

Careers in Justice Studies

Career Path: Law School

In addition to the many career opportunities that exist in the legal professions, many students hope to pursue a career practicing law as a corporate or private attorney. Attorneys work for all types of organizations as well as in private practice. To prepare for law school entrance exams, a number of elective courses provide an excellent foundation for the rigor of law school studies.



Recommended Courses:

For students interested in law school the following elective courses are recommended. These courses enhance a student's knowledge of the legal system and develop their ability to communicate clearly.

JUS2225 Criminal Investigations

Introduces criminal investigation procedures. This course explores the historical development of criminal investigations; how investigation processes relate to the various functions of law enforcement; the collection, organization and preservation of evidence; and the constitutional limitations of criminal investigation.

Prerequisite: JUS1100

JUS2240 Justice and the Judiciary

Introduces the history, structure and procedures of the state and federal judicial systems. Topics include the roles and responsibilities of the district attorney, the defense attorney, the bailiff, the judge, the jury, and the expert witness in determining guilt or innocence. Pretrial activities are also discussed. Prerequisite: JUS1100

These courses are recommended as liberal arts or free electives:

BUS2231 Business Law I

Provides students with detailed knowledge of the laws relating to contracts, commerce, property, sales, negotiable instruments, and employment. Students develop an awareness of business situations requiring legal counsel and a familiarization with the overall structure of the legal system.

ENG2215 Public Speaking

Supports students in the development of oral communication skills. This course emphasizes the identification of good and poor speech habits, techniques for improving speech, oral interpretation, effective speech planning and delivery, and interpersonal communication. Prerequisite or Corequisite: ENG2205

LAW1100 Introduction to Law

Introduces the United States legal system. This course examines the structure and administration of the state and federal courts; the function of the trial and appellate courts; the sources of law; the differentiation between procedural and substantive law; and the legal principles of torts, contracts, criminal, civil and property law.

LAW1110 Contract Law

Examines the common law of contracts and the intricacies of the Uniform Commercial Code. The course covers the formation and performance of contracts; the role of the parties and the role of the court; defects in formation of contracts; failure of performance; and the rights and remedies of the parties upon breach.

LAW2200 Professional Responsibilities and Legal Ethics

Introduces students to the defining ethical issues faced by lawyers and the legal community. Topics include access to justice; issues in the attorney-client relationship; and ethics in particular context, such as criminal practice, government and corporate law. Prerequisite: LAW1100

SOC2215 Introduction to Political Science

Provides an overview of the American political system, the ideas that shaped it, and the conflicts that continue to redefine the relationship between people and political power.

SOC3310 Intercultural Communication

Introduces the various cultural influences on communication. Emphasizes the obstacles and portals to effective communication. Students study the communication styles of different cultural groups and learn to apply cultural perspectives to their daily interactions in business and in their private lives.

SOC3360 Law and Society

Introduces students to basic concepts in law and examines the impact that major court decisions have on culture and subculture. Students will explore how the law ultimately shapes conduct, ideals, and justice in American society, as well as how the law shapes the everyday lives of its citizens.

Career Paths are not minors or concentrations and will not be noted on a student's transcript or diploma. Career Paths are suggested electives to fill elective credits.