

Pre-Law Recommendations

Note: This information is not intended to preclude completion of other courses that may be offered on a regular or irregular basis, such as selected topics courses. Nor does the below guarantee that completion of these courses alone will satisfy the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree requirements for graduation. Completion of courses will not ensure that you will be admitted into law school or graduate if you are accepted into law school. The Political Science Department recommends the following courses within the structure of the University Core Curriculum, and college and departmental requirements.

Courses Recommended for Pre-Law Students

The following courses may benefit the pre-law student in one or more ways. Several of the courses will help prepare the student to be better prepared for the formal study of law; some courses may increase the student capacity to perform better on the Law School Aptitude Test [LSAT]; and many are useful to the future lawyer in the practice of law. All courses will better prepare one for living in the real world regardless of one's goals.

The courses with an asterisk [*] are courses that count towards the Laws, Values, and Policy minor. Many of the below courses may also count towards a major or other minors.

Strongly Recommended

- *POLS 3385 Intro to LAW [**A good starter course – an introduction to most areas of the law**]
- *POLS 3356 Introduction to Constitutional Law
- *POLS 3357 Constitutional Law II: Civil Liberties
- *POLS 3359 Criminal Justice
- *POLS 3386 Criminal Law
- *ENGL 3340 Advanced Composition
- *COMM1332 Fund. of Public Speaking
- *PHIL 1321 Logic I
- *PHIL 3375 Law, Society and Morality
- *SPAN 3307 Public Speaking in Spanish

Recommended

- *POLS 3354 Law And Society
- *POLS 3355 Judicial Process
- *POLS 3358 Judicial Behavior

Also Recommended

- *POLS 3349 American Political Thought
- *POLS 3350 Public Law and Political Theory
- *POLS 3346 Human Rights
- *POLS 4366 Constitutional Design
- ACCT 2331 Accounting Principals I - Financial
- ACCT 2332 Accounting Principals II – Managerial
- COMM 3337 Argumentation and Debate
- COMM 3339 Advanced Public Speaking
- *COMM 3356 Business and Professional Communications
- ENGL 4322 Grammar Usage
- ENGL 3341 Business and Professional Writing
- *PHIL 2321 Logic II
- *PHIL 3350 Ethics
- *PHIL 3357 Punishment
- *PSYC 2380 Intro. to Social Psychology
- PSYC 3334 Psychology and Law
- SOC 3311 Sociology of Law
- *SOC 3313 Criminology
- TELS 2360 Business Law

In addition to these recommended courses, the Career Center offers counseling on such subjects as how to prepare for the Law School Aptitude Test; the process of selecting the law school suited best to the student's personal desires and credentials; and the procedure for applying to law school. Up-to-date information is also provided on the various career opportunities and general employment prospects within the legal field.

Law school advice is also available from Professor Robert A. Carp, Department of Political Science Pre-Law Advisor, Room 402 Hoffman Hall (PGH), or call for an appointment at (713) 743-4008. Advice may also be available from various professors within the Department teaching law-related courses.