BA or BS-MALD Combined Degree Program

Overview
The combined-degree program is conducted jointly by the undergraduate schools (Arts and Sciences or Engineering) and The Fletcher School. It offers an opportunity for a limited number of highly qualified Tufts undergraduates to earn both the bachelor’s degree in their selected major and the Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy (MALD) degree, upon completion of the requirements for both degrees. A total of 16 Fletcher courses are required for the MALD degree. As many as four of these courses may be used in fulfilling requirements for the BA/BS degree.

Program Structure
Typically, the program lasts six years (12 semesters) and will not reduce the time usually required to pursue the two degrees separately. An undergraduate who is able to complete the AS&E eight-semester residence requirement by December of senior year may be able to complete the program in five and a half years. Interested students should consult their undergraduate academic dean about this program.

Fletcher courses may be taken over a period of up to three years. The student must be a full-time Fletcher student, and will pay Fletcher tuition, during at least three semesters.

After being admitted to Fletcher, combined-degree students may take up to four Fletcher courses while still registered in AS&E and have these courses count toward the 16 courses required for the Fletcher degree. Credit toward the MALD degree will not be allowed for Fletcher courses taken through cross-registration before beginning the combined-degree program. Cross-registration for courses at Harvard or at other institutions in the greater Boston area will not be approved until the student has completed at least eight Fletcher courses.

No more than a combined total of five undergraduate and Fletcher courses may be taken during any one semester, and no more than four of those may be Fletcher courses. The student’s program must be coordinated in such a fashion as to satisfy both the Fletcher and undergraduate requirements.

Admissions
Students may apply for the combined-degree program once they have completed and received grades in at least 20 undergraduate courses. All Tufts undergraduates applying for the program are required to participate in an on-campus evaluative Fletcher admissions interview. Applicants should contact the Fletcher Admissions Office to arrange an interview with an admissions staff member.

Admitted students may begin taking Fletcher courses at the start of the following semester, whether it begins in January or September. The application deadline for January admission is October 15. The application deadline for September admission is January 10.

Combined-degree applicants should be aware that financial aid will be recalculated for the semesters when the student is paying Fletcher tuition. Fletcher scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit and need, and Fletcher is unable to meet full need for all of the student’s tuition and living expenses. In addition, undergraduate housing is not an option for full-time Fletcher students, and graduate housing in Blakeley Dorm is not guaranteed.

Additional information about the Fletcher admissions process and financial aid can be found on the Fletcher website at www.fletcher.tufts.edu.