



## DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL STUDIES REGULATIONS *STUDENT EDITION*

### WELCOME!

Welcome to the Department of Legal Studies! In an effort to help you navigate through your time here and to complete your degree or certificate in the shortest time and with the maximum success, we have prepared this booklet. It explains many of the policies we observe and answers many of your questions. We hope it is helpful to you.



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## GOALS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Department of Legal Studies is to educate students of diverse backgrounds to become effective, ethical and professional paralegals who are employable in a variety of legal settings. The five cornerstones to achieving this goal are:

- Knowledge of law
- Practical application
- Analytical ability
- Effective communication
- Technology literacy

Paralegals work under the direction of attorneys in such settings as private law firms of all sizes, corporations and businesses, legal aid organizations and governmental agencies.

The department, in furtherance of the university mission, strives to help students build a framework for life that is ethical, service-oriented, appreciative of diversity and committed to continuing education. In addition to the major in Legal Studies, students should receive a well-rounded general education with exposure to the traditional liberal arts fields of study, in order to develop their abilities to communicate, both orally and in writing, to think critically and creatively, and to access, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information.

The learning objectives of the department are that students will:

1. Learn the law and legal principles in a variety of subject areas as well as understand legal procedures and practices.
2. Recognize and apply the ethical rules and standards of conduct involved in the practice of law and to be observed by paralegals.
3. Analyze legal problems, correctly applying the applicable law.
4. Research case and statutory law, using traditional and technological methods.
5. Function effectively with the computer technology used in practice and be prepared to adapt to ever-changing technological advances.
6. Draft legal documents, including letters, using proper English, format, and clarity.
7. Display effective oral communication skills to be used with clients, attorneys, witnesses, and other persons.
8. Be knowledgeable about the role and qualifications of the paralegal including the necessity of continuing legal education and staying abreast of changes and advancements in the paralegal career.
9. Develop organizational skills necessary for successful law office functioning, including categorizing and organizing documents, calendaring, prioritizing work, managing time, using forms, and maintaining billing data.
10. Gain basic skills in factual investigation and interviewing.

## ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION

### DEGREE OPTIONS

The Program provides the following degree options:

1. A **Bachelor of Science** in Legal Studies (B.S.), which requires 128 semester units. There are 46-48 units in the major, all of which are Legal Studies courses.
2. A **Paralegal Certificate**, which requires 32 semester units of Legal Studies courses.
3. **Minor in American Law**, which requires 24 units. It is not approved by the American Bar Association and does not provide a paralegal certificate.

### ACCREDITATION

The University of La Verne is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The Department of Legal Studies is approved by the American Bar Association.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Department of Legal Studies has established an Advisory Committee to give guidance to the University on curricular and professional matters relating to the department. Membership is listed on the department's web page.

### THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN LEGAL STUDIES

This degree requires a minimum of 128 semester hours of course work which includes the general education and all other requirements for graduation as specified in the University catalog. Students are admitted through the admissions department or through CAPA.

Courses required:

LS 301	American Legal Studies	(4)
LS 304	Legal Research and Writing	(4)
LS 311	Law Office Computer Applications	(2)
LS 355	Advanced Online Research	(2)
LS 365	Litigation I	(4)
LS 368	Litigation II	(4)
LS 380	Torts	(4)
LS 390	Contracts	(4)
LS 490	Paralegal Internship & Ethics	(4)
LS 499	Senior Project	(4)

Three of the following electives are required (10 or more units):

LS 321	Family Law	(4)
LS 328	Property and Real Estate Transactions	(4)
LS 329	Property/Bankruptcy	(4)
LS 330	Business Organizations	(4)
LS 331	Bankruptcy	(4)
LS 338	Intellectual Property	(4)
LS 340	Special Topics	(4)
LS 345	Immigration law	(4)
LS 350	Wills, Trusts & Probate	(4)
LS 357	E Discovery	(2)
LS 358	Trial Technology	(2)
LS 370	Criminal Law and Procedures	(4)
LS 410	Law in Film and Literature	(4)
LS 420	Critical Race Theory & the Foundations of Race & Law	(4)
LS 425	Economics of Racism	(4)
LS 498	Paralegal Internship	(2)

The total in the major is required to be 46 or more units.

## **THE PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE**

The Paralegal Certificate is recognition of the successful completion of nine paralegal courses (32 semester units) from the University of La Verne. Those courses are:

LS 301	American Legal Studies	(4)
LS 304	Legal Research and Writing	(4)
LS 311	Law Office Computer Applications	(2)
LS 355	Advanced Online Research	(2)
LS 365	Litigation I	(4)
LS 368	Litigation II	(4)
LS 380	Torts	(4)
LS 390	Contracts	(4)
LS 490	Paralegal Internship & Ethics	(4)

## **ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATE**

The minimum education required for admission to the Certificate Program is:

1. A Baccalaureate Degree; or
2. 60 semester units from an accredited college, including 18 semester units of general education. The general education must include at least three semester units in college level English composition and fifteen units from at least three of the following academic areas:

- a. Social and behavioral science;
- b. English composition and literature;
- c. Foreign language;
- d. Mathematics;
- e. Humanities;
- f. Natural science;
- g. Appreciation or history courses in the arts.

In determining whether an applicant will be admitted to the Program, the Admissions Committee will determine if the applicant meets the minimum education required and will consider the applicant's grades, abilities and strengths as indicated in the application, the transcript, and the personal statement.

### **WAIVER OF ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The Department of Legal Studies allows exceptions to its Certificate admissions requirements in very limited instances. Students who have at least 30 college semester units from an accredited institution and do not meet all the Certificate admissions requirements may file a "Petition for Exemption from the Admission Requirements to the Certificate Program." The petition to the Admissions Committee shall document in writing the petitioner's relevant work experience in law or a related area and show that the student has the knowledge and skills equivalent to those of a college junior. Students have the burden of showing that they qualify for exemption and all decisions by the Admissions Committee are final. In addition to the Petition the Admissions Committee may require the student to be interviewed and to take a written exam or may require proof of the experience.

The program shall not exempt more than ten per cent of its incoming students each academic semester. The overall quality of the program must not suffer from including exempted students who have disparate educational backgrounds. All other relevant ABA Guidelines shall be followed.

### **CERTIFICATE AWARDED TO DEGREE STUDENTS**

A degree student can also earn a Paralegal Certificate as follows:

1. All students who complete the Bachelor's degree in Legal Studies are entitled to a Paralegal Certificate.
2. Prior to graduation, Bachelor's degree students majoring in Legal Studies who have satisfactorily completed the required courses for the Certificate with at least 24 semester units in Legal courses from La Verne may be awarded the Certificate upon completion of a total of 90 semester units, and at least 18

semester units of general education. The general education must include at least three semester units in college level English composition and fifteen units from at least three of the following academic areas:

- a. Social and behavioral science;
  - b. English composition and literature;
  - c. Foreign language;
  - d. Mathematics;
  - e. Humanities;
  - f. Natural science;
  - g. Appreciation or history courses in the arts.
3. Bachelor's degree students majoring in any subject other than Legal Studies may be awarded a Certificate as follows:
- a. Completion of a Certificate Application with an indication that they are a current degree student at La Verne and intend to earn a Paralegal Certificate concurrently;
  - b. Written approval of their academic advisor;
  - c. Completion of all pre-requisites and required courses for the Certificate as directed by the Legal Studies Program's Academic Advisor; and
  - d. Completion of the same conditions required of Legal Studies bachelor degree majors as set forth above in section 2.
  - e. Students who are degree students at La Verne will be charged the same rate for their Legal Studies courses as they pay for all other courses they take at La Verne.

## **ACADEMIC POLICIES**

### **UNIVERSITY CATALOG**

The university catalog for the year a student is admitted and begins work sets the complete rights and responsibilities of the student. The student is expected to be familiar with those policies. If any of these departmental regulations conflict with the university catalog, the catalog controls the situation.

### **ACADEMIC ADVISING**

The full-time professors in the department are the academic advisors for all students in the department. In addition, CAPA students can see CAPA advisors for advising regarding general education.

## **EDUCATIONAL PREREQUISITES**

Students should complete nine units of general education prior to taking Legal Studies courses. LS 301 American Legal Studies and LS 304 Legal Research and Writing are prerequisites to all other Legal Studies courses. LS 301 must be taken prior to or concurrent with LS 304. RCS 110 or its equivalent (fulfills LVWA Written Communication A) must be taken prior to LS 301, unless the instructor or chair give approval.

## **GENERAL EDUCATION POLICY**

The Department of Legal Studies defines general education in accordance with the American Bar Association and limits the courses Legal Studies students may use as general education. At least 18 units of general education must meet the Department of Legal Studies' approval. No fine art performance course meets that requirement. The ABA does not recognize most business courses as general education.

## **GRADING POLICY**

1. Students must receive a "C" or better in LS 301 American Legal Studies and LS 304 Legal Research and Writing. Any student who receives a grade lower than "C" must retake the course prior to taking any further courses.

2. Students must receive a "C-" or better in all other Legal Studies courses to count them toward the Paralegal Certificate. (This is the university policy for major courses for the degree.)

## **TRANSFER POLICY**

The University of La Verne has entered into articulation agreements with other paralegal programs, in which a number of paralegal courses taken at those institutions within a certain time period are transferable into the degree program at La Verne and it is actively pursuing other such agreements. Students who attend schools which have these agreements will have their paralegal courses transferred according to those agreements without petition by the student.

Students who have taken paralegal courses at other institutions may petition to the Department Chair to have courses transferred into the University of La Verne. The student must include with the petition a catalog from the institution, course syllabi, a transcript, and sample work from the courses. Transferability is based on the accreditation of the school, comparability of the course including evaluation of practical assignments, year course was taken, and grade the student received. Transfer from schools that are not WASC accredited, ABA approved or members of AAFPE will be limited to two courses, as long as academic quality and comparability to La Verne courses are assured.



Courses over seven years old will not be transferred into the program, except by appeal. To have a course over seven years old be transferred, the student must prove they have been employed in that area of law and are current in knowledge in that area. No more than four courses over seven years will be transferred in.

### **Certificate Program**

A maximum of six semester units may be transferred into the Certificate Program.

### **Degree Program**

There is no limit to the number of paralegal courses that can be transferred into the degree program. However, no matter how many units are transferred into the program, a degree student must complete 16 units in the major at the University of La Verne and must complete at least 24 upper division units in the major. For most transfer students, this means that they will have to take 24 units in the major at La Verne.

When students have transferred three-unit courses for four-unit courses, the total units taken in the major must total 46 or more.

### **TRANSFERABILITY OF CERTIFICATE COURSES**

Courses taken in the Certificate Program are the same courses that the Bachelor's students take. All courses are transferable into the University of La Verne's Bachelor's degree programs in Legal Studies. However, Certificate courses do not count toward residency units in degree programs.

### **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

The University of La Verne requires that students complete a certain number of units at La Verne to be granted a degree at La Verne. The requirements are 44 units for the bachelor's degree. These units begin counting when the student enters the degree program, and courses taken in the Certificate Program do not count toward the residency requirement. Courses taken in the Certificate Program do count toward the residency requirement in the major, which is 16 units for the B.S.

Traditional age students must take 16 of their last 32 units at La Verne.

### **PERIODS OF STUDENT ABSENCES FROM PROGRAM**

Students who do not begin their studies within one year of being admitted must re-apply. Certificate students and traditional undergraduate students who do not attend for a one-year period must re-apply. Readmission will be based on the current admissions policies, and the student will be required to meet current graduation requirements. Students must complete their degrees within seven years of being admitted.

When students have been absent and must reapply to the Program or University, the paralegal courses previously taken by them will be evaluated. If the courses are over seven years old, the student may be required to re-take the courses.

## **INCOMPLETE GRADES**

All Legal Studies students are subject to the policies and procedures of the University Catalog in regard to incomplete grades. Incompletes are authorized only when it is impossible for the student to complete the course because of illness or other justifiable cause and only with a formal written petition from the student to the professor. The student must have completed at least 60% of the course. The student has only one semester to complete the missing work and obtain a grade. After one semester, the grade will be changed to an "F."

## **DIRECTED STUDIES**

No student is guaranteed the right to take a directed study. Directed studies are offered when a student is in his or her last semester and must have a course to graduate that is not being offered. In addition, the student must explain why he or she did not take the course when it was offered. Some courses are not amenable to directed studies or there may not be a professor to teach a particular course as a directed study. Directed studies will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances.

## **COURSE CHALLENGE**

The University has a policy on challenging a course and the Department of Legal Studies follows that policy. However, the ability to challenge the course will depend on the availability of a professor to give the challenge. Doing a course challenge requires the student to get an okay from the department chair that a challenge will be offered, the student pays the university for the challenge and within two weeks the exam is given. If the student passes the exam, the student gets credit for the course. Challenges are only appropriate for students who have taken the course at another school which does not transfer or who has substantial work experience in the area of the challenge.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Regular class attendance is required. The university needs to know when students stop attending, and for that reason, attendance should be taken. Each professor may determine what effect attendance will have in that class.

# **ASSESSMENT OF LEGAL STUDIES PROGRAM**

## **PURPOSE**

Students are assessed all the time. However, it is extremely important that the department itself and the program of education be assessed. The department, the

university and the ABA want to know if the education being provided is meeting the department's goals and providing a quality education.

## **TYPES OF ASSESSMENT**

Assessment is evaluated in a number of ways:

- Students evaluate a course and instructor at the end of each semester.
- Students prepare a portfolio during their education which is collected in Senior Project and used to evaluate the program.
- Seniors complete an exit survey.
- Continuing education and employment of graduates is monitored to see if graduates are working in their intended field or continuing their education.
- Graduates complete questionnaires sent to them so that they can relate whether the program prepared them for employment.
- Employers of graduates complete surveys to relate if the program is providing the appropriate education.
- The legal community is interviewed regularly to determine what skills and knowledge is needed by beginning paralegals.

## **STUDENT ROLE**

Clearly, the student has the greatest role in providing assessment of the program. Student feedback is sought and welcomed. All responses are considered carefully and many changes to the program are instituted following student feedback. In particular, the student needs to evaluate every class at the end of each semester and to prepare the portfolio required for senior project. The portfolio will include work from each course, so the student needs to keep that work in a safe place.

## **STUDENT INVOLVEMENT**

### **PARALEGAL INTERNSHIP**

An internship course is required of all students. To be eligible to take the course a student must have completed eight paralegal courses including Litigation I and preferably Litigation II. Students should be in their last semester.

Transfer students must have completed eight paralegal courses with at least four being from La Verne, Litigation I, and preferably Litigation II.

### **ASSISTANCE WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

The Department provides the Career Center with paralegal job offerings it has received from community members, including governmental offices, organizations, law offices and solo attorneys. The Career Center helps disseminate the paralegal job offerings to degree students, paralegal certificate students, and graduates.

## **DEPARTMENTAL HONORS AND MEMBERSHIP IN LEX**

Departmental Honors are awarded on the basis of a high-quality senior project, a minimum GPA of 3.6 in the major and 3.0 overall. Students must file written requests for Departmental Honors three months prior to graduation.

The Department of Legal Studies is a member of LEX, Lambda Epsilon Chi, a national honor society for paralegal students. Membership in LEX requires a student to be in his or her last semester, have a 3.5 GPA in major courses and a 3.25 GPA overall.

## **PARALEGAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

The Paralegal Student Association (PSA) is a voluntary university club which strives to connect students. The President of the Association has a duty to keep the student body informed of activities and events and to encourage participation by all students. It has a separate constitution and bylaws. The benefits are that the students develop relationships that will be helpful in classes and in the future and can use participation on a resume. The association strives to provide speakers who will aid in the growth of professionals. If no students volunteer to lead or participate, there will be no activities by the PSA.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICES TO STUDENTS**

All students are eligible for the following services of the University:

1. Career Center – This Center assists students with resume writing, interviewing techniques and information about the career.
2. Financial Aid – Certificate students, as well as degree students, may qualify for financial aid, including federal grants or loans.
3. Academic Success Center– This center offers free academic support of all kinds, including tutoring, academic workshops, and individual assistance. Students can get help with math, writing, language, study skills and time management and take placement tests.
4. Counseling Center – All students are eligible to receive counseling services.
5. Center for Teaching and Learning – Staff will help students learn Blackboard and other necessary programs.
6. Libraries – Use of Wilson Library on the main campus and the Law Library at the College of Law.
7. Westlaw or other legal research service password for all students once students are enrolled in LS 304 Legal Research and Writing or have received credit for LS 304 if a transfer student.

8. Use of all computer labs on campus. The labs are open extensive hours every day and are available to all students.
9. Email account.
10. University portal.
11. Other technological services as decided by the University.
12. Other services as determined by the University.

**SUGGESTED  
ROTATION SCHEDULE OF COURSES**

	<b>Fall 20xx (even-numbered)</b>	<b>Spring 20xx (odd-numbered)</b>
Monday	LS 301 Am. Legal Studies LS 490 Paralegal Internship & Ethics	LS 301 Am. Legal Studies LS 490 Paralegal Internship & Ethics
Tuesday	LS 304 Legal Research LS 499 Senior Project LS 357 E Discovery	LS 304 Legal Research LS 311 Law Office Computers (2) LS 355 On line Research (2 un.) LS 370 Criminal Law
Wednesday	LS 365 Litigation I LS 331 Bankruptcy	LS 368 Litigation II LS 350 Wills and Trusts
Thursday	LS 380 Torts LS 321 Family Law	LS 390 Contracts LS 499 Senior Project

	<b>Fall 20xx (odd-numbered)</b>	<b>Spring 20xx (even-numbered)</b>
Monday	LS 301 Am. Legal Studies LS 490 Paralegal Internship & Ethics	LS 301 Am. Legal Studies LS 490 Paralegal Internship & Ethics
Tuesday	LS 304 Legal Research LS 499 Senior Project LS 357 E Discovery	LS 304 Legal Research LS 311 Law Office Computers (2) LS 355 On line Research (2 un.) LS 345 Immigration
Wednesday	LS 365 Litigation I LS 328 Property Law	LS 390 Contracts LS 499 Senior Project
Thursday	LS 380 Torts LS 338 Intellectual Property	LS 368 Litigation II LS 410 Law in Film & Literature

## **SUGGESTED SEQUENCE OF LEGAL STUDIES COURSES FOR TRADITIONAL FOUR-YEAR FULL-TIME STUDENTS**

### **FIRST YEAR**

#### **FALL**

Writing A 110

#### **SPRING**

LS 301 American Legal Studies  
Writing B 111

### **SECOND YEAR**

#### **FALL**

LS 304 Legal Research and Writing

#### **SPRING**

LS 311 Law Office Computers  
LS 355 Advanced Online Research  
LS 390 Contracts

### **THIRD YEAR**

#### **FALL**

LS 380 Torts  
LS 365 Litigation I

#### **SPRING**

LS 368 Litigation II  
LS elective

### **FOURTH YEAR**

#### **FALL**

LS 490 Paralegal Internship & Ethics  
LS elective

#### **SPRING**

LS 499 Senior Project  
LS elective

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **LS 301 AMERICAN LEGAL STUDIES – 4 units, Required**

Covers the American legal system, its participants, and legal careers. Introduces basic legal concepts, areas of law, ethical obligations, and the drafting of basic legal documents. Introduces the student to critical thinking and writing. Is accepted as GE CORE Lifelong Learning. Prerequisites: Nine semester units including WRT 110 or its equivalent.

### **LS 304 LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING – 4 units, Required**

Introduces legal analysis and research methods for federal and state statutes and case law, using digests, encyclopedias, and other resources. Students read and brief court decisions and draft letters and memoranda. Includes computer assisted research. Is accepted as GE CORE Lifelong Learning. Prerequisite: LS 301.

### **LS 311 LAW OFFICE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS – 2 units, Required**

Introduces law-office specific computer programs, such as time keeping, calendaring, and case management, as well as word processing, spreadsheet, and database systems. Includes computer-assisted research. Prerequisites: LS 304 and a recent (last four years) course in Microsoft Office or the passing of a test on Microsoft Office and Microsoft Excel.

### **LS 321 FAMILY LAW – 4 units, Elective**

Covers marriage and marriage dissolution, including property rights, support, custody, and litigation. Examines guardianship and non-marital relationships. Includes preparation of appropriate documents. Prerequisite: LS 304.

### **LS 328 PROPERTY LAW – 4 units, Elective**

Examines property and title, transfer of title, acquisition and financing of real property, purchase agreements, escrows, and landlord/tenant rights and duties. Includes preparation of appropriate documents. Prerequisite: LS 304.

### **LS 329 PROPERTY/BANKRUPTCY LAW – 4 units, Elective**

This course teaches the basic laws of real property and of bankruptcy. Topics include methods of holding title, transfer of title, financing, recording, chapter 7, the rights of debtors and creditors and exemptions. The role of the paralegal is emphasized. Prerequisite: LS 304.

### **LS 330 BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS – 4 units, Elective**

Examines the nature, creation, and effect of the agency relationship; formation of partnerships and sole proprietorships. Focuses on characteristics and formation of corporations. Includes preparation of appropriate documents. Prerequisite: LS 304.

### **LS 331 BANKRUPTCY – 4 units, Elective**

Examines debtor's and creditor's rights, petitions, creditor claims, motions, stays, exemptions, and lien avoidance. Includes petition preparation. Prerequisite: LS 304.

### **LS 338 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY – 4 units, Elective**

Intellectual property refers to trademarks, copyrights, and patents. These are property rights in the product of someone's intellect, or imagination, thoughts and ideas. This course will teach basics of these areas and will give the student practical experience in each area. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 340 SPECIAL TOPICS – 2-4 units, Elective**

Various subjects not taught regularly can be developed with this title. Have recently taught Immigration Law, Intellectual Property, ADR, and Employment Law. May be repeated twice with different topics. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 345 IMMIGRATION LAW AND PROCEDURES – 4 units, Elective**

Immigration and naturalization law and procedure in the United States. This course will cover issues involving nonimmigrant, immigrants (permanent residents), and U.S. citizenship. The course will focus upon the practical application of obtaining temporary visas, applying for permanent residence, and acquire U.S. citizenship. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 350 WILLS, TRUSTS AND PROBATE – 4 units, Elective**

Covers wills, trusts, and how they affect the transmission of family wealth; planning for property distribution and care of persons and assets after death; probate proceedings; and transfer of wealth without probate. Includes preparation of appropriate documents. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 355 ADVANCED ON-LINE RESEARCH – 2 units, Required**

This course focuses on electronic legal research using Westlaw or Lexis and the internet, to hone and advance the skills learned earlier. Will include the preparation of legal memoranda. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 357 E DISCOVERY – 2 units, Elective**

This course covers the extent and value of electronic discovery, discovery methods and search goals for e discovery. Prerequisite: Completion of LS 304, LS 311, and LS 365

**LS 358 TRIAL TECHNOLOGY – 2 units, Elective**

This course will focus on trial technology used in civil and criminal matters. Prerequisite: Completion of LS 304, LS 311, and LS 365

**LS 365 LITIGATION I – 4 units, Required**

Covers civil litigation from investigation to discovery, including jurisdiction, standing, evidence, and court rules, and the drafting of complaints, answers, and other documents. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 368 LITIGATION II – 4 units, Required**

Covers civil litigation from discovery through trial and post-trial actions, including motions, points and authorities, summary judgment, and trial notebooks. Prerequisite: LS 365.

**LS 370 CRIMINAL LAW – 4 units, Elective**

Examines crimes, defenses, procedural aspects in the criminal justice system, evidence rules, and rules to suppress evidence. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 380 TORTS – 4 units, Required**

Studies tort law; bases of civil liability for harm caused another, including intentional torts, negligence, product liability, invasion of privacy, defamation, and misrepresentation. Covers personal injury litigation and insurance issues. Prerequisite: LS 304.

**LS 390 CONTRACTS – 4 units, Required**

Covers general principles of contract, including formation, breach, defenses, and remedies. Includes Uniform Commercial Code's effect on contract rights; drafting and reviewing contracts; litigation issues. Prerequisite: LS 304.



**LS 410 LAW IN FILM AND LITERATURE – 4 units, Elective**

This course reviews the connection between law and literature through the study of various short stories, poetry, novel excerpts, and film. Prerequisite: Completion of Written Communication B

**LS 420 CRITICAL RACE THEORY AND THE FOUNDATIONS OF RACE AND LAW – 4 units, Elective**

The course introduces students to the central tenets of Critical Race Theory, their application, and historic and modern-day examples. This course will cover storytelling and counter-storytelling in the context of narrative construction and presentation. We will discuss and examine the permanence of racism, the concept of “whiteness” as a property right, interest convergence, and the CRT critique of liberalism.

**LS 420 ECONOMICS OF RACISM – 4 units, Elective**

The course is designed to introduce students to racism and its intersection with law, policy, and economics. Students will not only gain a foundational understanding of white supremacy and racism, but will also examine the implications of these institutions through legal, policy, and economic lenses, to arrive at a firm understanding of the economic realities of racist laws and policies.

**LS 490 PARALEGAL INTERNSHIP & ETHICS – 4 units, Required**

Covers duties and responsibilities of attorneys and paralegals toward clients, public, courts, other attorneys, and paralegals; discipline of legal profession. Focuses on employment preparation and the opportunity to work as a paralegal. Prerequisite: Completion of LS 365

**LS 498 PARALEGAL INTERNSHIP – 2 units, Elective**

Internship in a legal environment performing work normally performed by paralegals. Examines law office or department culture, legal ethics, and career goals. Prerequisites: LS 365 and seven other LS courses.

**LS 499 SENIOR PROJECT – 4 units, Required for Degree**

Culminating activity required by majors in all departments. Papers/theses/projects researched, prepared, and written under the guidance of a faculty member. Comprehensive exams or recitals required in some departments. Academically, Students must be in Good Standing to enroll in 499. In Legal Studies, the course will focus on legal research, the writing of legal documents and preparation of a portfolio.