student at Kent State University submits one application and one application fee. The applicant selects the primary program of interest on the application and indicates a concentration in the formal dual degree program that the applicant wishes to pursue (i.e., the second degree program). Both programs must offer admission to the applicant before admission into the dual degree program is granted.~~

~~Students who are currently enrolled in one graduate program must submit an application and an application fee for the second program, indicating on the application that the intent is to complete both degrees rather than to transfer from the first to the second program. (moved to procedures) Application to the second program must be made no later than the end of the student's second semester in the first program.~~

<sup>1</sup> This policy does not apply to dual concentrations [within the same major](#). Students should see program coordinator if they are interested in completing dual concentrations.

**University Catalog (Clean Version of Revisions)**

Date Revised

Month Year

## ACADEMIC POLICY

Date Effective

Month Year

**Dual Degrees and Double Majors****POLICY STATEMENT****Undergraduate Dual Degrees and Double Majors**

Kent State University students may be able to simultaneously pursue two associate or bachelor's degree programs through either a double major or a dual degree. A double-major program combines two majors within the same degree (e.g., Accounting and Finance majors in the B.B.A. degree). A dual-degree program combines two majors within different degrees (e.g., Architectural Studies major in the B.A. degree and Construction Management major in the B.S. degree).

Certain major combinations are not permitted by the colleges. Students interested in a double major or dual degree must consult with their advisor (and an advisor for the second major if in a different college) to determine whether the desired combination of majors is permitted. Declaring a double major or dual degree in the same department or school is allowed only when the department or school offers different majors. For example, a student may declare the Spanish major and the French major even though both majors are offered by the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. Some departments or schools may allow a student who earned a Bachelor of Arts degree to return to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in the same major.

Because of their generalist nature, the Associate of Technical Study degree (Individualized Program), Bachelor of Science degree in Educational Studies and Bachelor of Integrative Studies degree may not be earned as a double major or dual degree with another major and cannot be earned as an additional degree after another degree at the same level has been earned previously.

In addition, due to the similarity in program requirements, the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degrees may not be earned concurrently with each other; nor may either be awarded as an additional degree when one has been earned previously.

Students cannot be on academic probation and declare another major or degree at either the associate or bachelor's level.

Students pursuing a double major or dual degree concurrently or subsequently must be officially admitted to the programs and complete all requirements for both in addition to the university's undergraduate and residence requirements.

**Graduate Dual Degrees**

Graduate dual degree programs allow students to simultaneously pursue two graduate degrees at the same level (two master's degrees or two doctoral degrees) or two graduate degrees at different levels (one master's degree and one doctoral degree).<sup>1</sup> Rather than sequentially completing first one degree and then the other, the amount of time required to complete both sets of degree requirements may be reduced by completing the programs in a coordinated way. Graduate dual degrees are distinct from combined degree programs, which allow students to simultaneously pursue two degrees at the undergraduate and graduate levels (see policy on [Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program](#) in the University Catalog for details).

Coursework common to both programs must constitute a well-planned and meaningful part of each program. A minimum of 60 percent of the total credit hours required for each degree program must be unique to that degree program, after which some courses may be double counted. The percentage of unique hours that must be completed in each degree program may vary from the 60 percent minimum only when the graduate dual degree program has been formally approved by the university.

Graduate credit transferred from another institution is limited to a maximum of 12 credit hours across both degree programs. Doctoral-level courses may be applied toward a master's degree. Under no circumstances may master's-level courses be applied toward a doctoral degree. The maximum time limits for completing degree requirements and graduation apply to each degree individually (see the policy on [Academic Standing - Graduate Student](#) in the University Catalog for details).

Kent State University allows for both informal and formal dual degree programs, as described below.

### **INFORMAL DUAL GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Students may simultaneously pursue two graduate degrees in different programs through an informal dual degree program (those that have not received official university approval). Informal dual degree programs offer students the flexibility to double-count some coursework, given that the two programs in question approve the arrangements. Culminating experiences (e.g. capstone courses, theses, dissertations, applied projects) and comprehensive examinations cannot be shared (i.e. double counted) toward both degree programs.

### **FORMAL DUAL GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS**

A formal dual degree program is one that has been officially approved by the university. It has one curriculum established by two programs resulting in the completion of two graduate degrees at the same level. The following programs have been formally approved by the university:

- [Master of Architecture degree / Master of Business Administration degree](#)
- [Master of Architecture degree / Master of Urban Design degree](#)
- [Master of Arts degree in Communication Studies / Master of Business Administration degree](#)
- [Master of Arts degree in Translation / Master of Business Administration degree](#)
- [Master of Business Administration degree / Master of Library and Information Science degree](#)
- [Master of Business Administration degree / Master of Science in Nursing degree](#)
- [Master of Education degree in Educational Technology / Master of Library and Information Science degree in School Library Media K-12](#)
- Master of Public Health degree / Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree

<sup>1</sup> This policy does not apply to dual concentrations within the same major. Students should see program coordinator if they are interested in completing dual concentrations.

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## **REASON FOR POLICY**

Policy enforces uniform standards for students seeking to pursue multiple degree programs, either concurrently or subsequently.

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## PROCEDURES

### Undergraduate Dual Degrees and Double Majors

Undergraduate students request the second major/degree through the Manage My Program application in FlashLine and review program requirements in their GPS degree audit.

### Graduate Dual Degrees

An applicant who is not currently a graduate student at Kent State University must submit an application and an application fee for each program. Both programs must offer admission to the applicant before admission into the dual degree program is granted.

Students who are currently enrolled in one graduate program at Kent State University must submit an application and an application fee for the second graduate program, indicating on the application that the intent is to complete both degrees rather than to transfer from the first to the second program.

If applying to a formal degree program (see list above), the applicant/student should indicate the specific dual-degree concentration in the program.

If admitted to an informal degree program, the student and advisor(s) must plan an integrated course of study. The plan must be approved by both programs and filed with the respective college(s).

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## FORMS/INSTRUCTIONS

- GPS Audit and Plan in [FlashLine](#) (Student Dashboard)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- Manage My Programs (Change My Major) in [FlashLine](#) (Student Resources)

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## RELATED INFORMATION

- [Academic Standing - Graduate Student](#)
- [Academic Standing - Undergraduate Student](#)
- [Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program](#)
- [Credit-Hour Requirement for Graduation](#)
- [Search Programs and Degrees](#)
- [Transfer of Graduate Credit](#)

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

There is no FAQ associated with this policy.

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## DEFINITIONS

**Degree:** an award for completion of a course of study at a specific level designated by the customary titles of associate, bachelor's, master's, specialist or doctorate. Examples: Associate of Arts degree, Bachelor of Arts degree, Master of Arts degree, Doctor of Philosophy degree.

**Double Counting:** allowance of a course (and its credit hours) to count toward the requirements of two programs.

**Double Major:** combines two majors with the same degree; e.g., Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology.

**Dual Degree:** combines two majors with different degrees, e.g., Bachelor of Arts degree in Fashion Merchandising and Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Business Management.

**Formal Dual Graduate Degree:** dual graduate degree program that has been officially approved by the university; the curriculum for the dual degree is published in the [University Catalog](#).

**Informal Dual Graduate Degree:** an agreement between two program areas to allow a student admitted to both degree programs to double-count specific coursework toward both.

**Major:** a set of requirements for completion of a degree as authorized by the Kent State Board of Trustees and the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Examples: Geography major, Nursing major, Public Health major.

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## REVISION HISTORY

**Amended August 2020:** ...

**Amended August 2015:** Revised to reflect university minimum semester credit hours for a degree was decreased, from 121 to 120 for one major or double majors. Minimum semester credit hours for dual degrees remains at 140. Disclaimer on dual concentrations within one major is added.

**Amended August 1995:** Revised to reflect university minimum semester credit hours for a degree was decreased, from 129 to 121 for one major or double majors and from 148 to 140 for dual degrees.

**Amended August 1995:** Distinction between double majors and dual degrees are made, with no minimum credit hours for double majors beyond what is required for one degree (129 semester credit hours). Minimum semester credit hours for dual degrees remains at 148.

**Amended August 1988:** Application fee for graduation is eliminated.

**Amended August 1979:** Revised to reflect the university's conversion from quarters to semesters; total semester credit hours for two degrees is increased, from 147 (220 quarter credit hours) to 148.

**Amended September 1974:** Disclaimer added that some degree combinations are not permitted. Students are now allowed to declare and earn two degrees simultaneously. Required additional coursework (30-35 quarter credit hours) is eliminated. A deadline and fee are added for applying for graduation.

**Amended September 1965:** Allowance on qualifying for a degree in absentia is removed.

**Amended June 1952:** New allowance on qualifying for a degree in absentia after three years of work at Kent State University.

**Amended June 1948:** Total quarter credit hours for two degrees is decreased, from 234 to 220. Additional coursework is revised from one year to 30-35 quarter credit hours. Now recommends declaration in second degree as early as possible, changing it from junior to sophomore year. Second degree must be earned after first degree (no awarding of two simultaneously).

**Amended June 1942:** Revised to reflect the university's conversion from semesters to quarters (now requiring 234 quarter credit hours); procedures added for students to seek college dean approval for a dual degree before the start of junior year.

**Effective June 1939:** Establishes a policy requiring students to complete 156 semester credit hours and one year (or six summer terms) of residence beyond four years to earn two degrees in any two colleges or two degrees in the same college.

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## POLICY FEEDBACK

Your Name (optional):

Your E-mail (optional):

Policy Name:

Your Feedback:

## APPENDIX A:

## ENROLLMENT OF DOUBLE MAJORS AND DUAL DEGREES

Fall Semester Enrollment	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average
two associate programs	117	90	68	62	57	79
two bachelor's programs	459	409	481	484	615	490
two master's programs	108	95	88	77	80	90
associate / bachelor's programs	438	383	358	359	377	388
bachelor's / master's programs	32	24	28	32	49	33

Average GPA of  
students enrolled  
in multiple  
baccalaureate  
programs:  
**3.20**

## Most Popular Combinations Over Five Years (Fall Semesters 2015 to 2019):

Associate Degree	Average Enrollment
1. A.A. or A.S. <i>with</i> Nursing (A.A.S.)	20.0
2. A.A. or A.S. <i>with</i> Physical Therapist Assisting Technology (A.A.S.)	7.6
3. A.A. or A.S. <i>with</i> Business Management Technology (A.A.B.)	6.4
4. A.A. or A.S. <i>with</i> Radiologic Technology (A.A.S.)	5.4

Bachelor's Degree	Average Enrollment
1. Fashion Design (B.A.) <i>with</i> Fashion Merchandising (B.S.)	12.2
2. Architectural Studies (B.A.) <i>with</i> Construction Management (B.S.)	8.0
3. Nursing (B.S.N.) <i>with</i> Psychology (B.A.)	7.4
4. Fashion Merchandising (B.S.) <i>with</i> Marketing (B.B.A.)	7.2

*Students declared 496 different major combinations*

Master's Degree	Average Enrollment
1. Educational Technology (M.Ed.) <i>with</i> Library/Information Science (M.L.I.S.)	19.4
2. Architecture (M.Arch.) <i>with</i> Urban Design (M.U.D.)	10.6
3. Architecture (M.Arch.) <i>with</i> Business Administration (M.B.A.)	8.2

Associate / Bachelor's Degree	Average Enrollment
1. Computer Technology (A.A.B.) <i>with</i> Technical/Applied Studies (B.T.A.S.)	45.6
2. Business Management Tech (A.A.B.) <i>with</i> Business Management (B.B.A.)	18.6
3. A.A. or A.S. <i>with</i> Psychology (B.A.)	18.4
4. Radiologic Technology (A.A.S.) <i>with</i> Radiologic/Imaging Sciences (B.R.I.T.)	17.2

Bachelor's / Master's Degree	Average Enrollment
1. Public Health (B.S.P.H.) <i>with</i> Public Health (M.P.H.)	7.0
2. Accounting (B.B.A.) <i>with</i> Accounting (M.S.A.)	3.2
3. Aeronautics (B.S.) <i>with</i> Technology (M.Tech.)	1.8
4. Nutrition (B.S.) <i>with</i> Nutrition (M.S.)	1.8

*Students declared 49 different bachelor's/master's combinations*

## Undergraduate Double Major/Dual Degree Policy Benefits and Challenges

### BENEFITS

- Students graduate with knowledge in two subject areas, which can improve career prospects.
- Research shows that students who declare both a liberal arts major and a business or STEM major earn more.
- Declaring two majors helps students avoid becoming overly specialized, exposing them to new ways of thinking and communicating with others outside their primary area.
- Students who major in two fields are more apt than their single-majoring peers to think in both integrative and creative ways.
- Declaring two majors allows students to choose a field that may not be career-focused but in which they have an interest/passion.
- Tackling more than one subject at once will give students exposure to different industries and opportunities, making it valuable when deciding what to do in the future.

### CHALLENGES

- Completing two majors may require more coursework and/or more time to earn degree(s), which may affect students financially.
- Taking on two majors may create intense workloads that will add to an already stressful time and may prevent students from completing internships or co-curricular activities that could be beneficial for career opportunities.
- Two majors necessarily won't have a significant advantage for jobs beyond entry level (unlike, perhaps, a combined bachelor's/master's).
- Trying to complete requirements for two majors may prevent students from exploring many different disciplines.
- Students may learn more by mastering a single subject, taking the time to focus and do a few things well.
- Completing two majors requires a proactive and coordinated effort to ensure coursework can be completed in a sequential and timely manner.

## Policy on Double Majors and Dual Degrees at Other Universities

*Note: Unless stated otherwise, policies are for bachelor's degrees*

Institution Reviewed	Concurrent Policy		Subsequent Policy	
	Additional Credits	Unique Credits	Additional Credits	Unique Credits
<b>Arizona State University</b>	None stated	None stated	30 (in residence)	None
<b>Ball State University</b>	30 (150 total)	None stated	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>
<b>Bowling Green State university</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 20 (142 total) <i>College of Arts and Sciences requires 32 (154 total)</i>	None stated	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>
<b>Cleveland State University</b>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>	30 (in residence)	24 upper division
<b>Georgia State University</b>	Double Major: 39 upper division (in residence) Dual Degree: 39 upper division (in residence)	Double major: 39 upper division	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>
<b>Kentucky State University</b>	Associate: 15 (75 total) Bachelor's: 30 (150 total) <i>A student may not pursue mixed levels of degrees simultaneously.</i>	None stated	Associate: 15 Bachelor's: 30	None stated
<b>Linfield College (Oregon)</b>	35 (in residence)	15	35 (in residence)	15
<b>Miami University</b>	32 (156 total)	None stated	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>
<b>Northern Illinois University</b>	30 (in residence)	None stated	30 (in residence) 12 (upper-division major requirements)	None stated
<b>Ohio State University</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 30 (151 total)	Double Major: 18 major requirements and 39 upper division Dual Degree: 57 upper division	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 30 (151 total)	Double Major: 18 major requirements and 39 upper division Dual Degree: 57 upper division
<b>Ohio University</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 15)	Double Major: 30 (in residence) Dual Degree: 45 (in residence)	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 15)	Double Major: 30 (in residence) Dual Degree: 45 (in residence)
<b>Oregon State University</b>	32 (in residence)	None stated	15 (in residence) <i>"The additional credits may be taken at any time prior to or subsequent to the granting of a previous OSU baccalaureate degree."</i>	None stated
<b>Rochester Institute of Technology</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 30	None stated	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>
<b>SUNY at Albany</b>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>

Institution Reviewed	Concurrent Policy		Subsequent Policy	
	Additional Credits	Unique Credits	Additional Credits	Unique Credits
<b>SUNY at Buffalo</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 30 or total 150, whichever is greater	Double Major: none Dual Degree: no more than 2 upper-division courses can be shared	30 (in residence)	<i>"Once a degree is conferred, the courses and credits from that degree cannot be used in subsequent degrees, and students may not return to add a minor or concentration to conferred degree."</i>
<b>Temple University</b>	Double Major: Different per college/school	None stated	45 (in residence)	None stated
<b>Texas Tech University</b>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>	<i>No policy found</i>
<b>University of Akron</b>	Double Major: Different per college/school Dual Degree: 30 (150 total)	None stated	15	None stated
<b>University of Alabama</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 30 (150 total) and 60 in residence	None stated	30 (in residence)	None stated
<b>University of Central Oklahoma</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: 139 total	Double Major: none Dual Degree: 15 upper division	30 (in residence, of which 15 is upper division) <i>"A Bachelor of Science degree in the General Studies program cannot be earned as a second or subsequent degree or a concurrent degree nor can it be part of a double/multiple major."</i>	15 <i>"Students must meet degree requirements in effect at the time of initial enrollment in the second or subsequent degree program. First degree or concurrent degree catalog year rights are exhausted when the student graduates."</i>
<b>University of Cincinnati</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: Different per college	None stated	None stated	None stated
<b>University of Houston</b>	Double Major: None Dual Degree: None stated	Double Major: 9 semester hours of advanced work in each major	<i>Students may not add a second major to a baccalaureate degree they have already received.</i>	None stated
<b>University of Memphis</b>	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	None stated	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)
<b>University of Mississippi</b>	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30 (154 total)	May be additional credits per college/school	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30 (154 total)	May be additional credits per college/school
<b>University of Texas, Arlington</b>	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30	None stated	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30	None stated

Institution Reviewed	Concurrent Policy		Subsequent Policy	
	Additional Credits	Unique Credits	Additional Credits	Unique Credits
<b>University of Toledo</b>	Double Major: 21 Dual Degrees: None stated	None stated	None stated	None stated
<b>University of Washington</b>	Double Major: None (see note below) Dual Degree: 30 (150 total) and 60 in residence  <i>“Double majoring in the same department is allowed only in multi-major departments. For example, a French major may double with Italian, even though both majors are within the French and Italian Studies Department. Whether you are allowed to complete both the B.A. and B.S. programs in one department, such as Biology, either as a double major or a double degree, is a decision made by the department involved. In general it is not allowed, although some departments allow a student with an earlier B.A. to return as a postbaccalaureate student to complete a B.S.”</i>	None stated	Dual Degree: 30 and 60 total in residence)  <i>“If you graduate with one degree and not the other, you would have to apply for readmission to the University as a postbaccalaureate student to complete a second degree, and it is very difficult to be admitted as a postbaccalaureate student.”</i>	None stated  Note: University of Washington is on the quarters system; credit hours have been converted to semesters on this chart
<b>Utah State University</b>	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30	None stated	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30	None stated
<b>Virginia Commonwealth University</b>	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30	None stated	Double Major: None stated Dual Degree: 30	None stated
<b>Western Michigan University</b>	Double Major: Different per college/school Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	None stated	Double Major: Different per college/school Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	None stated
<b>Wright State University</b>	Double Major: Different per college/school Dual Degree: 150 credits minimum for both degrees	None stated	Double Major: Different per college/school Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	None stated
<b>Youngstown State University</b>	Double Major: 30 semester hours or 50% of the credits counted towards a major. Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	None stated	Double Major: 30 semester hours or 50% of the credits counted towards a major. Dual Degree: 30 (in residence)	None stated