

# STUDENT GUIDE TO JD/MBA CONCURRENT DEGREES PROGRAM

OFFERED IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
2014-15



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## Overview

Students can earn a Juris Doctor (JD) degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law (TJSL) and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from San Diego State University (SDSU) in eight semesters. The objective of the concurrent degrees program is to prepare students who are competent in both law and business administration for advanced practice in many areas where the fields converge.

The program is designed for students to spend their first year in the JD program at TJSL and the second year at SDSU. Students take classes at both institutions during the last two years of the program. Each institution may grant credit for up to 12 units taken at the other school. A minimum of 39 units and a maximum of 45 units are required for the MBA degree. A minimum of 89 units are required for the JD degree. (For students who matriculated prior to January 1, 2013, and did not earn one required unit for the first semester Lawyering Skills course, the requirement is 88 units.) For students interested in taking courses concurrently through the JD/MBA program, a written request must be submitted to the TJSL Career Services Office.

**Students taking courses at both institutions should be aware that no more than 17 units may be earned during any semester. In addition, the JD and MBA degrees must be earned in the same semester.**

## San Diego State University – College of Business Administration

The major goal of the MBA degree is to prepare students with diverse academic backgrounds for entry into general management positions in business and nonprofit enterprises. The MBA program stresses experiential learning through a culminating experience which encompasses either a consulting project or an integrative business simulation. Through group projects, presentations, and written reports, the MBA curriculum also emphasizes teamwork and professional skill development. Students are given the option of completing a general management track or specializing in a functional area by focusing their electives around a particular subject.

Classes are scheduled in two traditional semesters running late August through early December and mid-January through mid-May. A limited number of graduate business classes are offered during the summer in six-week sessions.

## Admissions

Applicants must conform to the application procedures for each institution. Because the sequence for the program is for students first to attend TJSL for two semesters, the expectation is that students will be admitted to TJSL and then apply to SDSU during their first year at TJSL. Students interested in applying for the concurrent degree program, must complete and submit the JD/MBA Application at the end of this Guide. If an applicant to TJSL wants a decision on admission to SDSU before deciding to attend TJSL, the applicant should consult with the SDSU Director of Graduate Business Programs.

Admission to SDSU's graduate program is competitive. The factors that are taken into consideration in the admission decision include the applicant's previous academic performance, the quality of the previous universities attended, scores on the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) or

Graduate Record Examination (GRE), management experience, and the written application essay. References which validate experience may also be considered. An 80 (Internet based) TOEFL score is normally required when English is not the student's principal language. Applicants must file an application and pay the application fee.

For more information, visit the SDSU College of Business Administration website:

<http://cbaweb.sdsu.edu/grad>.

Deadlines: For the Fall entering class, the MBA application deadline is March 1 for submitting an application on CSUMentor; April 1 for file completion. For the Spring entering class, the MBA application deadline is November 1. However, Spring admissions are dependent on funding and are not offered every year. Applicants with questions should contact the Graduate Business Advisor at SDSU: Ms. Sarah Mercado, [sarah.mercado@sdsu.edu](mailto:sarah.mercado@sdsu.edu), (619) 594-1008.

## **GMAT/GRE**

The GMAT or GRE is required for all applicants and should be taken before filing an application to the JD/MBA Concurrent Degrees Program. The GMAT and GRE are standardized assessment tests that measure basic verbal, mathematical, and analytical writing skills. They both consist of three sections: verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing.

### Registration

You may schedule a GMAT or GRE appointment at any test center around the world. For the GMAT exam, register for an mba.com account and schedule an appointment at a test center near you at <http://www.mba.com/the-gmat>. The registration cost is \$250.00. There is a \$50 rescheduling fee if you reschedule more than seven days before your scheduled test date. If you reschedule within seven days of your scheduled test date, there is an additional fee of \$250. You may take the GMAT once every 31 calendar days and up to five times in a 12 month period.

To schedule a GRE test, visit <http://www.ets.org/gre> to register and find a test center near you. The registration cost for the GRE is \$185 and there is a \$50 rescheduling fee and a \$50 fee to change your test center.

## **Curriculum**

### **SDSU: Specific Requirements for the Concurrent MBA Degree**

The College of Business Administration requires 39-45 units. At least 21 of the total units required must be completed in residence at SDSU. Up to 12 units from TJSU may be accepted for transfer credit for programs of study. The SDSU requirements of the concurrent MBA are as follows:

1. Complete the following core of eight courses (24 units):

BA 623 Statistical Analysis (3)

BA 624 Organizational Behavior and Leadership (3)

- BA 625 Financial and Management Accounting (3)
- BA 626 Business Economics (3)
- BA 627 Marketing (3)
- BA 628 Operations and Supply Chain Management (3)
- BA 629 Financial Management (3)
- BA 630 Business Strategy (3)

Students may be waived out of one core course by the Director of Graduate Business Programs if the student has earned a bachelor's degree in that area. Equivalency is determined by content of the courses, institution at which the course was taken, grade received, and time since course was taken. In addition, a student is allowed to sit for one challenge exam to waive any of the courses above, with the exception of BA 630, Business Strategy.

2. BA 780 Field Studies in Business (3 units – Credit/No Credit)
3. Complete six units of electives.
4. BA 795 Business Consulting or BA 796 Integrative Business Analysis (3 units)

### **TJSL: Specific Requirements for the Concurrent JD Degree**

Students must complete a minimum of 89 units of coursework (for students who matriculated prior to January 1, 2013, and did not earn one required unit for the first semester Lawyering Skills course, the requirement is 88 units). The first year curriculum is prescribed for all students. After completion of these courses, students may take the remaining JD required courses and electives in any sequence they wish, subject to specific course prerequisites and any other requirements set forth in the Student Handbook. The TJSL requirements of the concurrent JD degree are as follows:

1. Complete the following required courses (57 units):
  - Business Associations – one semester (4)
  - Civil Procedure – two semesters (6)
  - Constitutional Law – two semesters (6)
  - Contracts – two semesters (6)
  - Criminal Law – one semester (3)
  - Criminal Procedure – one semester (3)
  - Evidence – one semester (4)
  - Lawyering Skills – one semester (1)
  - Legal Writing – two semesters (7)
  - Professional Responsibility – one semester (3)
  - Property – two semesters (6)
  - Remedies – one semester (3)
  - Torts – two semesters (6)
2. Complete the Professional Skills Course Requirement.

3. Complete at least one elective that satisfies the school's upper-level writing requirement.
4. If required, complete Pre-Bar Fundamentals and Legal Synthesis.
5. Complete a sufficient number of electives units to meet the 89 unit total (for students who matriculated prior to January 1, 2013, and did not earn one required unit for the first semester Lawyering Skills course, the requirement is 88 units). Up to twelve units of electives may be accepted from the 600-and-700 level courses offered by the College of Business Administration.
6. Complete an internship experience, and be simultaneously enrolled in BA 780 at SDSU.
7. Students who transfer units from an approved concurrent degree program to TJSL may not register at TJSL for more than a total of five credit hours through the externship program in all semesters and summer sessions combined.
8. Concurrent degree students must complete the requirements for the JD and MBA degrees in the same semester.
9. Any other requirements provided for in TJSL's Student Handbook.

For examples of the programming by semester, see Exhibits 1 and 2.

## **Financial Charges and Financial Aid**

Students are responsible for paying the tuition and fees charged by the respective schools. For the purposes of financial aid, students must complete and submit a Visiting Student Agreement to TJSL's Financial Aid Office. Students generally apply for financial aid to their "home" institution. The home institution is categorized as the school where the student first began his or her matriculation. Only one of the institutions can be designated the "home" institution at any point in time. In most cases, the "home" institution is expected to be TJSL.

Students who complete a 4-year program pay for six full-time semesters at TJSL and for two full-time semesters at SDSU during the first year of the MBA program. After the completion of the first year MBA program, students will need to complete approximately 12 credits at SDSU. TJSL will reimburse SDSU for up to three part-time semesters per student to permit students to register and attend classes at SDSU. If a student is not able to complete the program in three additional semesters at SDSU, the student will be responsible for SDSU fees for each additional semester.

Students who complete a 3½ - year program pay for six full-time semesters at TJSL and for one full-time semester at SDSU during the first year of the MBA program. After the completion of the first semester of the MBA program, students will need to complete approximately 12 credits at SDSU. TJSL will reimburse SDSU for up to three part-time semesters per student to permit students to register

and attend classes at SDSU. If a student is not able to complete the program in three additional semesters at SDSU, the student will be responsible for SDSU fees for each additional semester.

Students who attend summer school at TJSJL or take less than the standard schedule recommends, pay the approximate tuition for the number of units taken.

A report of the SDSU charges reimbursed by TJSJL or charged directly to the student will be provided by the graduate advisor at SDSU to the financial offices of both TJSJL and SDSU. The financial offices will verify the accuracy of these reports.

## **Registration Status at SDSU**

SDSU Graduate Affairs ensures that each student is assigned a day and time to register for classes online via SDSU's [WebPortal](#) system. Students are encouraged to use their WebPortal account to register on their assigned registration date and time to ensure they get the classes they need. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that they are cleared for registration prior to their WebPortal access date. Otherwise, the student may not be able to register for classes in a timely fashion.

## **Sharing of Transcript Information**

Each student will be required to sign a release of transcript information that authorizes the exchange of transcripts between the two institutions.

Transcripts must be submitted for each semester the student is matriculating at SDSU. Transcripts should be sent to the TJSJL Registrar's Office.

## **Academic Good Standing**

A student in the concurrent degrees program is expected to maintain good academic standing throughout their matriculation. Each school will determine the student's continuing status in their respective institutions. Either school may dismiss a student from their degree program.

A student dismissed by one of the schools may continue in the other school's program at the discretion of the second school.

## **School Administrators**

The coordinators for the program are Dr. Nikhil P. Varaiya, the Director of Graduate Business Programs at SDSU ([nvaraiya@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:nvaraiya@mail.sdsu.edu)), and Beverly K. Bracker, Assistant Dean for Career Services at TJSJL ([bbracker@tjssl.edu](mailto:bbracker@tjssl.edu)).

**EXHIBIT 1**

**Example Program**

**JD/MBA Courses and Credits: By Year and School**

<u>Year I</u>					
TJSL			SDSU CBA		
<b>Fall Entering</b>		<b>Spring Entering</b>			
<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
Civil Procedure I	4	Civil Procedure I	4	No CBA Courses	0
Contracts I	3	Contracts I	3		
Lawyering Skills	1	Lawyering Skills	1		
Legal Writing I	4	Legal Writing I	4		
Torts I	3	Torts I	3		
<b>Total Semester Units: 15</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 0</b>		
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
Civil Procedure II	2	Civil Proc. II	2	No CBA Courses	0
Contracts II	3	Contracts II	3		
Legal Writing II	3	Legal Writing II	3		
Criminal Law	3	Criminal Law	3		
Torts II	3	Torts II	3		
<b>Total Semester Units: 14</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 0</b>		
<b>Total Year I Law Units: 29</b>			<b>Total Year I CBA Units: 0</b>		

<u>Year II</u>					
TJSL			SDSU CBA		
<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
No Law Courses	0	Statistical Analysis	3	Organizational Behavior	3
		Financial & Mgt. Accounting	3	Business Economics	3
<b>Total Semester Units: 0</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 12</b>		
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
No Law Courses	0	Marketing	3	Operations & Supply Chain Management	3
		Financial Management	3	Business Strategy	3
<b>Total Semester Units: 0</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 12</b>		
<b>Total Year II Law Units: 0</b>			<b>Total Year II CBA Units: 24</b>		



<b>Year III</b>					
<b>TJSL</b>			<b>SDSU CBA</b>		
<b>Fall Entering</b>		<b>Spring Entering</b>			
<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
Constitutional Law I	3	Property I*	3	Elective	3
Criminal Procedure*	3	Criminal Procedure*	3		
Evidence*	4	Business Associations*	4		
Property I*	3	Professional Responsibility*	3		
<b>Total Semester Units: 13</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 3</b>		
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
Constitutional Law II	3	Constitutional Law I	3	No CBA Courses	0
Business Associations*	4	Evidence*	4		
Property II*	3	Property II*	3		
Electives	≤ 7	Electives	≤ 7		
<b>Total Semester Units: ≤ 17</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 0</b>		
<b>Total Year III Law Units: ≤ 30</b>			<b>Total Year III CBA Units: 3</b>		

<b>Year IV</b>					
<b>TJSL</b>			<b>SDSU CBA</b>		
<b>Fall Entering</b>		<b>Spring Entering</b>			
<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
Internship	5	Constitutional Law II	3	Field Studies	3
Professional Responsibility*	3	Remedies*	3	Elective	3
Remedies*	3	Internship	5		
<b>Total Semester Units: ≤ 11</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 6</b>		
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
Electives	≤ 14	Electives	≤ 14	Culminating Experience	3
<b>Total Semester Units: ≤ 14</b>			<b>Total Semester Units: 3</b>		
<b>Total Year IV Law Units: ≤ 25</b>			<b>Total Year IV CBA Units: 9</b>		

<b>Summary of Units From:</b>	<b>TJSL</b>	<b>SDSU CBA</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Year I</b>	29	0	29
<b>Year II</b>	0	24	24
<b>Year III</b>	≤ 30	3	≤ 33
<b>Year IV</b>	≤ 25	9	≤ 34
Credits from "home institution"	≥ 77	36	113
Credits from "host institution"	12	12	24
Total Credits, JD, MBA, JD/MBA	≥ 89**	48	137

\*Property I and II, Business Associations, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Professional Responsibility, and Remedies are upper-year required law courses and may be taken during any semester in Years III or IV, consistent with other constraints of the Student Handbook, course prerequisites, and the JD/MBA program of study.

\*\*For students who matriculated prior to January 1, 2013, and did not earn one required unit for the first semester Lawyering Skills course, the requirement is 88 units.

## EXHIBIT 2

### TJSL Courses Appropriate for SDSU MBA Electives

Administrative Law	International Taxation
Antitrust law	Internet Law
Arbitration Advocacy	Labor Law
Bankruptcy Law	Land Use Planning
Bioethics Seminar	Mediation
Biotechnology Seminar	Mediation, Advanced
Business Planning	Mediation, Clinic
Celebrity Advertising & Endorsements (2)	Music Law
Client Representation (2)	Natural Resources Law
Commercial Law	Negotiation Theory and Practice
Comparative Law	Patent Claim Drafting
Consumer Protection & Secured Credit	Patent Law
Copyright	Patent Litigation
E-Commerce Law	Payment Systems
Employment Discrimination	Sales
Employment Law	Secured Land Transactions
Entertainment Law	Securities Regulation
Environmental Law	Sports Law
Estate Planning & Taxation	Taxation, Federal Individual
Federal Criminal Law	Taxation, Business Organizations
Globalization & the Workplace Seminar	Telecommunications Law
Health Care Liability	Technology Licensing Law
Immigration Law	Trademark & Unfair Competition Law
Information Privacy Law (2)	Trademark Law, Advanced
International Business Transactions	Water Law
International Law	White Collar Crime
International Intellectual Property	Wills & Trusts
International Investment Law	World Trade Organizational Law

## **JD/MBA APPLICATION WITH SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY (SDSU)**

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Students must have completed one year of law studies and be in good standing. Read the Student Guide to the JD/MBA Concurrent Degrees Program and complete the attached application form.

Submit the required documentation listed below with the attached JD/MBA Application Form:

- The course title and unit value for each course(s) you wish to take, and
- The course description for each course(s) you wish to take, and
- Information on your acceptance to the MBA program at SDSU

**Your request will not be considered if the above information is not attached to your Application Form.**

If you are using financial assistance to fund the concurrent degrees program, you must contact the TJSL Financial Assistance Office to complete the proper paperwork.

At the completion of your visit at SDSU, you will need to request an official copy of your transcript be sent to the TJSL Registrar for final evaluation. Only units completed with a grade of “C” (not C-) or better will be transferred (grades are not transferred and do not affect grade point averages). Credit/No Credit courses are not allowed.

Please review the guidelines on maximum units of transfer credit in the Student Guide to the JD/MBA Concurrent Degrees Program. Units will be transferred and applied toward the 89 units required for graduation (for students who matriculated prior to January 1, 2013, and did not earn one required unit for the first semester Lawyering Skills course, the requirement is 88 units).

**Please note: No more than 17 units combined between TJSL and SDSU may be taken in the same Spring or Fall semester or more than 8 units between TJSL and SDSU in the same Summer term.**

**JD/MBA APPLICATION – TJSL & SDSU**

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Please complete this form and submit it with the required documentation as stated in the attached instructions to the TJSL Career Services Office to be processed.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the semester and year you wish to enroll in the SDSU program:

Spring \_\_\_\_\_ Summer \_\_\_\_\_ Fall \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the course(s) and unit value you wish to take at SDSU:

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Prior to submission students must read the Student Guide to the JD/MBA Concurrent Degrees Program. My signature below confirms I have read the Student Guide to the JD/MBA Concurrent Degrees Program in its entirety.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Comments:

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_