

Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies

The legal studies major is an interdisciplinary course of study that combines the theories and methods of several social science disciplines and law. While not designed as a pre-law program, the major is intended to develop an understanding of the nature, content, and operation of American law and legal institutions.

A minimum total of 120 credits is required for the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in legal studies. Of this total, 30 credits make up the major, which is satisfied by taking courses to complete the (A) core requirements, (B) legal studies electives, and (C) outside electives. At the right is an outline of these major course requirements. The remaining credits required for the degree are outlined on the Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree information sheet.

Some legal studies courses fulfill the College of General Studies (CGS) social sciences curriculum requirements. See the current time schedule of classes for specific information.

Graduate School Option

Early admissions options for legal studies majors are offered by the University's School of Law for its Master of Studies in Law program and by the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. Students with a quality point average of 3.5 or better planning to pursue graduate work may want to consider the graduate school option for early admission to their graduate program. Contact CGS for details.

Minor Requirements

Students interested in a minor, rather than a major, in legal studies should check with their academic consultant. For the minor, students must complete five courses (15 credits) with at least three courses from the University of Pittsburgh. A 2.0 average is required in the minor. Minor courses:

LEGLST 0080	Introduction to Legal Studies	3 cr.
LEGLST	Electives	12 cr.

A. Core Requirements: 6 credits

(two courses)

LEGLST 0080	Introduction to Legal Studies	3 cr.
-------------	-------------------------------	-------

Choose one of the following:

LEGLST 1210	Law and Politics	3 cr.
PS 1213	Law and Politics	3 cr.

B. Legal Studies Electives: 18 credits

Choose six courses:

LEGLST 0020	Public Law and Moral Reasoning	3 cr.
LEGLST 1140	Introduction to Criminal Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1141	Introduction to Criminal Procedure	3 cr.
LEGLST 1150	Lawyers and the Legal Profession	3 cr.
LEGLST 1152	Legal Issues in Public Service	3 cr.
LEGLST 1155	Law and Social Change	3 cr.
LEGLST 1160	Comparative Judicial Processes	3 cr.
LEGLST 1230	Psychology and the Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1240	Anthropology of Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1260	Law, Literature, and Cinema	3 cr.
LEGLST 1261	Language and the Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1315	Sex, Law, and Marriage	3 cr.
LEGLST 1318	Separation, Divorce, and Custody*	3 cr.
LEGLST 1320	Law and Environment	3 cr.
LEGLST 1325	Consumer Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1326	Globalization and Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1327	International Law	3 cr.
LEGLST 1330	Law and Business Corporations	3 cr.
LEGLST 1340	Introduction to Civil Rights	3 cr.
LEGLST 1355	Emerging Issues in Legal and Social Policy	3 cr.
LEGLST 1410	Introduction to Legal Research	3 cr.
LEGLST 1900	Pre-Service Internship	1–6 cr.
LEGLST 1901	Independent Study	1–6 cr.

***Note:** Students may not receive credit for both LEGLST 1318 and SOC 1456 Separation, Divorce, and Custody.

Continued on back ...

C. Outside Electives: 6 credits

Choose two courses:

The final degree requirement is completion of six credits (two courses) from a list of approved electives outside of legal studies. The following represents approved elective courses from various departments:

Administration of Justice

ADMJ	0100	Society and the Law	3 cr.
ADMJ	0500	Introduction to Administration of Justice	3 cr.
ADMJ	1130	Minority Issues in Criminal Justice	3 cr.
ADMJ	1220	Deviance and the Law	3 cr.
ADMJ	1450	Critical Issues in Criminal Justice	3 cr.

History

HIST	1163	Women and the Law	3 cr.
HIST	1190	Medieval Law, Society, and Politics	3 cr.
HIST	1191	English Origins of American Law	3 cr.
HIST	1690	American Legal History	3 cr.

Philosophy

PHIL	1390	Philosophy of Law	3 cr.
------	------	-------------------	-------

Political Science

PS	1211	The Legislative Process	3 cr.
PS	1614	Theory of Justice (Honors)	3 cr.

Psychology

PSY	0182	Law and Social Psychology	3 cr.
-----	------	---------------------------	-------

Sociology

SOC	0471	Deviance and Social Control	3 cr.
-----	------	-----------------------------	-------

Career Opportunities

Courses in legal studies provide a background for:

- Graduate work in administration of justice, business, legal studies, and law.
- Work in law-related fields of insurance, social security, and social services.
- Careers in the following settings:
 - banking.
 - children's rights.
 - civil liberties organizations.
 - collective bargaining/labor relations.
 - corporate sales divisions.
 - credit-related agencies.
 - judicial administration.
 - legal research.
 - human resources.
 - planning commissions.
 - privacy protection.
 - public government aid/legislation.
 - public welfare.
 - real estate agencies.
 - tax consultant firms.
 - workers' compensation bureaus.

College of General Studies

The College of General Studies (CGS) provides adult and continuing education programs that are designed to address changing employer and student needs. The high-quality, flexible programs include courses, certificates, and degrees. CGS provides a single point of access to the University's innovative programs and services that both enrich lives and promote the economic health of the region.

Requirements subject to change. Check with an academic advisor before registering.

For more information, contact:

University of Pittsburgh
College of General Studies
412-624-6600
www.cgs.pitt.edu