

Legal Studies / Pre-Law

The legal studies minor is designed for two groups of students: 1) those interested in pursuing law school; and 2) those who want an introductory understanding of law to supplement their college education. The minor is interdisciplinary, including courses drawn from a variety of relevant disciplines. Some of the courses emphasize the development of skills, such as strong communication and argumentation, which are critical to legal analysis. Still other courses introduce students to legal content or important political, social, or economic contexts for the legal system. The primary emphasis is on the U.S. law and legal system. Students must also complete a major in another area of interest; for pre-law students, this is consistent with recommendations from the American Bar Association; the Law School Admission Council, which administers the Law School Admission Test (LSAT); and most individual law school admissions counselors. The pre-law advisor also provides guidance to students preparing for the LSAT and applying to law school.

Minor

PL 141	Logic (suggested in spring of junior year to prepare for LSAT)	3
EN 210	Writing And Analysis Of Literature	4
LW 450	Legal Research Seminar	3
Select two of the following:		6
BA 203	Principles Of Law	
CJ 297	Criminal Law	
PO 203	The U.S. Supreme Court and the American Judiciary	
Select one of the following:		3
BA 304	Principles of Law II	
BA 305	Employment Law and Labor Relations	
BA 310	Dispute Resolution	
CO 360	Law, History and Ethics of Mass Media	
CJ 350	Trial Evidence	
CJ 355	Criminal Procedure	
EN 314	Law and Literature	
PL 310	Special Topics: Applied Ethics	
PO 301	Constitutional Law I: Structure of Government	
PO 302	Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties	
PO 313	International Law and Organization	
PO 359	Advanced Studies in Law and Politics	
SO 245	Sociology Of Law	
Also suggested:		
EC 252	Microeconomic Principles	
HI 114	History of Early America ¹	
HI 115	History Of Modern America ¹	
HI 215	The American Nation, 1789-1877	
HI 245	Recent American History	
HI 306	20th Cent Amer Hist Of Race Gender	
HO 204	Hrs: Political Syst:Decison Making	
LW 420	Legal Studies Internship	
PL 269	Introduction to Ethics	
PO 101	Introduction To Political Philosophy	

PO 111	Introduction To American Politics ¹	
PO 202	Congress	
PO 326	Politics and Public Policy	
RS 119	Christian Action:Moral Responsibility, Charitable Service, Social Justice ¹	
Total Hours		19

¹ Indicates course also satisfies a Core requirement.

Academic Requirements

Transfer students must complete a minimum of 9 semester hours in the legal studies minor at Mount Mercy. A grade of C or above (C- does not count) is required for each course in the minor.