DUAL DEGREE ADMISSION CRITERIA & APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MSRED PROGRAM

The requirements for students who wish to pursue dual degrees are stated in the Graduate School Manual. This memorandum describes the application/admission process specifically for students who are already enrolled at MIT. Please note that the tuition rate for the MSRED program is higher than the MIT rate. Once admitted as a dual degree, students will be charged the higher premium.

ADMISSIONS

In addition to the following requirements, the Admissions Committee seeks a diverse group of students who are clearly committed to devoting their careers to the real estate field, and who possess undergraduate or graduate degrees in one of the disciplines that have traditionally provided a basis for work in real estate (for example, engineering, law, architecture, planning, economics, or business). In general, the MSRED program prefers dual degree students with at least one and a half to two years of continuous professional experience in a real estate related field. Applications are evaluated by a Dual Degree Admissions Committee.

We recommend that students apply for a dual degree during their first semester at MIT. In order to be admitted into a dual degree program, students must apply and gain admission to each program separately. Admission for dual degree program is contingent upon filing an approved dual degree petition which is due during the Fall term of your second year.

Application materials must be submitted by January 5 of your first year at MIT. Students are required to meet all MSRED admission requirements. The application materials required are:

1) It is strongly suggested that dual degree applicants set up a meeting with admission staff. Please contact Patricia Nesti, tnesti@mit.edu to schedule an appointment.

2) A complete copy of your original application to MIT including all forms, transcripts, GRE or other scores, and letters of recommendation. These must come directly from your current department.

3) A new on-line MIT Graduate Application Form and new statement of objectives focusing on why pursuing a dual degree with the MSRED program is an important step in your academic and professional development. Please describe what contribution you feel you would bring to the class.

4) Copy of your resume.

5) Three new letters of recommendation, one of which needs to be from a faculty member in your current program, not a dual degree committee member.

6) An official MIT transcript from the Registrar’s Office. Please request an official transcript to be sent directly to MIT/CRE, 9-343.

7) If a microeconomics course has not been completed in prior academic work, it is suggested that one of the following courses be taken:
8) A dual degree proposal, which outlines and presents a proposed set of courses that fully satisfies all requirements for both programs, by semester and year in which courses will be taken. Proposal must accompany your application, and can be emailed to mit-msred_admissions@mit.edu.

Admission decisions will be mailed by mid-April.

GRADUATION

Dual degree students are required to register for an additional term for a total of five semesters. The fifth semester of registration can be a summer term. Most dual degree students can be graduated somewhat earlier by taking the programs simultaneously rather than in sequence. (Separately the programs would take three academic years plus a summer, or seven semesters). A few factors combine to allow this acceleration. First, one thesis may satisfy both programs – though the qualitative standards are higher for a dual degree program. Dual degree students are not allowed to do jointly authored theses. Second, some of the subject requirements in the Real Estate program may be counted against the unit requirement for other program.

It is also strongly recommended that students cluster their real estate subjects into one year, if possible, to take full advantage of the connections among those courses.

MSRED PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Real Estate core course requirements are:

11.354 Real Estate Development: Products (Fall) 6 units
11.S969 Real Estate Development: Building Systems (Fall) 3 units
11.431J Real Estate Finance and Investment (Fall) 12 units
11.303J Real Estate Development Studio: Complex Urban Projects. (Spring) 18 units
11.432J Real Estate Capital Markets (Spring) 6 units
11.433J Real Estate Economics (Fall) 12 units

Plus 2 elective courses, one fall, one spring (min 9 units each)

Thesis

In addition to satisfying this subject requirement, dual degree students must enroll in a minimum of 66 units of G level courses that are “unique” to the real estate program. Unique in this context means that courses and units must be allocated to one program or the other and cannot be double counted.

A thesis which will jointly satisfy the requirements of both programs consists of 24 units. In addition to a thesis advisor, some programs may require a reader plus a thesis defense (MSRED does not). All students are required to complete a thesis prep course.

Questions on Dual Degree information, please contact Patricia Nesti, tnesti@mit.edu

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