Legal Studies Curriculum Guide

Every undergraduate student at William Paterson University must complete a total of 120 credits, including the University Core Curriculum (UCC) and a major program of study. In addition, students must show competence in the equivalent of two semesters of some foreign language. The UCC consists of 40 credits in various categories; at least 30 of these credits must be outside the major.

The Legal Studies Major: 36 credits; 12 courses

Legal Studies is a separate interdisciplinary major housed within the Political Science Dept.

1. **Core Courses** (18 credits; 6 courses):
   - Research Methods (POL 2020)
   - The American Judicial System (POL 2260)
   - Constitutional Law: Judicial Process (POL 3240)
   - Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties (POL 3250)
   - Philosophy of Law (PHIL 3330)
   - Senior Seminar (POL 4800) [See note on Seminars below]

2. **Legal Studies Distribution Courses** (9 credits; 3 courses, one chosen from each section):
   - **Section I: Theory**
     - Ancient & Medieval Political Theory (POL 2110)
     - Modern Political Theory (POL 2120)
     - American Political Theory (POL 3110)
   - **Section II: International Legal Process**
     - International Law (POL 3400)
     - Comparative Rights (POL 3020)
     - Conflict Resolution and the Law (POL 3010)
   - **Section III: Contemporary Legal Issues**
     - African-American Politics (POL 2280)
     - Politics of the Environment (POL 3550)
     - Politics of Sexual Violence (POL 3730)
     - Administrative Law (POL 3850)

3. **Legal Studies Electives** (9 credits; 3 courses from the following electives):
   - Business Law I: Contracts (LAW 2510)  Labor Relations & Law (SOC 3230)
   - Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (SOC 3360)  Law in Society & Culture (ANTH 3410)
   - Critical Writing I (ENG 3300)  Legal Environ. of Business (LAW 2010)
   - Critical Writing II (ENG 3330)  Logic (PHIL 2100)
   - Environmental Law (ENV 3400)  Psychology of Law (PSY 2750)
   - Ethics (PHIL 2000)  Sociology of Law (SOC 3350)
   - Women & Law in the U.S. (WGS 3290)

**Directed elective**: All students at the university are required to take 2 courses in UCC Area 3c, Social and Behavioral Sciences. Legal Studies majors must take POL 1200, American Government, as one of these two courses. The other can be in any social science discipline (except Political Science). This course should be taken before taking any Legal Studies courses.

**Seminar, POL 4800**: Seminar topics for two semesters in advance are posted online on the Political Science Dept. website, http://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/pol_sci/seminars.dot. Some seminars
will be labeled "(applicable for Legal Studies majors)." If a seminar is not so labeled, students may consult with the Legal Studies program director to discuss the possibility of choosing a paper topic in that seminar that would be relevant to Legal Studies.

Course sequencing

1. Take UCC Area 3c course POL 1200
2. Take core courses POL 2260 and POL 2020 and a Legal Studies Distribution Course from the theory section (POL 2110, POL 2120, or POL 3110)
3. Optional: take 1-2 2000-level Legal Studies electives
4. Take core courses POL 3240, POL 3250, and PHIL 3330 and a Legal Studies Distribution Course from each of the International Legal Process section and the Contemporary Legal Issues section, plus additional Legal Studies electives
5. Take POL 4800

Legal Studies Minor - 18 credits; 6 courses (3 core courses and 3 elective courses)

1. **Core Courses** (9 credits; 3 courses)
   - American Government (POL 1200)
   - American Judicial System (POL 2260)
   - Either Con Law: Judicial Proc. (POL 3240) or Con Law: Civil Liberties (POL 3250)

2. **Electives** (9 credits)
   - Any other three courses listed under the major (under Core Courses, Legal Studies Distribution Courses, or Legal Studies Electives)

Double Majoring in Political Science and Legal Studies

You are allowed to double-count up to half the courses that satisfy two different majors, so if you are interested in double majoring in Political Science and Legal Studies, each individually is a 36 credit (12 course) major, but you can complete the two majors with as few as 54 credits (18 courses).

Majoring in Political Science and Minoring in Legal Studies

If you are a Political Science major and wish to minor in Legal Studies, you may double-count up to half the minor credits -- 3 courses.

Majoring in Legal Studies and Minoring in Political Science

If you are a Legal Studies major and wish to minor in Political Science, you may double-count up to half the minor credits -- 3 courses.
## University Core Curriculum Requirements for Legal Studies Majors

**Area 1. Personal Well-Being** - 1 course
- FINP 1600 - FINANCIAL WELL BEING
- KNES 1000 - ACTV LIFESTYLES HEALTH
- PBHL 1100 - HEALTHY U
- PBHL 1300 - HEALTHY LIVING AFTER 30
- PBHL 2000 - ACTIVE LIFESTYLES FOR HEALTH
- PEGE 1500 - FITNESS FOR LIFE
- PHIL 1600 - ETHICAL WELL BEING

**Area 2. Expression**
- A. Arts & Communication - 1 course
  - ARTH 1010 - UNDERSTANDING ART
- B. Writing - 1 course
  - COMM 1010 - EXPERIENCING THEATER
- C. Literature - 1 course
  - COMM 1100 - COMMUNICATION IN ACTION
- D. News Literacy - 1 course
  - COMM 1880 - NEWS LITERACY
- E. Public Speaking - 1 course
  - COMM 2340 - FILM AS A MEDIUM
- F. Music Appreciation - 1 course
  - MUS 1150 - UNDERSTANDING MUSIC
- G. Music Fundamentals - 1 course
  - MUS 1200 - MUSIC APPRECIATION
- H. Music Fundamentals - 1 course
  - MUS 1440 - MUSIC FUNDAMENTALS
- I. Understanding Jazz - 1 course
  - MUS 2930

**Area 3. Ways of Knowing**
- A. Philosophical Perspectives - 1 course
  - PHIL 1600 - ETHICAL WELL BEING
- B. Historical Perspectives - 1 course
  - ARTH 1010 - UNDERSTANDING ART
- C. Social and Behavioral Sciences - 2 courses from 2 different disciplines
  - LANG 1120 - UNDERSTANDING HUMAN LANGUAGE
- D. Scientific Perspectives - 1 course
  - POL 1200 - AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
- E. Quantitative Thinking - 1 course
  - PSY 1100 - GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
- F. Principles of Sociology - 1 course
  - SOC 1010 - PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY
- G. Social Problems - 1 course
  - SOC 1020 - SOCIAL PROBLEMS
- H. Sociology of the Family - 1 course
  - SOC 2310 - SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY
- I. Gendered Lives & Societies - 1 course
  - WGS 1800 - GENDERED LIVES & SOCIETIES

**Area 4. Diversity and Justice** - 1 course
- BIO 1110 - APPLIED A & P
- BIO 1180 - BASIC ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I
- BIO 1190 - BASIC ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II
- BIO 1200 - HUMAN BIOLOGY *
- BIO 1300 - FIELD BIOLOGY *
- BIO 1400 - INTRO ANIMAL BEHAVIOR *
- BIO 1500 - HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY *

**Area 5. Community and Civic Engagement** - 1 course
- CHEM 1200 - CHEM IN PERSPECTIVE *
- CHEM 1310 - COLLEGE CHEMISTRY
- CHEM 1320 - ORGANIC BIOCHEMISTRY: LEC
- CHEM 1600 - GEN CHEM I
- CHEM 1620 - GEN CHEM II
- ENV 1100 - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY *
- ENV 1150 - GENERAL GEOLOGY *
- PHYS 1100 - INTRO TO PHYSICS *
- PHYS 1700 - GENERAL ASTRONOMY *
- PHYS 1900 - ACOUSTICS AND SOUND *
- PHYS 2550 - COLLEGE PHYSICS I
- PHYS 2600 - GENERAL PHYSICS I

**Area 6. Global Awareness** - 1 course
- CSCH 2300 - INTEGRATED RES METHDS/STATS II
- MATH 1090 - MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS
- MATH 1100 - CONTEMPORARY MATH *
- MATH 1160 - PRECALCULUS
- MATH 1170 - BUSINESS MATH
- MATH 1300 - ELEMENTARY STATISTICS *
- MATH 1350 - ALGEBRA, TRIG AND FUNCTIONS
- MATH 1600 - CALCULUS I
- ANTH 2020 - DIVERSITY & EQUITY IN SCHOOLS
- ASIAN 2580 - ASIAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
- AWS 2250 - RACE, GENDER & SOC JUSTICE
- COMM 2620 - COMMUNICATING FOOD
- HIST 2350 - AMERICAN SLAVERY
- HIST 2510 - MODERN WOMEN & GENDER
- HIST 2910 - HISTORY CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
- MUS 2551 - ROCK MUSIC: DIVERSITY & JUSTICE
- PBHL 2950 - DISPARITIES IN HEALTH
- POL 2720 - POLITICS & SEX
- SOC 2410 - MINORITY GROUPS IN AMERICA
- SOC 2420 - MUSLIM & ISLAMIC US INST
- SOC 2990 - SOCIOLOGY OF RACE & LAW
- SOC 3010 - SOC OF RACE AND LAW
- WGS 2250 - RACE, GENDER & SOC JUSTICE
- WGS 2500 - RACISM & SEXISM GLOBAL PERSP
- WGS 2720 - POLITICS & SEX
### University Core Curriculum Requirements for Legal Studies Majors, continued

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### Notes

Area 3C: Must take POL 1200 and 1 non-Political Science course. If you are a strong math or science student, you can take one of the starred courses.

Area 3D & 3E: May double count any future Legal Studies courses. Note that Area 6 is displayed in two columns, but the requirement is to choose only a single Area 6 course.

Area 4, 5, and 6: May double count any Legal Studies courses developed for these areas. Note that Area 6 is displayed in two columns, but the requirement is to choose only a single Area 6 course.

### Writing Intensive Courses:
You need to take 4 of these. But these can double count with other UCC or major courses. So ENG 1100, College Writing, is one writing intensive course that everyone takes. Most everyone will take ENG 1500, Experiences in Literature, another writing intensive course. POL 4800, the required Legal Studies capstone seminar will be writing intensive (as of Fall 2012). So that leaves one further writing intensive requirement. There is a long list of writing intensive courses and we hope there will be several in Legal Studies.

### Technology Intensive Courses:
You need to take 2 of these; these can double count with other UCC or major courses. We expect that POL 2020, Research Methods in Political Science, will become a technology intensive course. There is a long list of technology intensive courses across the university and we expect there will be some in Legal Studies.

### World Languages Requirement:
6 credits (a university graduation requirement): Complete two consecutive semesters of the SAME Foreign Language (SPAN 2010 2110 or SPAN 1100/1110). You may also complete (SPAN 1060) to fulfill this requirement. Students MAY NOT be enrolled in language courses below the level of which they placed to complete the University Language requirement. However, these courses can be used as elective credit. Any questions, please contact the Office of Languages and Cultures.