

LEGAL STUDIES, BS

The B.S. in Legal Studies is designed for students who want to pursue a degree that emphasizes practical skills plus analytical and conceptual thinking, legal research and writing, a study of the evolution of various legal theories, a solid understanding of substantive areas of law, and the role of law in society. It also allows students to take courses in a variety of departments throughout the university. The B.S. degree is a good option for students who plan to work in fields impacted by law and legal regulation or who are considering law school or other fields of graduate studies. All of the courses in the Paralegal Studies Certificate are included in the B.S. degree. Therefore, we encourage B.S. students to add the Certificate as a secondary curriculum.

Please note that paralegals and other non-lawyers may not provide legal services directly to the public, except as permitted by law. Note also that all Legal Studies and Paralegal Studies students are required to take at least nine (9) semester credits or equivalent of legal specialty courses through face-to-face or online synchronous instruction. Transfer students must provide proof of such credits if taken elsewhere.

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Perform legal research and analysis.
- Compose legal documents.
- Examine areas of civil and criminal law.
- Identify relevant rules of legal ethics.
- Apply course content to an occupational learning experience.

Program Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--|---|--------------|
| Core IMPACTS | | 42 |
| All core curriculum recommendations are shown under the Core IMPACTS section of the Undergraduate Graduation Requirements. (https://catalog.clayton.edu/graduation-requirements/undergraduate-graduation-requirements/core-curriculum/#nonsciencemajorstext) | | |
| Field of Study - Legal Studies | | 18 |
| PARA 1101 | Introduction to Law & Ethics ¹ | 3 |
| PARA 2203 | Civil Litigation | 3 |
| PARA 2205 | Legal Research & Writing | 3 |
| Select three courses (9 credit hours) from the 1000-2000 level with any prefix (except MSL and PHED prefixes). | | 9 |
| Upper Division Major Required Courses ¹ | | 21 |
| LGST 3220 | Judicial Process | 3 |
| LGST 3231 | Administrative Law | 3 |
| LGST 4850 | Legal Studies Capstone | 3 |
| Any other three 3000-4000 level LGST courses | | 9 |
| SOSC 4490 | Social Sciences Internship | 3 |
| Upper Division Electives ¹ | | 27 |
| Select nine courses (27 credit hours) from upper division (3000-4000 level) courses (except MSL and PHED). | | |
| Free Electives | | 12 |
| Select four courses (12 credit hours) from the 1000-4000 level (except MSL and PHED). | | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 120 |

¹ No grades of D in upper division courses are allowed in the Legal Studies major. Upper division courses are all courses other than those of Core IMPACTS and Field of Study. The 1000- or 2000-level courses used in the upper division are included in this restriction.

² Students who do not achieve a grade of C or higher in PARA 1101 Introduction to Law & Ethics must re-take PARA 1101 Introduction to Law & Ethics and achieve a grade of C or higher before taking any other PARA classes.

Suggested Course Sequence

Please Note: This is a suggested course sequence and assumes a starting freshman with no prior college credit who intends to complete their degree in four years. Students should consult with their academic advisor and review the course prerequisites and minimum grade requirements as seen in the Academic Catalog.

First-time traditional students enrolling in 9 or more semester hours are required to enroll in CSU 1000 First Year Seminar

| Course | Title | Credit Hours |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| First Year | | |
| First Semester | | |
| ENGL 1101 | English Composition I | 3 |
| Non-Science/Math Course Core Area A2 | | 3 |
| CRIT 1101 | Critical Thinking | 3 |
| POLS 1101 | American Government | 3 |
| PARA 1101 | Introduction to Law & Ethics | 3 |
| CSU 1000 | First Year Seminar | 1 |
| Credit Hours | | 16 |
| Second Semester | | |
| ENGL 1102 | English Composition II Core Area A1 | 3 |
| Foreign Language or Communication Course Core Area B2 | | 2-3 |
| Science Course with Lab Core Area D1 | | 4 |
| PARA 2203 | Civil Litigation | 3 |
| PARA 2205 | Legal Research & Writing | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15-16 |
| Second Year | | |
| First Semester | | |
| Lower Division Major Requirement ¹ | | 3 |
| Literature, Philosophy, or Foreign Language Core Area C1 | | 3 |
| Science Course without Lab Core Area D1 | | 3 |
| HIST 1111 | Survey-PreModern World History | 3 |
| or HIST 1112 | or Survey of Modern World History | |
| or HIST 2750 | or Critical Trends and Issues | |
| or POLS 2401 | or Intro to Global Issues | |
| Behavioral Sciences Core Area E4 | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Second Semester | | |
| Fine Arts or Intermediate Foreign Language Core Area C2 | | 3 |
| Math, Science, or Technology Course Core Area D2 | | 3 |
| HIST 2111 | Survey of US History to 1877 | 3 |
| or HIST 2112 | or US HIST Since Reconstruction | |
| Lower Division Major Requirement ¹ | | 3 |
| Lower Division Major Requirement ¹ | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Third Year | | |
| First Semester | | |
| Free Elective ³ | | 3 |
| Free Elective ³ | | 3 |
| Free Elective ³ | | 3 |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Credit Hours | 15 |
| Second Semester | |
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Free Elective ³ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Credit Hours | 15 |
| Fourth Year | |
| First Semester | |
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Credit Hours | 15 |
| Second Semester | |
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Major Required Course ² | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Upper Division Major Related Electives ⁴ | 3 |
| Credit Hours | 15 |
| Total Credit Hours | 121-122 |

¹ PARA Lower Division options - Students must choose three of the following:

PARA 2209 Business Organizations
 PARA 2211 Computers in the Law
 PARA 2213 Real Estate Law
 PARA 2223 Wills, Trusts and Probate Law
 PARA 2225 Family Law
 PARA 2235 Law Office Skills

² LGST Major Required Courses - Students must complete all of the following:

LGST 3220 Judicial Process
 LGST 3231 Administrative Law
 LGST 4850 Legal Studies Capstone
 SOSC 4490 Social Sciences Internship AND
 Any other three 3000- or 4000-level LGST classes

³ Free Elective Suggestions - Any PARA or LGST course not already required or taken

⁴ Upper Division Elective Options - Students may select nine courses (27 credit hours) from remaining LGST classes and upper division courses from any other prefixes, except MSL and PHED.