

California Western School of Law – San Diego State University
JD/MBA Dual Degree Program

Overview

The Dual Degree Program allows students to earn a J.D. from California Western School of Law (CWSL) and an MBA from San Diego State University (SDSU) in seven or eight semesters of study.¹ Dual Degree Students spend their first two or three semesters in the J.D. program at CWSL. Students then spend two semesters at SDSU in an entering class of the M.B.A. program at SDSU. For the remainder of the Dual Degree Program, students can take classes at both CWSL and SDSU, earning credit for a maximum of nine units taken at the other school.

Two Graduate Professional Degrees in Four Years not Five

Students must complete no fewer than 90 credits at CWSL to obtain the JD degree (for example, at least 81 at CWSL and 9 transferred from SDSU) and 36 credits at the SDSU College of Business to obtain an MBA (for example, at least 27 credits at SDSU and 9 from CWSL).

Program Coordinators

The advisor for the Dual Degree Program is Assistant Dean Jorge Garcia at CWSL (jorgegarcia@cwsledu). The Graduate advisor at SDSU can be reached at gradbusiness@sdsu.edu.

Admissions

Participants must apply separately to CWSL and SDSU. Students are to first apply to CWSL and begin the J.D. program before applying to SDSU College of Business. Application to SDSU is to be made before the end of the first year at CWSL, to begin coursework at SDSU after either two or three semesters at CWSL. The two schools may share transcripts and other information to facilitate admissions.

CWSL

Applicants must take the LSAT, GRE or JD-Next, register for the LSDAS, complete an application (including a personal statement and letters of recommendation), and pay any necessary fees. For the Fall entering class, the priority application deadline is April 1. For more information, see the CWSL website: www.cwsledu/admissions_and_aid.

SDSU

Applicants must complete an online application through CSU Apply and Interfolio and pay a fee. For more information, see the SDSU website: <https://business.sdsu.edu/grad/apply>. SDSU application deadline on CalApply is April 1 and on Interfolio is April 15. GMAT or GRE is not required for admission.

¹ This overview is subject to the SDSU Graduate Bulletin and CWSL Student Handbook. Any inconsistencies in this overview are subordinate to those documents.

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Tuition and Financial Aid

Students pay for six full-time semesters at CWSL and for two full-time semesters at SDSU. During the first year of the Dual Degree Program, students pay full tuition at CWSL. During the second year of the Dual Degree Program, students pay full tuition at SDSU.²

Beginning in the third year through the end of the Dual Degree Program, students pay full - time tuition only at CWSL, which in turn reimburses SDSU for up to three part-time semesters of SDSU tuition.

Financial aid is coordinated through the CWSL Financial Aid Office except for during the second year of the Dual Degree Program,³ when financial aid is coordinated through the SDSU Financial Aid Office. Questions regarding financial obligations to SDSU should be directed to the SDSU Student Account Services office (<https://bfa.sdsu.edu/financial/student>).

Additional Semesters

Students may be tempted to take more than four years of study to spread the workload. The tuition payments for the Dual Degree Program are based on six semesters of full-time attendance at California Western and two semesters of full-time attendance at SDSU. If courses are taken during more than four years, or during the optional summer term, there may be additional tuition charges (www.cwsl.edu/admissions_and_aid/financial_aid/tuition_fees.html). Please contact the California Western Business Office if you are considering this option.

Class Registration Conflicts

Students who attend during the Fall and Spring terms at either school should not encounter calendaring conflicts. However, the Spring semester at SDSU and the Summer term at CWSL may overlap. Students who intend to take courses at CWSL during the summer term while completing a spring semester at SDSU must plan to avoid scheduling conflicts and allow sufficient time to travel between the two schools during the overlapping time period.

² CWSL does not distinguish between California residents and non-residents for purposes of tuition and fees. SDSU does distinguish between California and non-California residents for purposes of tuition and fees. For information on California residency, see https://registrar.sdsu.edu/students/additional_resources_students/residency_information and for information on SDSU tuition and fees, see <https://bfa.sdsu.edu/financial/student/money>.

³ To obtain financial aid through CWSL in any semester, Dual Degree Students must be taking: (i) at least six credits at CWSL, or (ii) six credits at SDSU must be transferable toward the CWSL degree, or (iii) six combined CWSL credits and transferable credits from SDSU.

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SDSU

It is the student's responsibility to be cleared for registration prior to each student's SDSU access date. Otherwise, the student may not be able to timely register for classes.

Academic Issues

Courses Accepted for Transfer Credit from SDSU to CWSL

Up to 9 credits taken at SDSU will be transferred to CWSL and count toward CWSL's graduation requirements. To qualify for transfer credit, the SDSU courses must be taken at the Fowler College of Business for credit in the MBA program and designated with numbers in the 600s or 700s. The grade in the SDSU course must be a B minus or better.

Any credits completed at SDSU may be transferred to CWSL only if the credits were completed after the completion of the 1st year at CWSL.

Courses Accepted for Transfer Credit from CWSL to SDSU

Up to 9 credits of courses taken at CWSL will be transferred to SDSU and count toward SDSU's graduation requirements. To qualify for transfer credit, the CWSL courses must be listed in Appendix A or approved by SDSU. The grade in the CWSL course must be the equivalent of a C or better. **Special Note:** SDSU will accept CWSL credits only if the student has not yet graduated from CWSL. This means MBA requirements must be fulfilled contemporaneously with (i.e., in the same semester) or before completing CWSL's graduation requirements.⁴

Academic Good Standing

Students in the Dual Degree Program must maintain good academic standing at both schools. Either school may dismiss a student from their degree program based on their own academic policies. A dismissal from one school does not affect the student's standing at the other school. For example, a student dismissed from SDSU may continue at CWSL if the student is in good standing at CWSL.

Culminating Experience at SDSU

MBA candidates must complete a "culminating experience" at SDSU. Students can elect one of two options to fulfill the culminating experience requirement: (i) the Thesis option (available to all SDSU graduate students); or (ii) enroll in BA 795 Business Consulting (3 unit) or Simulation course (1 unit). These options will be discussed with the SDSU advisor. Should a student elect

⁴ Example: Ann completes her CWSL graduation requirements in Summer 2020 semester and enrolls for Fall 2020 at SDSU, intending to complete the MBA requirements and use 9 credits from CWSL toward her MBA. SDSU will *not* allow the CWSL credits to count toward Ann's MBA. Ann should either: (i) complete her SDSU requirements during Summer 2020 semester, or (ii) postpone completing her CWSL requirements until Fall 2020 (contemporaneously with completing her MBA requirements).

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the Thesis option, an additional bound copy of the thesis must be submitted to SDSU for subsequent transmittal to CWSL.

Eligibility for Graduation

A student is not eligible for graduation from CWSL until all requirements applicable to the J.D. degree are met. A student is not eligible for graduation from SDSU until all requirements applicable to the MBA degree are met.

JD/MBA Requirements (see next page)

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The MBA is between 36 to 43 units, up to 9 units of which can be taken at CWSL. Students should earn at least 27 units from SDSU.

Foundation Core (required but waivable for business undergrads) ⁵	Professional Core (required and not waivable)	Electives (you can only take electives if have waived some core courses)	Cumulative Experience (required)
BA 640 Financial Reporting and Analysis (2 units)	BA 670 Managerial Accounting (3 units)	Courses available in management, marketing, finance, management information systems and accounting	BA795 Business simulation course
BA 641 Business Ethics and Corporate Responsibility (1 unit)	BA 672 Managerial Marketing (3 units)		BA795 Strategic Consulting course
BA 642 Statistical Analysis (2 units)	BA 673 Organizational Behavior (3 units)		
BA 643 Managerial Economics (2 units)	BA 674 Financial Management (3 units)		
BA 644 Operations and Supply Chain Management (2 units)	BA 749 Business Analytics (3 units)		
BA 645 Marketing (1 unit)	BA 676 Strategic Thinking (3 units)		
10 total units (up to 10 can be waived)	18 total units	Between 3 to 13 units (The more courses students waive, the more electives they can choose)	Required Will be 1-3 units

⁵ Foundational core courses are waivable through prior academic work. Students must have earned a grade of B or better within the previous 7 years at an AACSB accredited or equivalent university.

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The likely Unit Scenario in SDSU is as such:

Scenarios	Foundational Core Waived Entirely, 1 unit Culminating Experience	Foundational Core Not Waived, 1 unit Culminating Experience	Foundational Core Waived Entirely, 3 unit Culminating Exp	Foundational Core Not Waived, 3 unit Culminating Experience
Foundation Core	0	10	0	10
Professional Core	18	18	18	18
Electives	9	3	6	3
Culminating Experience	1	1	3	3
Transferred from Cal Western	9	9	9	9
Total Units	37	41	36	43

CWSL Requirements (Beginning Fall 2024)

Civil Procedure I & II (5 units total)
Contracts (4 units)
Criminal Law (3 units)
Legal Skills I & II (3 units each)
Property (4 units)
Torts (4 units)
First Year Elective (3 units)
Legal Methods (1 unit)
Total 1L year = 30 units
Constitutional Law I (3 units)
Criminal Procedure (3 units)
Evidence (4 units)

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Legal Scholarship Training Seminar (0 units)
Professional Responsibility (3 units taken during Fall or Spring of 2L year)
Additional graduation required units = 13

In addition to the CWSL requirements listed above, students must also complete a Scholarly Writing Requirement and 10 units of Experiential (EXP) coursework before graduating. Additional information on these requirements can be found in Academic Policy 2.01(B).

California Western School of Law and San Diego State University Fowler College of Business Administration JD/MBA Courses and Credits Sample

By Year and School

The following chart shows the *typical* course loads taken by a student who is completing 90 credits at CWSL and a minimum of 36 credits at SDSU. Some students may be unable to waive all of the foundational courses at SDSU and thus require a small number of additional units beyond the minimum 36 units. SDSU can waive up to 10 units if students have earned similar course credits within the last seven years in an AACSB-accredited school.

CWSL	SDSU
Year 1	
1 st Semester (units) Civil Procedure I (3) Contracts (4) Legal Skills I (3) Torts (4) Legal Methods (1) Total Semester (15)	1 st Semester No MBA courses
2 nd Semester (units) Civil Procedure II (2) Criminal Law (3) Legal Skills II (3) Property (4) First Year Elective (3) Total Semester 15	2 nd Semester No MBA courses

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CWSL	SDSU
Total Year 1 Law Units 30	Total Year 1 MBA Units 0
Year 2	
1st Semester No JD courses	1 st Semester foundation core or professional core classes Total semester units= 12
2 nd Semester No JD courses	2nd Semester 12 units of professional core Total semester units= 12
Total Year 2 Law Units 0	Total Year 2 MBA Units=24
Year 3- Upper division CWSL required courses are typically offered twice each academic year. Below is a sample schedule but should be used as a guide only. Students do have flexibility in crafting their upper division schedules and can complete the upper division requirements through a variety of schedule configurations. Careful course planning is essential.	
1st Semester (units) Constitutional Law I (3) Criminal Procedure (3) Elective, EXP, or SWR course (3 units) Professional Responsibility (3) Total Semester 12 units	1st Semester (units) No MBA Courses Total Semester
2nd Semester Evidence (4) Elective, EXP or SWR Courses (8 units) Total Semester 12 units	2nd Semester No MBA courses Total Semester 0
Total Year 3 Law Units average of 24 units	Total Year 3 MBA Units 0
Year 4	
1st Semester (units) Electives and any remaining required courses (12) Total Semester 12	1st Semester Professional core or an elective course up to 3 units Total Semester units= 3
2nd Semester	2nd Semester Elective

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CWSL	SDSU
Electives (15) (Although not required students can participate in the Clinical Externship for up to 11 units of credit.) Total Semester 15	Culminating Experience (1-3) Total Semester units=1-3
Total Year 4 Law Units 27	Total Year 4 MBA Units=4-6

Summary of Units	CWSL	SDSU
Year 1	30	0
Year 2	0	24
Year 3	24	
Year 4	27	4-6
Total taken at each	81	28-30 ⁶
Cross-transferred	9	9
Total Credits	(90 correct)	37-39

APPENDIX A

CWSL Courses Appropriate for SDSU MBA Electives (Choose 9 units). The courses below are offered on a rotating basis and may not be offered every year.

All courses are 3 credits except as indicated.

- Advanced Copyright (2 units)
- Advanced Negotiation
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Antitrust Law
- Business Organizations (4 units)
- Business Planning

⁶ The minimum number of required units for the MBA is 36. The number of electives required can vary between 9 and 15 depending on waivers granted.

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- Commercial Real Estate Transactions
- Comparative Law
- Copyright Law
- Corporate Finance
- Deal Litigation
- Employee Benefit Law
- Employment Discrimination
- Employment Law
- Entrepreneurship Law & Ethics
- Entertainment Law
- Estate and Gift Tax
- International Business Transactions
- International Law
- Labor Law
- Land Use Regulation
- Law & Ethics of Big Data
- Motion Picture Finance
- Patent Law
- Patent Preparation and Prosecution
- Real Property Finance
- Sales
- Secured Transactions
- Securities Regulation
- Sports Law (2 units)
- Trademark Law
- Trademark Clinic

SDSU electives available

- ACCTG 620: Financial Measurement and Reporting
- ACCTG 621: Accounting Information Systems
- ACCTG 624: Tax for Managers
- ACCTG 625: Managerial Analysis and Financial Reporting
- ACCTG 663: Financial Statement Analysis

- MGT724: Entrepreneurship
- MGT 748: International Entrepreneurship
- MGT 748 (International Entrepreneurship & Business Development)
- MGT 722 (Seminar in Business Ethics for Contemporary Management)
- MGT 746 (Corporate Governance)

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- MKTG 761: Product Innovation Management
- FIN 585: Estate Planning Issues and Practice
- FIN 589: Personal Financial Planning
- FIN 617: Financial Management II
- FIN 641: Financing the Emerging Enterprise
- FIN 651: Seminar in Investments

- MIS 620– E-Business Infrastructure
- MIS 688 – Information Systems and strategies in Organizations
- MIS 697 – Project Planning and Development
- MIS 705 – Communication Strategies
- MIS 749 – Business Analytics
- MKTG 761 – Product Innovation Management
- MKTG 763 – Seminar in Sales Management
- MKTG 768 – Seminar in Internet Marketing and E-Business
- MKTG 769 – Seminar in International Marketing
- MKTG 772 – Strategic Brand Management