Pre-Law Program
Janet P. O’Hallaron, Director
johalla1@slu.edu
www.slu.edu/x22449.xml

A secondary major in Legal Studies (36 credit hours) and a Minor in Legal Studies (24 credit hours) are offered through the Pre-Law program. The minor 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 Minor 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. All courses are three credit hours unless otherwise indicated.

Secondary Major in Legal Studies (36 credit hours)

May only be done as a second major to the student’s primary major

Learning Objective #1-Fundamental Legal Principles
(15 credit hours total)
POLS 100 Introduction to Law
POLS 200 Introduction to Legal Research & Writing

AND

POLS 210 American Constitution: The Original American Constitution+ (POLS 110 Recommended Prerequisite)
OR
POLS 313 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
OR
HIST 370 U.S. Constitutional History
OR
POLS 412 Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar

AND

PHIL 404 Symbolic Logic- OR
PHIL 406 Logic for the Pre-professional

AND

* One course from the list below:
PHIL 343 Philosophy of Law
POLS 372 Renaissance & Modern Political Thought  POLS 475 Seminar in American Political Thought: Imagining Rights
HIST 339 History of English Law
HIST 370 U.S. Constitutional History
POLS 493 Judicial Review and American Democracy
CMM 422 Freedom of Expression
SOC 431/531 Issues in Jurisprudence

Legal Objective #2-Critical Reading and Writing Skills/Development of Oral and Written Negotiation, Mediation, & Advocacy Skills
(6 credit hours total from the list of coursework below)

CMM 305 Argumentation and Debate (Prerequisite CMM 200)
CMM 409 Theories of Persuasion (Prerequisite CMM 200)
ENGL 396 Rhetoric, Reasoning, and Law
ENGL 393 Special Topics: Law and Literature
PHIL 380 Language and Argument
POLS 200 Introduction to Legal Research and Writing
POLS 250 The Anatomy of Lawsuit (2 credit hours)
POLS 300 Alternative Dispute Resolution
POLS 310 Introduction to Trial Advocacy (2 credit hours) year
PLUS PLS 320 Introduction to Trial Advocacy Lab (2 credit hours)
POLS 340 Trial Advocacy Practicum Lab (2 credit hours)
POLS 390 Introduction to Appellate Advocacy
CCJ 439 Criminal Law and Procedure
THR 254 Voice and Diction

Learning Objective #3 The Practical Application of Law-Legal Internship or Service Learning Courses
(3 credit hours total-Students must choose one option below)

PLS 410 Legal Internship (Prerequisite-PLS 100 & PLS 200)
PLS 220 Law: A Service Learning Experience (Prerequisite-PLS 100)
SWRK 703** International Social Work-Ghana, India, or Mexico experience
CCJ 400** Field Work Practicum (Note this is 10 credit hours, ONLY 3 credit hours will count toward the secondary major in Legal Studies)
POLS 380** Structure of Poverty
** Pre-Law Program Director permission required prior to taking the course.

Learning Objective #4-Learning Substantive Provisions of Law
(9 credit hours required)
Any course listed for Learning Objectives 1-3 may also be taken under Learning Objective #4. Students are encouraged to choose an elective course that relates to their undergraduate major-

**PLS Course Electives**
- EDL 100 Introduction to University Life-Pre-Law Sections J1 OR J2 (1 credit hour)
- PLS 105 Introduction to Legal Careers (1 credit hour)

**Allied Health Majors**
- HIM 310 Medico-Legal Aspects

**Business & Economics Majors:**
- MGT 218 Business Law; MGT 428 Business Law II;
- MGT 330 Negotiations; MGT 424 Legal Issues in Sports and Entertainment; MGT 425 Intercollegiate Athletics Management;
- ECON 412 Law and Economics

**Communications Majors**
- CMM 305 Argumentation and Debate; CMM 409 Theories of Persuasion; CMM 442 Freedom of Expression

**Criminal Justice & Sociology Majors:**
- CCJ 333 Corporate White Collar Crime
- CCJ 400 Field Work Practicum
- CCJ 439 Criminal Law and Procedure

**Engineering & the Sciences Majors**
- PLS 350 Environmental Law
- PLS 375 Law for Engineers and Scientists

**English Majors**
- ENG 396 Rhetoric, Reasoning & Law
- ENG 393 Law and Literature

**History Majors**
- HIST 339 History of English Law
- HIST 370 Constitutional and Legal History of the United States
- HIST 361 Civil Rights in America, 1865-1965

**Philosophy Majors**
- PHIL 343 Philosophy of Law

**Political Science Majors**
- POLS 210 American Constitution
- POLS 313 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- POLS 317 The Legislative Process
- POLS 342 Administrative Law
- POLS 364 International Law
- POLS 412 Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar
- POLS 493 Judicial Review and American Democracy

**Psychology Majors**
- PSY 448 Psychology and Law

**Social Work Majors**
- SWRK 302 American Social Welfare Systems
- SWRK 711 Social Work and the Law

Learning Objective #5 - Integrating Legal Principles-Capstone
(3 credit hours required)
- PLS 400 Comparative Legal Systems (Pre-Law Students)
- OR
- PLS 405 Foundations of Law (Pre-Law Scholars)

**Minor in Legal Studies - 24 credit hours**

(All course work is three credit hours unless otherwise noted)

**Introductory Coursework - 9 credit hours**
- PLS 100 Introduction to Law

*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

**Oral and Written Communications - 3 credit hours**
- PLS 250 The Anatomy of a Lawsuit (2 credit hours)
- PLS 300 Alternative Dispute Resolution
- PLS 310 Introduction to Trial Advocacy (2 credit hours)
- PLS 320 Introduction to Trial Advocacy Lab (0-2 credit hours)
- PLS 340 Trial Advocacy Practicum Lab (0-2 credit hours)
- PLS 390 Introduction to Appellate Advocacy

**Public Service/Promotion of Justice - 3 credit hours**
- PLS 220 Law: A Service Learning Experience (Prerequisite PLS 100)
- PLS 410 Legal Internships (must be approved by Pre-Law Program Director-Prerequisite PLS 100 & PLS 200)

**Elective Credits - 6 credit hours**
Students are encouraged to choose an elective course that relates to their undergraduate major-

**PLS Coursework**
- EDL 101 J1 or J2 Introduction to University Life-Pre Law Section
- PLS 105 Introduction to Legal Careers (1 credit hour each)

**Allied Health Majors**
- HIM 310 Medico-Legal Aspects

**Business & Economics Majors:**
- MGT 218 Business Law; MGT 428 Business Law II;
- MGT 330 Negotiations; MGT 424 Legal Issues in Sports and Entertainment; MGT 425 Intercollegiate Athletics Management;
- ECON 412 Law and Economics

**Communications Majors**
- CMM 305 Argumentation and Debate; CMM 409 Theories of Persuasion; CMM 442 Freedom of Expression

**Criminal Justice & Sociology Majors:**
- CCJ 333 Corporate White Collar Crime
- CCJ 400 Field Work Practicum
- CCJ 439 Criminal Law and Procedure

**Engineering & the Sciences Majors**
- PLS 350 Environmental Law
- PLS 375 Law for Engineers and Scientists

**English Majors**
- ENG 396 Rhetoric, Reasoning & Law
- ENG 393 Law and Literature

**History Majors**
- HIST 339 History of English Law
HIST 370  Constitutional and Legal History of the United States  
HIST 361 Civil Rights in America, 1865-1965  

**Philosophy Majors**  
PHIL 343 Philosophy of Law  

**Political Science Majors**  
POLS 210 American Constitution  
POLS 313 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights  
POLS 317 The Legislative Process  
POLS 342 Administrative Law  
POLS 364 International Law  
POLS 412 Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar  
POLS 493 Judicial Review and American Democracy  

**Psychology Majors**  
PSY 448 Psychology and Law  

**Social Work Majors**  
SWRK 302 American Social Welfare Systems  
SWRK 711 Social Work and the Law  
THEO 361 Social Justice  
Or a course approved by the Pre-Law Program Director  

**Capstone Course-3 credit hours**  
POLS 400 Legal Certificate-Capstone Course-Comparative (Pre-Law Students only)  
OR  
POLS 405 Foundations of Law (Pre-Law Scholars only)  

**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**  
(All course work is three credit hours unless otherwise noted)  

Pre-Law Scholars must also take and complete one of the five courses listed below, by the end of their junior year:  
- ECON 190 Principles of Economics  
- PHIL 406 Logic for the Pre-Professional  
  OR  
- PHIL 404 Symbolic Logic  
- PHIL 433 Philosophy of Law  
- ACCT 220 Financial Accounting  

Pre-Law Scholars can choose one of the identified electives. Students are encouraged to choose an elective course that relates to their undergraduate major-
CCJ 333 Corporate White Collar Crime (3 credit hours)
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.

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

CCJ 439 Criminal Law and Procedure (3 credit hours)
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.

CMM 305 Argumentation and Debate (3 credit hours)
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 credit hours)
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 credit hours)
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 credit hours)
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 credit hour)
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.

ECON-412 Law and Economics (3)
PREREQUISITES: ECON-312, ECON-314, and MATH-132 or MATH-142 or higher level Calculus course, or permission of department chair; MGT-218 highly recommended. This course broadly examines the roles of prices and markets, the causes of market failures and the criteria for legal and public-policy intervention. Specific topics include (1) the long-run and short-run economic interests of individual, corporate and public sector clients in a variety of legal contexts; (2) the normative judgments that are implicit in many economic policies and the legal structures implementing such policies; and (3) the uses and limits of economic analysis and economic data in solving a variety of social problems

ENGL 396-01 Rhetoric, Reasoning and Law
This course fulfills a requirement for Pre-Legal Studies and the Rhetoric, Writing, and Technology Concentration. It was formerly listed as English 302. A common complaint about English courses is that there is never any “right answer.” That’s not exactly true, of course. It would be more accurate to say that certain answers are “righter” than other answers (which mean that some answers are “wronger” than others.) Whether we’re interpreting a poem, a play, an interview, or a legal argument, we often find that certain interpretations are more persuasive or plausible another interpretations. But that doesn’t mean we can ever be absolutely certain about our conclusions. There is always a counter-argument. That is why rhetoricians since Aristotle have practiced arguing the opposite sides of any case. That is also why rhetoricians—like lawyers—have been accused of being untrustworthy; it was said that you never knew quite where they stood. Arguing opposites is precisely what we’re going to do in this course. We’re going to look at few difficult situations—both in fiction and nonfiction—and we are going to argue our way through these situations by “proving opposites,” or arguing different sides of each case. We’ll also spend some time looking at various methods and modes of argumentation. Since English 396 is essentially a writing course, assignments will include several short response essays (3-4 pages) and two longer essays (5-6 pages). Students will have the opportunity to revise longer pieces in order to improve their scores. Most importantly, students will occasionally be asked to write responses challenging their initial responses. In other words, if you take this course, you’re going to learn to write, and you’re going to learn to argue with yourself. This is a course for students who like to write, who enjoy arguing, and who can entertain more than one possible opinion at one time.

ENGL 393-Special Topics: Law and Literature (3 credit hours)
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 Oxbow 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 credit hours)
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 339 History of English Law (3 credit hours)
Introduction to fundamentals of English law-terminology, concepts, and historical development.

HIST 370 Constitutional and Legal History of the United States (3 credit hours)
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.

HIST 361 Civil Rights in America, 1865-1965
This course examines the hundred-year struggle to secure civil rights for African-Americans from Reconstruction through the Civil Rights Movement. Students will examine the factors creating a racially segregated society and the efforts undertaken by civil rights groups to dismantle Jim Crow Society.

MGT 218 Legal Environment of Business I (3 credit hours)
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 330 Negotiations and Conflict Resolution
PREREQUISITE: MGT-300. This course focuses on processes for conducting negotiations and resolving conflicts. The course will introduce different theoretical perspectives and help students understand their own attitudes and aptitudes regarding negotiations and conflict resolution. In addition, students will have the opportunity to put this knowledge into practice, and reflect upon the outcomes.

MGT 424 Legal Issues in Sports and Entertainment
PREREQUISITE: MGT-218 (or PLS-100). This course aims to give the student an in-depth understanding of amateur and professional athletics, and the sports and entertainment industry in general, in relation to the American system of jurisprudence, statutory law, administrative law, constitutional law, and common law. It is intended to familiarize the student with legal concepts and analysis, which will be integral to the student’s ability to recognize, approach and resolve sport and entertainment-related legal issues. Answers to legal questions will be pursued through critical thinking and reasoning, especially on matters of policy, legal and political philosophy, with an ultimate goal of gaining valuable insight on issues the student will be called to deal with in his/her ensuing academic and professional life.

MGT 425 Intercollegiate Athletics Management
PREREQUISITE: MGT-300. The course will offer extensive and management legal theory background and important rules’ interpretation, as well as the application on a variety of issues arising in intercollegiate athletics. The student will learn to recognize, approach, and resolve NCAA and Conference rules’ related issues. The course will promote the student’s ability to deal with problems in intercollegiate athletics and encourage critical thinking and reasoning. As an upper level sport business course member, the student will be called to assume a critical stance on the issues under study, and will have to support theoretically, conceptually, and practically.

MGT 428 Legal Environment of Business II (3 credit hours)
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 credit hours)
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 credit hours)
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 credit hours)**
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 (3 credit hours)**
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 credit hour)**
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 Introduction to Legal Research & Writing (3 credit hours)**
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 220 Law: A Service Learning Experience (3 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
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 300 Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
This is a rotating course that will address various areas of law. Possible courses include Engineering Law and Health Law.

**PLS 390 Introduction to Appellate Advocacy (3 credit hours)**
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 credit hours)**
**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.

**PLS 405 Foundations of Law (3 credit hours)**
**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. A final paper and class participation are major determinants of the grade.

**PLS 410 Legal Internship (3 credit hours) Prerequisite: PLS 100 & PLS 200**

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.

**PLS 110 Introduction to American Political Institution (3 credit hours)**

This course serves as an introduction to the basic American Political Institutions.

**PLS 211 American Constitution: Civil Liberties (3 credit hours)**

This course is an examination of the civil liberties accorded to the American people under the United States constitution.

**PLS 313 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (3)**

This course surveys the various constitutional protections that may be employed by individuals against the state under the United States Constitution, the long struggle for racial equality that has shaped the American polity since before the Constitution was written, and the application of equal protection principles to other protected classes. Fulfills the A&S Diversity in the U.S. requirement.

**PLS 317 The Legislative Process (3 credit hours)**

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.

**PLS 331 Administrative Law (3)**

Legal issues concerning public administrative agencies, their relationships with other governmental institutions, private corporations and the general public. Sovereign and limited immunity, primary jurisdiction and exhaustion, standing and ripeness; estoppel; discretionary justice

**PLS 364 International Law (3 credit hours)**

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.

**PLS 372 Renaissance & Modern Political Thought (3 credit hours)**

This course traces the development of Western political thought from its beginnings in the Greek city-state to end of the Middle Ages. Thinkers addressed may include: Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Augustine, and Aquinas.

**PLS 380 Structure of Poverty (3 credit hours)**

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.

**PLS 412 Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar (3)**

This course examines civil rights law in the US since mid-20th century. Students serve as lawyers and justices and retry Supreme Court cases on school desegregation, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, affirmative action, school busing, sex discrimination, and sexual orientation discrimination. Prereq: POLS 210, POLS211, or permission of instructor.

**PLS 493 Judicial Review and American Democracy (3 credit hours)**

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 credit hours)**

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.
SWRK 302 American Social Welfare System (3 credit hours)
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 credit hours)
Cultural and legal studies of the countries of Ghana, India, and Mexico are provided on a rotating basis.

SWRK 711 Social Work and Law (Graduate Level course-3 credit hours-Instructor Approval Required)
Provides the social work student with an understanding of: how the law operates; how law impacts social work practice; 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 credit hours)
This class focuses on Catholic social teachings. Current social issues will be considered in light of these teachings.