Legal Studies Program

The Legal Studies program is now open to students of any major who are interested in studying the development, logic, interpretation, perception, and application of law. As part of the program, you will take law-related courses from different departments throughout the university. Upon graduating, you will be awarded a “Legal Studies Certificate” in addition to your Bachelor’s degree.

Program Goals

Earning a Legal Studies Certificate will show you have an in-depth knowledge of the legal system. It will also show that you understand law from a variety of different perspectives. This could provide a valuable background for a variety of future pursuits, including: graduate school, social work, community and government service, law school, law enforcement, and many others.

Program Requirements

To earn the Legal Studies Certificate, you must complete a total of 8 courses (24 units). You can double-count these courses toward major, minor, general education or other academic requirements. **However, no more than 4 courses (12 units) from your major may be used toward the Certificate.**

The courses must be distributed as follows:

1. **You must choose 1 course (3 units) from the following list:**
   - CRJU 350 (Constitutional Criminal Procedure)
   - HIST 308 (Law and Civilization)
   - HIST 479 (US Constitution: Origins & Early Development)

2. **You may choose the remaining 7 courses from the following list.** These courses should be chosen in consultation with the program adviser, and they must be taken from three different departments.
   - ASAM 346. Asian Americans and the Law
   - AFRS 332. Civil Rights and the Law
   - AIS 485. Indians and the Law
   - BLAW 220. Intro. to Law and Business Transactions
   - BLAW 320/520. Legal and Regulatory Environment of Business
   - CHLS 362. Chicanos and the Law
   - CLSC 410I. Law and Literature in the Classical World
   - COMM 441I. Issues in Freedom of Communication
   - CRJU 301. Criminal Courts and Judicial Processes
   - CRJU 340. Substantive Criminal Law
   - CRJU 350. Constitutional Criminal Procedure
   - CRJU 420. Legal Aspects of Corrections
   - CRJU 430. Criminal Evidence and Trials
   - ECON 355. Law and Economics
   - HIST 308I. Law and Civilization
   - HIST 479. U.S. Constitution: Origins and Early Development
   - HIST 480. Law and Fundamental Rights in American History
   - HIST 489. Selected Topics in Legal History of the United States
   - JOUR 430. Law of Mass Communications
   - PHIL 352I. Philosophy of Law
   - PHIL 451I. Liberty and Justice: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in American Law
   - POSC 311. Constitutional Law: Powers
   - POSC 312. Constitutional Law: Rights
   - POSC 317. International Law
   - POSC 318. International Law
   - POSC 322. Parties, Campaigns and Elections
   - POSC 376. International Law
   - POSC 412. Law and Social Change
   - POSC 414. Jurisprudence
   - POSC 419. Senior Seminar in Public Law
   - POSC 423. The American Presidency
   - POSC 424. The Legislative Process
   - PSY 495. Psychology and the Law
   - SOC 342I. Criminology
   - SW 350. Social Policy: Law and Court Decisions
   - WGSS 308. Women and the Law

3. **In place of 1 of the above courses, you may choose to write a Project Paper.** The paper must be written during your senior year under the supervision of any faculty member who teaches one of the above courses.