

2009-2010

DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAM:  
J.D./M.S. IN MASS COMMUNICATION

Boston University

I. INTRODUCTION

The growth of new communications technologies has created a need for lawyers with special training in the technological, marketing, and legal changes brought about by a wide spectrum of new media. Recognizing the dramatic impact of these changes, the School of Law and the College of Communication at Boston University offer a unique program which allows the student to acquire a law degree and a master's degree in Mass Communication -- normally a three year plus one-and-a-half year sequence -- in an accelerated program of only three and one-half years.

II. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for the dual-degree program include:

- A. Separate admission to the School of Law and to the College of Communication. For **School of Law** application procedures, please consult the current Boston University School of Law Catalogue.

For **College of Communication**:

- 1) Students ordinarily apply to the College of Communication before or during their first year of law school to begin the masters' degree program in their second year of law school. The College of Communication requires a separate application.
- 2) Two required essays (must be new).
- 3) Law School recommendations may be used.

- 4) Copy of your LSAT report (the College of Communication accepts the LSAT)
  - 5) Application deadline for College of Communication: February 1<sup>st</sup> for September admission.
- B. The College of Communication will apply four LAW courses toward the M.S. degree.
- There are no specific LAW courses required for the M.S. degree. However, it is suggested that elective LAW courses include: Administrative Law (preferably by the end of the second year of law school); Antitrust Law.
  - Additional **suggested** LAW courses include: Commercial Code; Copyright or Intellectual Property; Corporations; Corporate Finance; Corporate Taxation; Federal Courts; Local Government Law; Taxation: Federal.
- C. Students must complete the following College of Communication courses:
- Contemporary Mass Communication
  - Writing For Media Professionals
  - New Communication Technologies
  - Computers in Communication
- AND**
- Four College of Communication electives
  - Master's thesis or professional project
- D. After the first year of Law School, students may apply toward the J.D. (Law) degree up to **3** credits **per semester** (up to 12 credits **total**) of graduate-level work taken at the College of Communication.
- \* NOTE: Rules governing accreditation of law schools require that the School of Law grant credit according to the number of hours a course meets per week. Thus, if a COM course meets 3 hours per week but COM grants 4 credits for that course, the School of Law can apply only 3 credits for that course toward the J.D. degree.
- E. Students may be able to accelerate the M.S. program through summer courses at the College of Communication; however, not all-pertinent graduate courses are offered every summer. Also, students have to pay extra tuition for summer courses.
- F. While students are attending both the School of Law and the College of Communication, they pay only one tuition.

**III. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

A. College of Communication:

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