

LEGAL STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

(Code 420-603)

The **Certificate in Legal Studies** is designed for those students interested in law school or paralegal work who have a strong interest in providing evidence of coursework in law. Students will be given the opportunity to concentrate coursework in legal studies, develop skill in preparing legal briefs, and develop skill in participating in Socratic dialogue as practiced in law schools and other arenas that teach law. The certificate in Legal Studies provides a liberal arts approach to the study of law and is not intended to provide the kind of clerical training associated with some paralegal training.

Currently enrolled degree-seeking students are eligible to complete a certificate in Legal Studies. Students in the comprehensive political science major with a Legal Studies emphasis are NOT eligible for this certificate.

Students are required to earn a total of 18 credits toward the certificate.

Required Courses (12 crs)

POLS 110	American National Politics	3
POLS 338	Judicial Politics	3
POLS 403	U.S. Constitutional Principles - Powers of Government	3
POLS 404	U.S. Constitutional Principles - Civil Liberties	3
The remaining six credits are to be selected from:		6
POLS 305	Survey of U.S. Constitutional Principles (take before POLS 403, POLS 404)	
POLS 331	International Organization and Law	
POLS 405	U.S. Constitutional Principles - Due Process and Criminal Law	
POLS 498	Internship (provided it is with a law firm or local government office)	
Total Credits		18

Junior standing and POLS 110, are prerequisites for 400 level classes. All of these courses are regularly offered in the department.

Students seeking a certificate in Legal Studies must meet with the department chair and will be assigned a pre-law advisor within the Department of Political Science.

NOTE: Students cannot pursue the Political Science Major and Legal Studies Certificate to meet graduation requirements for completing a first and second degree program.