

## LEGAL STUDIES

Degree: Bachelor of Arts  
 Specializations: Applied Option, Advanced Option,  
 Pre-Law Option  
 Minors: Pre-Law and Law & Social Issues  
 Division: Criminal Justice & Legal Studies  
 Building 77, Room 131  
 (850) 474-2336  
 dcjls@uwf.edu  
 College: Professional Studies  
 Semester Hours Required for Degree: 120

Faculty: S.W. Harrell (Coordinator), F.L. Ferguson, R.M. Goodman

The Legal Studies program offers an alternative to law school for those who wish to work in the legal field in a capacity other than that of an attorney, primarily as a paralegal. Three specializations are available to students seeking the B.A. in Legal Studies. Students entering the program with no previous paralegal course work will follow the Applied Option curriculum. Students with an associate's degree in a paralegal field may be offered an Advanced Option curriculum upon consultation and approval of the Legal Studies advisor. The Pre-Law Option curriculum is for students who have a desire to attend law school but who also want to be able to work as a paralegal/legal assistant.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the B.A. in Legal Studies must meet the requirements listed below.

A grade of "C" is required for all courses listed as core courses in any of the options. Any course substitutions for specifically listed courses must be approved in writing, in advance by a Legal Studies advisor. All Legal Studies majors must successfully complete PLA 4155 (Gordon Rule: Writing), notwithstanding any prior coursework in legal research and writing.

Course descriptions are listed alphabetically by prefix in the back of this catalog.

### General Studies (36 sh)

Legal Studies majors should take PLA 2013 to fulfill the socio-political component of General Studies.

For additional information see the General Studies section of this catalog.

### Common Prerequisites (0 sh)

None

### Lower Division Electives (24 sh)

Sufficient 1000/2000 level electives to complete at least 60 semester hours in the lower division. Current UWF students may use elective courses at any level (1000-4999) to meet this elective requirement.

## APPLIED OPTION

### Major (36 sh)

#### Mandatory Core (27 sh)

PLA 3003	The Paralegal and the Legal Profession	3
PLA 3020	Law and Society	3
•*PLA 3103	Legal Research & Writing	3
PLA 3429	Contracts and Business Entities	3
*PLA 4155	Advanced Legal Research & Writing	3
• PLA 4201	Litigation	3
PLA 4263	Evidence	3
PLA 4273	Tort Law	3
PLA 4763	Law Office Management	3

• Course has prerequisites

\* Advisor permission required.

#### Elective Core (3 sh)

##### Choose one:

PLA 3600	Probate & Estate Planning	3
PLA 3610	Real Estate Law	3

#### Major electives (6 sh)

Choose any two PLA 3000/4000 level courses not listed in the Mandatory Core above.

### Major-Related (18 sh)

CGS 2570	Personal Computer Applications	3
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##### Choose one:

ACG 2021	Principles of Financial Accounting	3
ACG 3082	Accounting for Non-Majors	3

##### Choose one:

COM 4110	Business & Professional Communication	3
•SPC 3301	Interpersonal Communication	3
•SPC 3425	Group & Team Communication	3

• Course has prerequisites.

##### Choose one:

PHI 2603	Ethics in Contemporary Society	3
PHI 3670	Ethics	3
PHI 4633	Biomedical Ethics	3

##### Choose two:

Any 3000/4000 level Legal Administration (PLA) course	3	
Any 3000/4000 level Criminal Justice (CCJ, CJC, CJE, CJL) course	3	
MMC 4201	Constitution and the Press	3
EUH 4503	English Constitutional and Legal History	3
EVR 4035	Environmental Law	3

Other law-related course(s) with advance written permission of a Legal Studies Academic Advisor.

### Upper Division Electives (6 sh)

Sufficient 3000/4000 level electives to meet UWF's requirement of 48 semester hours in the upper division or completion of all departmental requirements at the 3000/4000 level, whichever is greater.

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**ADVANCED OPTION**


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**Major (36 sh)**

All Applied Option mandatory core courses and elective core courses not previously completed must be taken as Advanced Option mandatory core course.

**Mandatory Core (9 sh)**

PLA 3020	Law and Society .....	3
*PLA 4155	Advanced Legal Research & Writing .....	3
PLA 4763	Law Office Management .....	3

**Elective Core (27 sh):***Choose nine:*

EUH 4503	English Constitutional & Legal History .....	3
MMC 4201	The Constitution & the Press .....	3
PLA 2013	Survey of American Law .....	3
*PLA 3103	Legal Research & Writing .....	3
PLA 3240	Alternate Dispute Resolution .....	3
PLA 3429	Contracts and Business Entities .....	3
PLA 3600	Probate and Estate Planning .....	3
PLA 3610	Real Estate Law .....	3
PLA 3800	Domestic Law .....	3
PLA 4025	Sex Discrimination Law .....	3
• PLA 4201	Litigation .....	3
PLA 4263	Evidence .....	3
PLA 4273	Tort Law .....	3
PLA 4303	Criminal Law .....	3
PLA 4453	Consumer Rights .....	3
*PLA 4941	Legal Studies Internship .....	3

Course offered as 1-3 sh per semester.

*or*

PLA 3949	Cooperative Education .....	3
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Course offered as 1-2 sh per semester

- Course has prerequisites.
- \* Advisor permission required.

**Major-Related (12 sh)**

CGS 2570	Personal Computer Applications .....	3
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*Accounting - Choose one:*

ACG 2021	Principles of Financial Accounting .....	3
ACG 3082	Accounting for Non-Majors .....	3

*Communications - Choose one:*

COM 4110	Business & Professional Communication .....	3
• SPC 3301	Interpersonal Communication .....	3
• SPC 3425	Group & Team Communication .....	3

- Course has prerequisites.

*Ethics - Choose one:*

PHI 2603	Ethics & Contemporary Society .....	3
PHI 3670	Ethics .....	3
PHI 4633	Biomedical Ethics .....	3

**Upper Division Electives (12 sh)**

Sufficient 3000/4000 level electives to meet UWF's requirement of 48 semester hours in the upper division or completion of all departmental requirements at the 3000/4000 level, whichever is greater.

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**PRE-LAW OPTION**


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**Major (33 sh)****Mandatory Core (27 sh)**

PLA 3003	The Paralegal and the Legal Profession .....	3
PLA 3020	Law & Society .....	3
•*PLA 3103	Legal Research & Writing .....	3
PLA 3429	Contracts & Business Entities .....	3
*PLA 4155	Advanced Legal Research & Writing .....	3
• PLA 4201	Litigation .....	3
PLA 4263	Evidence .....	3
PLA 4273	Tort Law .....	3

• Course has prerequisites.  
\* Advisor permission required.

*Choose one:*

PLA 3600	Probate and Estate Planning .....	3
PLA 3610	Real Estate Law .....	3

**Theory Core I (6 sh)***Choose two:*

EUH 4503	English Constitutional & Legal History .....	3
POS 3424	The Legislative Process .....	3
POS 3603	American Constitutional Law .....	3
POS 3623	Bill of Rights .....	3
POS 3625	First Amendment Freedoms .....	3
POS 4673	Jurisprudence .....	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought .....	3
Any 3000/4000 level Legal Administration (PLA) course not listed above .....		3

**Major-Related (21sh)**

CGS 2570	Personal Computer Applications .....	3
PHI 2100	Introduction to Logic .....	3

*Choose one:*

COM 4110	Business & Professional Communication .....	3
• SPC 3301	Interpersonal Communication .....	3
• SPC 3425	Group & Team Communication .....	3

- Course has prerequisites.

*Choose one:*

PHI 2603	Ethics in Contemporary Society .....	3
PHI 3670	Ethics .....	3
PHI 4633	Biomedical Ethics .....	3

*Choose one:*

CLP 3144	Abnormal Psychology .....	3
PPE 4003	Theories of Personality .....	3
SOP 3662	Organizational Behavior .....	3
SYP 4000	Social Psychology .....	3

Choose 6 sh 3000/4000 level courses from any of the following disciplines: History, Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Psychology, Political Science, Religion, Sociology, Social Work, and Philosophy.

**Upper Division Electives (6 sh)**

Sufficient 3000/4000 level electives to meet UWF's requirement of 48 semester hours in the upper division or completion of all departmental requirements at the 3000/4000 level, whichever is greater.

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## MINORS

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### ***Law and Social Issues (15 sh)***

The Law and Social Issues Minor requires 15 sh of course work. A minimum of 9 sh of upper division course work must be completed at UWF. The Law & Social Issues Minor is meant as a supplement to majors other than Legal Studies and is for those who want a minimal background in substantive areas of law which impact on their major field of study. This minor also provides an introduction to terminology and basic ideas and skills related to the law and the legal profession. In contrast, the Legal Studies major emphasizes legal career preparation. Legal Studies majors may not earn this minor.

PLA 2013 Survey of American Law ..... 3

*Choose four:*

PLA 3020 Law and Society ..... 3  
 PLA 3240 Alternative Dispute Resolution ..... 3  
 PLA 3471 Employment Law ..... 3  
 PLA 3800 Domestic Law ..... 3  
 PLA 4025 Sex Discrimination Law ..... 3  
 PLA 4263 Evidence ..... 3  
 PLA 4303 Criminal Law ..... 3  
 PLA 4453 Consumer Rights ..... 3

### ***Pre-Law (12-15 sh)***

The Pre-Law Minor is meant as a supplement to majors other than Legal Studies and is for those who want a minimal background to prepare for law school or who want an introduction to terminology and basic ideas and skills related to the law and the legal profession. In contrast, the Legal Studies major emphasizes legal career preparation. Contact a Legal Studies advisor who will assist in choosing appropriate courses. A minimum of 9 sh of upper division courses must be completed at UWF. Legal Studies majors may not earn this minor.

*Recommended but not required:*

PLA 2013 Survey of American Law ..... 3

*Choose 6 sh from the following:*

CJL 3510 Judicial Process ..... 3  
 3000/4000-level legal admin (PLA) courses ..... 3-6

**Capstone Courses**

PLA 3003 The Paralegal & The Legal Professional ..... 3  
 • PLA 3103 Legal Research & Writing ..... 3

• Course has prerequisites.