

# **Dual Degree Ph.D. in Biological Sciences and Master of Business Administration**

## **Graduate Program Policy Statement**

### **Part I. Program History**

The Department of Biological Sciences has offered the Ph.D. in Biological Sciences since 1953 with the goal of training scientists to independently seek new knowledge relevant to the life sciences. The Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics has offered the Master in Business Administration (MBA) degree since 1954 to prepare students for the business world. Since many students pursuing the Ph.D. in Biological Sciences are interested in pursuing careers in industrial science, the Department of Biological Sciences and The Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics has developed a joint Ph.D. in Biological Sciences/ MBA degree. The Department of Biological Sciences and the Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics jointly administer this program.

### **Part II. Admission**

Students desiring to pursue the joint Ph.D. in Biological Sciences/MBA initially apply directly to the Ph.D. program of the Department of Biological Sciences and must meet the admissions requirements of the Ph.D. program (See the University catalog for those requirements). The student matriculates into the Ph.D. program, must successfully complete all first year course work, choose a dissertation advisor, pass the preliminary examination and form their dissertation advisory committee as required for the Ph.D. program. During the summer between the first and second year in the Ph.D. program, the student must convene their advisory committee and petition them for permission to take 6 credits of tier one MBA coursework in addition to their Ph.D. coursework requirements during the second year. Since Ph.D. students are supported on assistantships based in the Department of Biological Sciences and receive tuition scholarships for these assistantships, continued enrollment in any MBA classes is dependent on maintained satisfactory progress towards the Ph.D.

Once the student has successfully completed all required course work for the Ph.D. degree and has completed 6 credits of MBA coursework, students interested in the joint Ph.D./MBA program must convene their Ph.D. advisory committee and petition for permission to apply to the joint Ph.D./MBA program. If this petition is granted, the student's progress towards the Ph.D. is reviewed by the Graduate Affairs Committee (GAC) of the Department of Biological Sciences. If GAC finds that the student is in good standing in the department, the student then applies to the MBA program for admission into the joint Ph.D./MBA program. The prospective student is encouraged to see the admissions policies for both programs in the graduate catalog.

Applications to the Ph.D. program in Biological Sciences and letters of recommendation are to be submitted to:

Office of Graduate Studies

<http://www.udel.edu/gradoffice/applicants/> or via mail at

234 Hullihen Hall  
University of Delaware.  
Newark, Delaware 19716.

The Ph.D. in Biological Sciences/ MBA is a joint degree program. As such, the joint programs must be completed and the dual degree is conferred simultaneously. Students admitted to the Ph.D./MBA joint degree program who later decide they only want to complete one of the degrees must either petition the graduate school to reenter the Ph.D. program in Biological Sciences or apply separately to the MBA program for admission as a candidate in that program. Students who complete the single degree (Ph.D. in Biological Sciences or MBA) may not at a later date be admitted to the dual degree program. In such case the student would be required to complete all requirements for the second degree. A student who decides to pursue the dual degree must apply for change of degree to the Ph.D./MBA dual degree prior to receiving the first degree and must complete the requirements for the dual degree prior to any degree being granted.

### Part III. Academic

The Ph.D. in Biological Sciences/MBA program combines the required courses for the Ph.D. in Biological Sciences with the additional required courses of the MBA program. The minimum credit requirements for the Ph.D. make up 31 credits of the program. The MBA core and required courses make up 33 credits of the program. The following table identifies the Ph.D. and MBA curriculum. The column labeled “sequence” indicates the approximate sequence in which courses should be taken

#### Ph.D./MBA Dual Degree Curriculum

REQUIRED COURSES	CREDITS	MBA Tiers*
<b>Ph.D. CORE and REQUIRED COURSES</b>		
BISC 827 Graduate research seminar 1 credit/semester minimum of 4 semesters required	4	
First semester track requirement (see track policy)	3	
Second semester track requirement (see track policy)	3	
BISC 864 Research tutorial (3, 2 credit tutorials required)	6	
Second year track requirement (see track policy)	3	
Second year track elective (see track policy)	3	
BISC 969 Doctoral dissertation	9	
<b>MBA CORE &amp; REQUIRED COURSES</b>		
ECON 503 - Economic Analysis for Business Policy	3	Tier I
ACCT 800 - Financial Reporting and Analysis	3	Tier I
BUAD 820 - Data Analysis and Quality Management	3	Tier I
BUAD 870 - Understanding People in Organizations	3	Tier I

FINC 850 - Financial Management	3	Tier II
BUAD 880 - Marketing Management	3	Tier II
BUAD 831 - Operations Management and Management Science	3	Tier II
BUAD 840 - Ethical Issues in Domestic & Global Environments	3	Tier III
ACCT 801 - Management Control Systems	3	Tier III
BUAD 890 - Corporate Strategy	3	Tier III
International business elective	3	
<b>TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS</b>	<b>64</b>	

\* MBA Tiers indicate approximate sequence that courses should be taken.

### A recommended schedule of courses

<b>Year one, Semester one</b>		
Track requirement	3	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
Bisc 864 Research Tutorial (two sections of 2 credits each)	4	
<b>Year one, Semester two</b>		
Track requirement	3	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
Bisc 864 Research Tutorial (one sections of 2 credits )	2	
Bisc 868 Research	2	
<b>Summer year one</b>		
preliminary exam		
apply to enter Ph.D./MBA interest		
<b>Year two, Semester one</b>		
Track requirement	3	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
Bisc 964 Precandidacy study	4	
ECON 503 - Economic Analysis for Business Policy	3	Tier I
<b>Year two, Semester two</b>		
Track elective	3	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
Bisc 964 Precandidacy study	4	
ACCT 800 - Financial Reporting and Analysis	3	Tier I
<b>Summer year two</b>		
apply to dual Ph.D./MBA program		
<b>Year three, Semester one</b>		
Bisc 964 Precandidacy study	4	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
BUAD 820 - Data Analysis and Quality Management	3	Tier I
BUAD 870 - Understanding People in Organizations	3	Tier I
<b>Year three, Semester two</b>		

Bisc 964 Precandidacy study	4	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
FINC 850 - Financial Management	3	Tier II
BUAD 880 - Marketing Management	3	Tier II
<b>Summer year three</b>		
Qualifying exam in Biological Sciences		
<b>Year four, Semester one</b>		
Bisc 969 Doctoral dissertation	4	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
BUAD 831 - Operations Management and Management Science	3	Tier II
BUAD 840 - Ethical Issues in Domestic & Global Environments	3	Tier III
<b>Year four, Semester two</b>		
Bisc 969 Doctoral dissertation	4	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
ACCT 801 - Management Control Systems	3	Tier III
BUAD 890 - Corporate Strategy	3	Tier III
<b>Year five, Semester one</b>		
Bisc 969 Doctoral dissertation	4	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	1	
International business elective	3	Tier III
<b>Year five, Semester two</b>		
Graduate Sustaining Status	0	
Bisc827. Graduate research seminar	0	

Transfers of coursework earned elsewhere, and waivers of courses are allowable under the same provisions as the Ph.D. and MBA programs separately. Dual degree students must complete a minimum of 64 credits of coursework at the graduate level. Since financial aid for students in the joint Ph.D./MBA program is provided from the same sources as students in the Ph.D. program in Biological Sciences (see below), continued enrollment in MBA courses is dependent on the student making satisfactory progress towards the Ph.D. Progress towards the Ph.D. is certified by the student's Ph.D. advisory committee at the student's regular committee meeting that is held at 6-month intervals. Students in this program are under the same expectations of research excellence as those in the traditional Ph.D. program in Biological Sciences. The MBA committee of the Lerner College of Business is responsible for monitoring progress in the business curriculum.

Students must maintain continuous enrollment in every regular semester (fall and spring) throughout their program unless by approved leave of absence. This can be accomplished by registering for research or dissertation credit during the time the dissertation project is underway, or by registering for sustaining status. See the catalog for the university policy on sustaining status at <http://www.udel.edu/gradoffice/current/policysustaining.html>, and regarding leave of absence at <http://udcatalog.udel.edu/general/grad/gradregs.html#leave>.

## **Part IV. Financial aid**

Students in the Ph.D. in Biological Sciences/MBA program may compete for the same sources of financial assistance as available to Ph.D. students. See the Ph.D. program policy statement for specifics. The same criteria for financial assistance apply.

### **Other Financial Aid Opportunities**

Other Fellowships and Internship opportunities are occasionally available through the University. Interested students should check the Office of Graduate Studies website at <http://www.udel.edu/gradoffice/applicants> for the most current opportunities.

#### *Residence Hall Directorships*

In addition, the University hires Residence Hall Directors from among the ranks of its graduate students. Candidates are chosen for their superior leadership and communication skills, as well as the capability to provide guidance to undergraduates. Hall Directors are eligible for room and board, and full tuition waivers. Contact the Office of Housing and Residence Life at (302) 831-8423 for additional information as soon as possible. Applicants are usually interviewed around mid-April.

#### *MBA Corporate Associate*

The Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics operates a “Corporate Associates” program in which graduate students are placed half time in industry positions. The positions are competitive and selection is based on the student’s fit with the industry position. The employer has the final say in selection. Corporate Associates receive half time funding and tuition waivers. Contact the Lerner College Graduate and Executive Programs office for further information at (302) 831-2221.

## **Part V. Departmental Operations**

Occasionally student’s graduate assistantship or other assignments may require the use of departmental laboratories or other facilities. Keys to laboratories, etc., are maintained in the Department office and will be issued based on faculty and Department Chair approval.

Any assignments that require the expenditure of departmental funds (e.g. data collection activities) require departmental approval in advance and are processed through the department in which the work is to be done.