Pre-Law Program

Janet P. O’Hallaron, Chair
http://www.slu.edu/pre-law.xml

A secondary major in Legal Studies (36 credit hours) and a Certificate in Legal Studies (24 credit hours) are offered through the Legal Studies program. The certificate and the secondary major provide students the opportunity to study legal ideas, legal research, legal institutions, and the legal process, while improving the student’s ability to critically analyze issues, balance conflicting interests, and articulate legal arguments clearly in oral and written communications. The secondary major has a strong multidisciplinary emphasis and allows students to study law from a broader social science perspective. A secondary major can only be earned in conjunction with a primary major. The purpose of the program is not the training of legal professionals (which requires graduate legal studies at a law school); rather the program is offered to the students as a field of critical inquiry within the framework of their undergraduate education.

The Pre-Law Scholars program is an exclusive opportunity for freshman applicants who plan to eventually attend law school. Students who are accepted into this highly-selective program are placed on an admittance track to Saint Louis University, School of Law. Pre-law Scholars are required to take 17 credit hours of course work. Pre-Law Scholars are encouraged but not required to earn a Certificate in Legal Studies or a Secondary Major in Legal Studies. For more detailed information on all of these programs, see the Pre-Law Program website.

Secondary Major in Legal Studies - 36 hours
May is a second major only, student must also have a primary major in a different field

Learning Objective 1
Fundamental Legal Principles (18 hours)

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLS 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Law</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDL 100</td>
<td>Intro to University Life</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLS 105</td>
<td>Introduction to Legal Careers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLS 200</td>
<td>Intro to Legal Research &amp; Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 210</td>
<td>Introduction to Legal Analysis</td>
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Learning Objective 2
Critical Reading and Writing Skills / Development of Oral and Written Negotiation, Mediation, & Advocacy Skills (6 Hours)

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMM 305</td>
<td>Argumentation and Debate ±</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMM 409</td>
<td>Theories of Persuasion ±</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 302</td>
<td>Rhetoric, Reasoning, and Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 393</td>
<td>Special Topics: Law and Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 380</td>
<td>Language and Argument</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLS 200</td>
<td>Intro to Legal Research and Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLS 250</td>
<td>The Anatomy of Lawsuit</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 300</td>
<td>Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLS 310</td>
<td>Introduction to Trial Advocacy</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 320</td>
<td>Introduction to Trial Advocacy Lab</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 320</td>
<td>Trial Advocacy Practicum</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 390</td>
<td>Introduction to Appellate Advocacy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 439</td>
<td>Criminal Law and Procedure</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>THR 254</td>
<td>Voice and Diction</td>
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± Prerequisite = CMM 200 Communication Theory
(Students who have high school mock trial experience may contact the Appellate and Trial Practice instructor for permission to enroll as a First Years)

Learning Objective 3
The Practical Application of Law-Legal Internship or Service Learning Courses (3 Hours)

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLS 220</td>
<td>Law: A Service Learning Experience</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS 410</td>
<td>Legal Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
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Prerequisite-PLS 100 & PLS 200 or 210
**Special Programs 2010-2011 Undergraduate Catalog**

**Pre-Law / Legal Studies Program**

**Learning Objective #5**
**Integrating Legal Principles-Capstone (3 hours)**

- **PLS 400** Comparative Legal Systems
  - *Pre-Law Students*
  - OR
- **PLS 405** Foundations of Law
  - *Pre-Law Scholars*

**Certificate in Legal Studies -24 hours**

**Introductory Coursework (9 hours)**

- **PLS 100** Introduction to Law
- **EDL 100** Intro to University Life
  - *Pre-Law Section J1 or J2*
- **PLS 105** Introduction to Legal Careers

Must complete ONE of the four courses below

- **ACCT 220** Financial Accounting
- **ECON 190** Principles of Economics
- **PHIL 404** Symbolic Logic
- **PHIL 406** Logic for the Pre-professional

**Pre-Law Scholars Program**
Students must apply and be accepted to the Pre-Law Scholars Program before they commence their freshman year studies at Saint Louis University

**Course Requirements-17 Required Credit Hours**

- **PLS 100** Introduction to Law
- **PLS 200** Intro to Legal Research & Writing
- **PLS 210** Introduction to Legal Analysis
- **PLS 220** Law: A Service Learning Experience
  - Prerequisite-PLS 100
- **PLS 400** Comparative Legal Systems
  - *Pre-Law Students*
  - OR
- **PLS 405** Foundations of Law
  - *Pre-Law Scholars*
- **PLS 410** Legal Internships
  - Prerequisite-PLS 100 & PLS 200 or 210
- **PLS 405** Foundations of Law
  - *Pre-Law Scholars*

**Public Service/Promotion of justice (3 Hours)**

- **HIST 370** US Constitutional and Legal History
- **PHIL 343** Philosophy of Law
- **PLS 350** Environmental Law
- **PLS 317** The Legislative Process
- **PLS 364** International Law
- **THEO 361** Social Justice
- *Or a course approved by the Pre-Law Pgrm Director*

**Capstone Course-3 credit hours**

- **PLS 400** Comparative Legal Systems
  - *Pre-Law Students*
  - OR
- **PLS 405** Foundations of Law
  - *Pre-Law Scholars*

**Oral and Written Communications (3 Hours)**

- **PLS 250** The Anatomy of a Lawsuit
- **PLS 300** Alternative Dispute Resolution
- **PLS 310** Introduction to Trial Advocacy
- **PLS 320** Intro to Trial Advocacy Lab
  - 0-2
- **PLS 340** Trial Advocacy Practicum Lab
  - 0-2
- **PLS 390** Intro to Appellate Advocacy
  - 3

**Elective Credits (6 Hours)**

- **HIST 370** US Constitutional and Legal History
- **PHIL 343** Philosophy of Law
- **PLS 350** Environmental Law
- **PLS 317** The Legislative Process
- **PLS 364** International Law
- **THEO 361** Social Justice
- *Or a course approved by the Pre-Law Pgrm Director*

**Fall semester of junior year**
Pre-Law Scholars must also take and complete two of the five below courses by the end of their junior year:

- ACCT 220 Financial Accounting (3)
- ECON 190 Principles of Economics (3)
- PHIL 406 Logic for the Pre-Professional (3)
- PHIL 404 Symbolic Logic (3)
- PHIL 433 Philosophy of Law (3)
- MGT 218 Legal Environment of Business I (3)

See the Pre-Law Program Website for additional requirements for Pre-Law Scholars.

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**Course Descriptions**

**ACCT 220 Financial Accounting (3)**
An introduction to financial reporting of results of operations, cash flow and financial position of corporate entities through general-purpose financial statements. An emphasis is placed on the real world environment of business and the use of financial accounting information for management decision making.

**CMM 305 Argumentation and Debate (3)**
Basic concepts and practical application of the role of argument in day to day communication. Students learn to identify, analyze, and criticize arguments, and will gain experience in creating, presenting, defending, and refuting arguments in oral and written form.

**CMM 409 Theories of Persuasion (3)**
Focuses on contemporary persuasion theory and research. Covers a variety of perspectives on the subject, such as motivation theory, social judgment, social movement, and advertising campaigns. The approach helps demonstrate how theories of persuasion can help guide the practice of human communication.

**CMM 442 Freedom of Expression (3)**
This course introduces students to issues of free expression and First Amendment law and their manifestation in the legal system, particularly the U.S. Supreme Court. Broadly put, the course analyzes the history, political and philosophical arguments, legal cases, and controls associated with communicating freely.

**ECON 190 Principles of Economics (3)**
Analysis of how individuals, firms, and nations make choices given limited resources; determinants of decision making in market economies; the political economy of income, employment, and inflation in the aggregate; the role of government and the Federal reserve.

**EDL 101 J1 or J2 (1)**
This course is a preparation for student adjustments to university life. Students will determine their learning style, study skills, and university resources. Sections J1 and J2 are for pre-law scholars and students and are taught by faculty at the Law School.

**ENGL 302 Rhetoric Reasoning and Law (3)**
This course will introduce students to advanced methods of argument, persuasion, and deliberation. It will be especially useful to students studying law, professional writing, communication, political science, and philosophy.
We’ll start with Sophocles’ Antigone, which raises an ancient and fundamental question: when is it just and right to break the law? Other ancient texts will include parts of Homer’s Iliad and Socrates’ Apology. Modern texts will include the civil disobedience writings of Henry David Thoreau, Martin Luther King, and Malcolm X. In all of these cases, our purpose will be two-fold. First, students will examine the kinds of rhetorical appeals these writers are making. Finally, we’ll also look at the current American debate on the use of torture. Some have argued that terrorists should be the exception to the rules against torture; others have insisted that there are never any exceptions. What sort of logic(s) are the parties in these debates employing? To what audiences are they speaking? And what if those different audiences accept different logic(s)?

Second, students will invent our own arguments. We will study strategies of reasoning, including not only logical appeals, but also emotional and character appeals. Students will engage these writers from several perspectives. So, students should be prepared to argue not only what they believe, but also what they don’t believe. (In fact, being able to argue what you don’t believe will be far more valued than arguing what you already believe.)

ENGL 393-Special Topics: Law and Literature (3)
This course includes literary works that lawyers and judges have found interesting and worthwhile. These works should also have value for students in a pre-law program.

Some of the works dramatize recurrent conflicts between individual freedom and the social order (as in Antigone, by Sophocles), or law and equity (as in Shakespeare’s Merchant of Venice.) Unjust or problematic trials and punishment will be studied including Plato’s account of the trial of Socrates, New Testament accounts of the trial and death of Jesus, Dostoevsky’s Grand Inquisitor, Melville’s Billy Budd, Kafka’s Trial, Camus’s The Stranger, Glaspell’s A Jury of Her Peers, Clark, The Ox-Bow Incident, Rose, Twelve Angry Men (dramatization of jury deliberations, rewritten as Twelve Angry Women). The course will conclude with a study of the Scopes Monkey Trial based on actual court documents on the dramatization in the novel, play, and film entitled Inherit the Wind.

HIM 310 Medico-Legal Aspects (3)
Legal terminology and procedures; the court system; liability of health care facilities and providers, health care legislation and regulation, including confidentiality, policies and procedures for the control and use of personal health information.

HIST 399 History of English Law (3)
Introduction to fundamentals of English law—terminology, concepts, and historical development.

HIST 370 Constitutional and Legal History of the United States (3)
This course examines the origins, drafting and ratification of the U.S. Constitution and its subsequent history as revealed in landmark Supreme Court decisions and in constitutional crisis from Nullification to Watergate. Attention will also be given to the growth of American law and the development of the legal profession.

MGT 218 Legal Environment of Business I (3)
Introduction to the U.S. legal system and to specific areas of the law such as torts, contracts, the law of agency and of business organizations. The course also covers American public law affecting businesses, including securities regulations, antitrust law, consumer protection, employment and environment law. Global and ethical issues are considered throughout.

MGT 428 Legal Environment of Business II (3)
Advanced course for students (1) desiring to expand their knowledge of the legal and ethical environment of business and of issues in business law or (2) preparing to take the CPA examination. Topics covered include negotiable instruments, secured transactions, debtor-creditor relationships, property law, trusts and wills, business associations and other special topics such as accountants’ liability and international legal problems. Prerequisite: MGT-218.

PHIL 404 Symbolic Logic (3)
This course develops a theory of valid reasoning. The logic (and semantics) of propositions, quantifiers, properties, relations and identity are covered. It also examines the concepts of consistency, logical truth, logical form, logical equivalence, validity, and related notions. The student should emerge more attuned to how deductive arguments work in actual use and able to evaluate them. Prerequisite: PHIL 105 and 205 or two mathematics courses or some combination of these.

PHIL 406 Logic for the Pre-professional (3)
This course is designed to provide pre-law (and pre-professional) students with a comprehensive treatment of logic, including prepositional logic, Aristotelian logic, predicate logic, and theory of definition.

PHIL 433 Philosophy of Law (3)
This course undertakes a critical survey of the major Western conceptions of the nature of law and examines the relationship between law and morality.
**PLS 100 Introduction to Law (2)**
The purpose of this course is to provide students an introduction to the law and legal principles. The structure of the court system, civil litigation, and methods of alternative dispute resolution will be examined. Elements of the following areas of substantive law: torts, contracts, property, trusts and estates, corporations, family law, and criminal law and procedure will be examined.

**PLS 105 Introduction to Legal Careers (1)**
Students who are not able to take the pre-law section of U101 should consider this course. Students will explore the different areas of practice in law from Admiralty law to Trusts and Estates. Students will explore where these specialty area lawyers work, who their clients are, the type of cases they handle, the daily activities this lawyer engages in, and what does the specialty lawyer find rewarding about their practice. Students will also explore how people enter a particular specialty field, what skill sets are necessary for success, and what classes and law school experience do these specialty lawyers recommend.

**PLS 200 Intro to Legal Research & Writing (3)**
This course has two main objectives (1) to introduce students to the basic of legal research and (2) to introduce students to the fundamentals of legal reasoning and analysis. Students will be required to complete a series of research and writing exercises and a final legal analysis paper.

**PLS 210 Introduction to Legal Analysis (3)**
This course is a much more in-depth exploration of the process of legal analysis. Students will engage in case briefing, statutory and regulatory analysis, and consideration of secondary sources. Several in-depth writing assignments are required.

**PLS 220 Law: A Service Learning Experience (3)**
In this course, students will engage in a service learning experience that will involve a teaching opportunity at a local inner city high school. Students will learn about public policy and how to use the law to achieve that policy.

**PLS 250 The Anatomy of a Lawsuit (2)**
Students will study the fundamental principles of a civil jury trial from its inception through the trial and post-trial phases by following one case. The course will teach basic civil practice procedure as well as the relationship between the judicial system, attorneys, and parties in a civil cause of action. Students will develop a basic understanding of trial advocacy and its place in the American system of justice.

**PLS 250 Alternative Dispute Resolution (3)**
In this course, students will study the nature of conflict and explore dispute resolution techniques that provide alternatives to litigation. The course will explore specific dispute resolution techniques including negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and other forms of dispute resolution.

**PLS 310 Introduction to Trial Advocacy (2)**
This course teaches students how to prepare a legal case for a jury trial. Students learn the basic building blocks of a jury trial, the development of trial strategy, and the use of evidence at trial. The course focuses on advocacy techniques and the application of those techniques to the court setting. In conjunction with this course, students are required to simultaneously enroll in PLS320 (Introduction to Trial Advocacy Lab) where students will use the techniques in a practical setting as members of the undergraduate mock trial teams.

**PLS 320 Introduction to Trial Advocacy Lab (0-2)**
Students apply jury trial techniques learned in PLS 310 (Introduction to Trial Advocacy). Students are introduced to, and participate in, mock trial competitions sponsored by the American Mock Trial Association as members of the undergraduate mock trial teams representing Saint Louis University. Students act as both attorneys and witnesses in the mock trial setting to further their understanding of the jury trial process.

**PLS 340 Trial Practice Practicum Lab (0-2)**
Students explore trial advocacy at an advanced level by participating in mock trial competitions sponsored by the American Mock Trial Association as both witnesses and attorneys. Students enrolling in this course must first complete PLS 310 (Introduction to Trial Advocacy) and PLS 320 (Introduction to Trial Advocacy Lab) or receive instructor permission.

**PLS 350 Environmental Law (3)**
This course will provide an overview of environmental law. The course will address the following environmental laws: National Environmental Policy Act; the Clean Air Act; the Water Pollution Control Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and common law environmental remedies. Students will be taught the basic provisions of these laws and how to identify when factual situations trigger the applications, requirements, and restrictions of these laws.
PLS 375 Issues in Law (3)
This is a rotating course that will address various areas of law. Possible courses include Sports Law and Race, Gender and Justice.

PLS 390 Introduction to Appellate Advocacy (3)
This course introduces students to the role of appellate courts in the American justice system. Students learn and apply the basic elements of appellate argument including brief writing and oral advocacy. Students use a case problem to explore written and oral advocacy techniques in the court of appeals. Students prepare and present an oral argument at the end of the semester based upon the case problem.

PLS 400 Capstone Course-Pre-Law Students (3)
Comparative Legal Systems
Students will study various legal systems: religious, civil, common law, international. They will examine issues and compare and contrast different legal treatments of these issues. Students will be required to write a 15-20 page paper in this course. Pre-Law Scholars who are unable to take PLS 405 because they are studying abroad during the Fall of their junior year may petition the Pre-Law Director to be take this class in its place.

PLS 405 Foundations of Law (3)
Pre-Law Scholars/
This course is open to Pre-Law Scholars. Pre-Law students who have a GPA of 3.6 or higher can petition the course instructor for inclusion in the course. This is a seminar conducted by faculty of the School of Law. A final paper and class participation are major determinants of the grade.

PLS 410 Legal Internship (3)
Interns work in private legal service agency and federal, local, and state judicial systems. In selecting their internships, students are directed by the Pre-Law program and the Political Science department. Ideal for students interested in a legal career.

POLS 211 American Constitution: Civil Liberties (3)
This course is an examination of the civil liberties accorded to the American people under the United States constitution.

POLS 317 The Legislative Process (3)
Structure, role, procedures, of national lawmakers; presidential leadership; congressional offices; committee system; investigating committees; party discipline; rules; proposal for change; comparative practices in Great Britain and state legislatures.

POLS 342 Administrative Law (3)
This course addresses legal issues concerning public administrative agencies and their relationships with other governmental institutions, private corporations and the general public. Topics such as sovereign and limited immunity, primary jurisdiction and exhaustion, standing and ripeness; estoppel; discretionary justice will be considered.

POLS 364 International Law (3)
Nature of the international legal system, application of international law, sources, major legal issues and how the system copes with them; state territory; nationality, jurisdiction; international agreements; state responsibility; international claims.

POLS 372 Renaissance & Mod Political Thought (3)
Topics course in renaissance and modern political thought, topics vary by semester.

POLS 380 Structure of Poverty (3)
This course examines the theoretical and empirical literature on the social, political, and economic structures that produce and perpetuate cycles of poverty. Students will get a first hand view of the structure of poverty as they engage in service learning projects at the well-established, nonprofit organization, Queen of Peace Center.
POLS 493 Special Topics: Judicial Review and American Democracy (3)
This course examines the theory and development of constitutionalism in the American political system by focusing on the concept of judicial review. Why, in a democratic system, do unelected judges possess the power to invalidate laws approved through the democratic process? Was this power implicit in the American constitution or is it the product of historical political development? Can democracy and judicial review be reconciled? And if so, what does the justification for judicial review in a democracy tell us about how we should read the constitution and what role courts should play in our society? Students will pursue these questions by reading historical, legal, philosophical, and empirical works and developing their own ideas about the role of constitutional courts in society.

PSY 448 Psychology and Law (3)
Examines laws, the legal system, and legal processes from the perspective of principles in psychology, as well as the use and effect of psychology in the formation and implementation of laws; and examines the influence of law on social science research and medical/mental health professions.

SOC 333 Corporate White Collar Crime (3)
Analysis of corporate and white collar crime with an emphasis on both the social structural (macro-level) and social psychological (micro-level) factors associated with such activity. Major organizational and criminological theories will be used, discussed, critiqued, and applied in order to provide a framework within such problems can be understood.

SOC 400 Field Work Practicum (3)
Fieldwork in governmental agencies, as well as business and private social service organizations. Approval of instructor required. Every Semester.

SOC 439 Criminal Law and Procedure (3)
This course describes the criminal procedure and legal requirements for conviction of a criminal offense. A requirement in the Forensic Science certificate, the course lays a foundation for understanding how evidence is used in the prosecution of criminal laws.

SWRK 302 American Social Welfare System (3)
Examination of the evolution of the governmental and voluntary system of social welfare. Values and political factors in the shaping of social policy. Contribution of and response by social policy to poverty and vulnerable groups in society. The use of systematic models of policy analysis.

SWRK 703 International Social Work (3)
Cultural and legal studies of the countries of Ghana, India, and Mexico are provided on a rotating basis.

SWRK 711 Social Work and Law (3)
Provides the social work student with an understanding of: how the law operates; how law impacts social work practices; what skills the social worker must possess to successfully use the law on behalf of the client; how lawyers and social workers can work together as client advocates.

THEO 365 Social Justice (3)
This class focuses on Catholic social teachings. Current social issues will be considered in light of these teachings.