Double Owl Pathway

9/30/2020
Presentation to the Graduate Council
Accelerated Undergraduate to Graduate Degrees

Bachelor's

Graduate Level Courses

Master's

Kennesaw State University
What is Double Owl?

• The Double Owl program combines undergraduate and graduate programs into pathways that allow qualified students to complete a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in an accelerated model.

• Through a Double Owl Pathway, students take up to 9 credit hours of graduate-level courses as an undergraduate student that may be used to satisfy both undergraduate and graduate program requirements.

• By earning both a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in an accelerated model, students can save time and money while positioning themselves for success after graduation.

• Pathways can include undergraduate and graduate programs within one department in one school/college; two departments in one school/college; two departments in different schools/colleges.
Student Timeline

This is a general timeline that shows how a student could progress through a typical Double Owl Pathway.

Details regarding pathway-specific deadlines and sample programs of study for each Double Owl Pathway will be found on the Double Owl website.
Student Timeline

- Year 1: student reviews the available Double Owl Pathways on the Double Owl website
- Year 2: student talks to advisor(s) about the pathway(s) of interest and discusses any courses needed in order to apply to the pathway in year 3
- Year 3: student applies and gains acceptance to their desired pathway
- Year 4: student takes graduate-level courses that apply to both the undergraduate and graduate
  - student applies to and gains acceptance to the graduate program
  - student graduates with the bachelor’s degree at the end of year 4
  - If a student chooses not to continue or is not admitted to the graduate school, the student may still use the graduate-level coursework they completed as an undergraduate student toward completion of the bachelor’s degree.

- Year 5: student takes graduate-level courses exclusively and graduates with the master’s degree at the end of the graduate program.
Advisor Roles

**Pathway advisor:** Individual(s) who will help provide further information regarding the pathway (i.e. application and admission, curriculum, etc.)

**Undergraduate advising contact:** Individual(s) who can provide further guidance to students regarding the undergraduate degree program requirements

**Graduate advising contact:** Individual(s) who can provide further guidance to students regarding the graduate degree program requirements

Note: An individual may fill multiple roles for a pathway
Applying to Double Owl Pathway

- Students may use the online inquiry form to express an interest in a Double Owl Pathway. The inquiry will be routed to an appropriate advisor for pathway advising.
- Students use the online application to apply to a Double Owl Pathway.
- Using the criteria established by each program, student applications are reviewed by both the undergraduate and graduate program and are accepted or denied entrance into the pathway.
- Acceptance into the pathway allows students to take the required graduate-level courses that will satisfy both the undergraduate and graduate degree requirements.
- Acceptance to the pathway does not guarantee admission to the graduate program.
Applying to the Graduate Program

• Students work with the graduate advisor to apply to the graduate program, typically during their fourth year. The application is made through the Office of Graduate Admission’s Graduate Application.

• Each Double Owl Pathway has its own requirements for graduate admission.

• Admission to the graduate program should be effective for a term after the undergraduate degree is awarded.

• Student completes the graduate program and graduates with master’s degree at the end of the program.
The Double Owl Pathway is available for all qualified undergraduate students regardless of admission type (Freshman/Transfer).

Criteria for acceptance into a Double Owl Pathway is determined by the department(s) offering the pathway.
• After acceptance into a pathway, students may register for the specified graduate-level courses.

• Students can take up to 9 hours of graduate-level courses as an undergraduate student that count toward both the undergraduate and graduate degree program requirements.
  - *KSU will allow students to take additional graduate courses before completing the bachelor’s degree, however, any courses above the approved 9 hours would not count in the undergrad program and would require an acceptance in the graduate degree program.*

• The graduate-level courses that undergraduate students take while still pursuing the undergraduate degree will appear as graduate courses and display in the program of study in DegreeWorks.

• The courses will remain listed as graduate courses throughout.
  - They do not compute in the UG GPA
  - They do count towards degree completion and show in DegreeWorks.
  - They do compute in the Graduate GPA when student transitions to the graduate program.
Tracking Double Owl Students

• As we move through the pilot phase, the College of Graduate and Professional Education (CGPE) will track Double Owl students.

• A request to UITS has been made to develop a more robust tracking through Banner.
Double Owl Website

doubleowl.kennesaw.edu

The Double Owl website contains information for both students and faculty/advisors, including:

• List of approved programs
  • Program-specific information
  • Program contacts
• Student Stories (to be developed as program matures)
• FAQs
• Link to program proposal system and faculty/staff information
Double Owl Website: Pathway Specific Information

The following information is listed for each approved Double Owl Pathway:

• Career and academic opportunities
• Sample program of study
• Pathway admission requirements
• Graduate admission requirements
• Advising contact information
Financial Aid

Please refer students with questions about financial aid to the Office of Student Financial Aid
Pathway Proposal

• Proposal process managed by the Curriculum office
• Proposal form being put in Curriculog
• Routing through undergraduate and graduate then to the Curriculum office
• Since both the graduate and undergraduate programs are already approved, the Curriculum office is looking to make sure the proposed “double counted” course maintain the integrity of the undergraduate degree. The graduate degree curriculum remains unchanged.
Pathway Proposal Recommendations

• Double Owl admission:
  • 60 hours undergraduate (can be KSU and/or transfer)
  • 30 hours in residence at KSU
  • 3.25 GPA in KSU undergraduate courses
  • Any courses that may provide an indicator of success

• These are just recommendations; you will be expected to work with both undergraduate and graduate faculty to determine what criteria fits best for your proposed pathway.

• Double Owl admission does NOT replace Graduate admission process or guarantee admission to a graduate program.
Student Application Process

• Student applies through Double Owl website which triggers email to doubleowl@kennesaw.edu

• David will create a Double Owl Routing sheet, populate with the student’s information, and route to graduate and undergraduate program contact.

• Both graduate and undergraduate program contact will need to approve and send Routing sheet back to David.

• David will generate an “official” decision letter to the student, copying both graduate and undergraduate program contacts. They can then send any additional information to the student, if they wish.

• CGPE will still manually register student for their graduate courses until UITS and Registrar can implement a better process.
End of Accelerated Bachelors/Masters (ABM) Program

From Pam Cole on 9/17/2020

• With the launch of Double Owl, the old Accelerated Bachelors to Masters (ABM) option will discontinue at the end of this academic year.

• That means last ABM applications will be accepted for Spring 2021 in programs that do not already have an approved Double Owl Pathway.

• Any students accepted into ABM will be allowed to complete ABM.
Questions?

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