SIDP/IIDP (Student Initiated Degree Program/Individual Interdepartmental Degree Program)

This is mistakenly referred to as a “dual degree.” Students in this program combine two existing Rackham Ph.D. degree programs, for example, Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and Ph.D. in Mathematics and receive one degree, a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and Mathematics.

Students must be in the first Ph.D. field and then apply (using a special application) for the SIDP/IIDP program. Note that if the student is a candidate in the first field and is then admitted to the SIDP/IIDP program, candidacy status will be revoked and the student must re-advance to candidacy after satisfying the prelims and other requirements for the combined program.

DUAL/Joint Degree Definition

Active in more than one master’s and/or certificate program. The student may be enrolled concurrently or at different times. Dual/Joint degrees include the MDP, MDDP, and student initiated (see definitions below) and result in the awarding of two separate degrees or certifications.

MDP/MDDP Definition

MDP (Multiple Degree Program) - A dual/joint program approved by the Rackham Executive Board that usually involves double-counting of credit hours (6010 form) and has a distinct program code. The degrees may or may not be awarded simultaneously. There are a few MDP programs that include a Ph.D. as part of the dual/joint program – those do not require a 6010 form.

MDDP (Multiple Dependant Degree Program) - A dual/joint program approved by the Rackham Executive Board that usually involves a reduction of credit hours from each program (6012 form) and has a distinct program code. Both degrees must be awarded simultaneously.

Student Initiated Dual/Joint Program

A student is admitted to two master’s and/or certificate programs and will receive two degrees, for example History M.A. and Sociology M.A. No specific program codes exist as each case is individual. The degrees may or may not be awarded simultaneously. These dual/joint programs are student initiated and are not approved by the Rackham Executive Board but must be approved by each of the two programs if courses are being double-counted.

The Graduate School maximum for the number of hours that may be double-counted is determined as follows: Add together the minimum number of hours required for each of the two programs independently, and divide the sum by six. For example:

Minimum credits required in field A = 30
Minimum credits required in field B = 36
Sum = 66
Sum divided by 6 = 11 = maximum number of credit hours that may be double-counted under the most favorable circumstances.

Please note: when double-counting with a 12-19 hour certificate program, one sixth of the minimum required hours for the master’s degree can be double-counted between the two programs. With a 9+ hour certificate, the maximum is 3 hours.

Note that no more than two programs can overlap

Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in both programs as well as a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

SUGS/CUGS (Sequential Undergraduate Graduate Study/Concurrent Undergraduate Graduate Study)

SUGS - Engineering master’s students
CUGS - LSA master’s students