

LEGAL STUDIES (LEGAL ST)

LEGAL ST/SOC 131 – CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN AMERICA

3-4 credits.

Day-to-day functioning of the elements of the criminal justice system in the U.S. Nature of crime in the U.S., ideas about causes and solutions. Emphasis on the sociology of the components of criminal justice system--organization and roles of police, lawyers, court and correctional personnel.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Assess evidence and critically evaluate research-based arguments concerning criminal justice in academic journals, policy studies, or popular media.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Build arguments clearly and effectively and critically analyze evidence in both oral presentations and papers.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Think critically about the functioning of law and its effects on society, going beyond the surface of crime as a social phenomenon, discovering the "why" and "how" of the socio-legal order, and assessing alternate explanations for phenomena.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze sentencing and carceral practices of the United States criminal legal system in the context of larger political, social, legal, and economic forces.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Evaluate social phenomena and diversity in global perspective, comparing how different cultures, groups, and societies understand and respond to crime.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Work effectively in groups, responding to group dynamics among people from different backgrounds with different strengths and weaknesses.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/RP & SE 135 – DISABILITY AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

3 credits.

Explores the interaction between the criminal justice system and disability. Explores common experiences of persons with disability such as limited access to community services, poverty, and homelessness and the connection of these experiences to mass incarceration. Explores federal disability rights laws and the implementation of these laws in education, legal, and incarceration settings. Introduction to criminal justice reform to address the experiences of persons with disabilities in this system.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the causes for over-incarceration of people with disabilities in the United States

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the federal and state policies related to the incarceration and community monitoring of persons with disabilities who have been involved in the criminal justice system

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate knowledge of roles and functions that rehabilitation professionals fill within the criminal justice system

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Demonstrate knowledge of treatment programming for individuals with disabilities who are incarcerated and the efficacy of different interventions in increasing community re-integration

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Demonstrate knowledge of community supports for individuals with disabilities subsequent to their release from institutional care

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Develop an awareness of the ethical standards of professional practice that rehabilitation professionals working with individuals with disabilities within the legal system

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/ENGL 160 – TRUTH AND CRIME

3 credits.

Examines the development, scope, and effects of the "True Crime" genre in the United States. Using literary analysis and legal studies methods, explore various areas of the genre (written, podcasts, documentaries, etc.) and try to find answer as to why we are so compelled by true crime narratives and what true crime's "truth" is. Untangle the complex relationship between law and narrative (background on each will be provided) and the various epistemological systems it combines, including the role of science and technology. Gain a detailed understanding of what our culture's relationship to "real life" crime narratives tells us about the fundamental and complex role criminality plays in defining us as a society.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the fundamentals of legal narrative and its relationship to criminal law functions (what are the elements of a crime, and what is "evidence"?)

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify the ways the legal system is subject to human, social, and literary construction—not only in a theoretical sense but through actual cases.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze the various ways in which media "tells" crime stories and what the potential motivation for these stories might be.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Develop a nuanced understanding of the true crime genre through a close examination of exemplary representations of the genre (literature, podcasts, documentaries, etc.)

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/JEWISH/RELIG ST 203 – JEWISH LAW, BUSINESS, AND ETHICS

3 credits.

Explores the development of Jewish law from antiquity to modernity, with a focus on legal questions related to business practices and ethics. Consider issues ranging from ethical practices in agriculture to how to run a modern multi billion-dollar kosher industry; from the ethics of Jews celebrating Thanksgiving to regulations governing the preparation, consumption, and sale of coffee.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. articulate the general development and evolution of Jewish law

Audience: Undergraduate

2. apply different strategies that different Jewish communities have used to regulate business and ethical practices

Audience: Undergraduate

3. analyze, in both written and oral form, Jewish legal texts

Audience: Undergraduate

4. apply Jewish legal principles to new material

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 213 – INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND HUMANITIES

3 credits.

Introduction to the dynamic relationship between law and the humanities, examining how legal systems both shape and are shaped by cultural, historical, and philosophical contexts. Through the study of literature, philosophy, history, pop culture, religious studies, and the arts, critically engage with the fundamental question of what law is and reframe legal concepts such as justice, rights, authority, and morality. Engage in the discussion of representative works of the discipline, different methodologies, and the ideas of key thinkers to highlight the humanistic dimensions of law. By analyzing court cases, historical sources, fiction, films, and philosophical writings, develop a deeper understanding of how law functions, how it tells stories, and how law is not only as a set of rules but a cultural and moral artifact.

Requisites: None**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Explain key concepts and historical developments in law and the humanities, and how they have influenced each other over time.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze legal texts, literature, film, and art to understand how legal norms, values, and power structures are represented, challenged, or reinforced.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Compare and contrast philosophical, ethical, and cultural approaches to justice, rights, and law as expressed across diverse humanistic traditions.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Interpret the role of narrative and storytelling in shaping legal identity, authority, and legitimacy.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Demonstrate interdisciplinary research skills by engaging with primary and secondary sources from law, philosophy, literature, and history.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Develop and defend original arguments about legal and humanistic issues in written and oral formats, showing clarity, coherence, and critical insight.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Reflect on the ethical implications of legal decisions and systems as viewed through multiple humanistic perspectives.

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Collaborate effectively in discussions and group projects that explore complex intersections between law and culture.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/POLI SCI 217 – LAW, POLITICS AND SOCIETY

3-4 credits.

Introduction to the legal process. Examination of the various concepts of law, the perennial problems of the law, legal reasoning, and the nature and function of law and the courts.

Requisites: Freshman or sophomore standing only**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Summer 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Increase knowledge about the components of the U.S. legal system.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Understand how disputes evolve in the context of the U.S. legal system.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Improve ability to synthesize social science readings and formulate arguments in written and oral form.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Improve oral advocacy skills through active classroom discussion.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 235 – PRISONS: FROM ANTIQUITY TO SUPERMAX

3-4 credits.

Examines the development of prisons from the ancient Mediterranean world to the present in the US and Europe. Pays particular attention to the way in which imprisonment has been used against marginalized populations. Examines the development of carceral tactics across a number of registers, including the prison as an ancient political tactic, the economic logic of early modern debtors' prisons, the relationship of prisons and workhouses to forms of capitalism, prisons and colonial expansion, the relationship between mass incarceration and democratic forms of government, as well as the connections between the abolition of slavery and modern carceral practices. Also looks at the legal and constitutional limitations that have been put on imprisonment by the American legal system. Relies on interdisciplinary approaches to the study of prisons, including History, law, literature, and political theory.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze and articulate arguments about how social, political, and cultural phenomena shape law and legal systems, and in particular shape practices of imprisonment.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze and articulate arguments about the impact of imprisonment on social practices and political organization.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain how legal ideas and ideologies have changed over time and have shaped law and legal systems.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to law and society.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Construct clear and persuasive arguments about legal systems and imprisonment.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/CURRIC/ED POL 250 – INCARCERATION AND EDUCATION

3 credits.

Investigates how the systems of incarceration and education operate alongside, within, around and through one another. Provides a historical examination of how education and incarceration have interacted. Examines how prisons operate as 'teaching institutions,' what it teaches all of us impacted by it, and what interventions have been designed to facilitate particular kinds of learning. Presents firsthand accounts of those who work and live in the carceral system currently.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the relationship between schooling and incarceration including issues related to discipline, gender, and disability

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Articulate and evaluate your understanding of experiences of incarceration including the sources, assumptions, and implications behind your understanding

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Synthesize the lived experiences of diverse individuals impacted by incarceration to understand the range of forms learning takes place inside carceral facilities;

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Evaluate different policies and practices that operate at the intersections of education and incarceration.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 261 – AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY TO 1860

3-4 credits.

Surveys the development of American law down to the U.S. Civil War. Reviews the English historical background, and examines how law changed in colonial America, culminating in the framing of the U.S. Constitution. Explores how territorial expansion, democracy, and slavery shaped nineteenth-century American law. Emphasis is on how law interacts with political, social, and cultural change, with a focus on the origins of modern civil and constitutional rights.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Analyze how the social, political, and cultural context of England and colonial America helped to shape early American legal and political systems.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze how early legal and political systems impacted Americans of all types: men and women; landowners and the poor; settlers and indigenous people; free people, servants, and slaves.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Assess how and why the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and other founding documents were shaped by traditions of representative government, Common Law, and the political philosophies of republicanism and liberalism.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to early American law and society, including colonial charters, slave codes, the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and Supreme Court decisions.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze legal arguments in historical context, write clearly and persuasively, and construct original arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 262 – AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY, 1860 TO THE PRESENT

3-4 credits.

Surveys the development of American law from the Civil War to the early Twenty-First Century. After a review of the U.S. Constitution and its modification by the Civil War amendments, examine the legal dimensions of such topics as race relations and the Civil Rights movement, the growth of modern business, the New Deal, labor rights, the women's movement, the individual rights revolution of the postwar period, and the contemporary conservative reaction. Emphasis on how law interacts with political, social, and cultural change.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Analyze how social, political, and cultural phenomena, such as the Civil War, industrialization, and the rise of modern mass education and administrative government shaped U.S. law and legal systems.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze how changes in U.S. legal and political systems impacted Americans, both as individuals of all sexes, races, and classes and as members of families and business and civic organizations.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Assess how twentieth-century changes in legal ideas and ideologies have affected understandings of the law, the U.S. Constitution, and broader legal and political systems.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to law and society, including political speeches, state and federal laws, and decisions of federal courts and of the Supreme Court.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze legal arguments in historical context, write clearly and persuasively, and construct original arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 325 – WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS

3 credits.

Study of evidentiary causes of wrongful convictions, including eyewitness misidentifications, false confessions, the use of jailhouse informants, and flaws in forensic science. Procedural and institutional causes of wrongful convictions, and within this context, question whether constitutional rights adequately protect against illegitimate outcomes. Explore potential ways to broaden conceptions of wrongful convictions, looking at mass surveillance, mass prosecution, mass conviction, sentencing severity, and the system's racially disproportionate impact at all intercept points.

Requisites: LEGAL ST/SOC 131 or 217

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2021

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate an understanding of what constitutes and what causes wrongful convictions.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify methods of investigating crime, and understand how the use of these methods may lead to inaccurate results.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate an understanding of procedural/institutional conditions that limit a defendant's access to information.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Summarize the constitutional rights of criminal defendants, and identify institutional forces that limit the ability of criminal defendants to avail themselves of these protections.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Display an understanding of structural issues that inform a broader understanding of wrongful convictions.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/POLI SCI 352 – TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE IN WORLD POLITICS

3-4 credits.

Provides an introduction to the study of transitional justice (TJ), or how institutions - local, domestic, and international - address the legacies of human rights abuses. Explore several key questions motivating the study of transitional justice: Why do societies pursue accountability for past repression in general? How do transitioning societies go about these pursuits? What effects might TJ policies have on prospects for democracy, rule of law, and future human rights abuses? Special attention to how local and global politics interact to influence both the development and the effects of different transitional justice policies.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe the history and political foundations of transitional justice

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Describe and differentiate between transitional justice mechanisms at the international, domestic, and local level

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain the role of different international and domestic actors in designing and implementing transitional justice

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze and evaluate the implications of different transitional justice mechanisms for democracy, peace, and stability

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 400 – TOPICS IN LEGAL STUDIES AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

3-4 credits.

Addresses a variety of issues linking various social sciences perspectives to the central themes of law and legal institutions.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze how social, political, and cultural phenomena shape law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze the social, political, and cultural impacts of law at the societal and individual levels.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Assess how legal ideas and ideologies have changed over time and have shaped law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to law and society.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Analyze legal arguments and information in broad social and historical contexts, write clearly and persuasively, and construct original arguments.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Analyze research methods, engage critically with scholarly literature, and assess debates among scholars and others who have shaped understandings of this topic and field.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/GEN&WS/SOC 406 – LAW, SEXUALITY, & SOCIETY

3-4 credits.

Examines the legal and social development and implications of laws governing sexual behavior, human reproduction, media, privacy, and topics related to sexuality, sex and gender. Includes historical analyses of laws connected to present day regulations of sexuality, demonstrating the origins of many of the world's most frequently debated civil rights issues. Chief focus on the United States legal system, with some content including examinations of institutions around the world. Investigates taken-for-granted knowledge and assumptions about sexuality and look at legal, cultural and social constructions of sex in society. Covers intersectional social implications, including race, (dis)ability, class, etc. Topics include: obscenity, pornography, sex work, sexual surrogacy, birth control, abortion, sex education, sexual violence, sex offenders, sexual citizenship rights, trans and intersex legal topics.

Requisites: GEN&WS 101, 102, 103 or SOC/LEGAL ST 131

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Discuss social theory about law and human behavior, particularly human sexuality

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain historical roots of modern sexuality-related laws and legal systems worldwide

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze topics related to sexuality and society; constructing arguments based on academic, peer-reviewed research

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Examine sociolegal governance over a wide variety of sexual behaviors and gender/sex topics in a critical, thorough, and thoughtful manner

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Comprehend and apply legal history, precedent, and course concepts to specific sociolegal cases concerning sexuality

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 407 – JURISPRUDENCE AND SOCIAL ISSUES

3 credits.

Examines fundamental questions about the nature and content of law, addressing both analytic and normative jurisprudence. Questions in analytic jurisprudence include: What does it mean for something to be the law? Why are some things a matter of law, while others are not? What is the relationship between law and morality? Is the law exhausted by the meaning of words in constitutions and statutes? Questions of normative jurisprudence concern the proper content of law, such as, what should the law permit, prohibit, and promote? These questions are examined by looking at a number of topics that are at issue in U.S. (and other nations') laws. These will include interpreting criminal law statutes, policies promoting public welfare, and the justifications for property, especially intellectual property rights.

Requisites: SOC/LEGAL ST 131, POLI SCI/LEGAL ST 217, or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate familiarity with major issues in jurisprudence and the ability to examine critically various ways of understanding the nature and content of law
Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Demonstrate knowledge about how ideas and ideologies have changed over time and have shaped social and moral arguments concerning the law

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Develop ability to articulate and discuss complex issues and arguments surrounding legal, social, and moral questions

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate the ability to analyze information, to write clearly and persuasively, and to construct original arguments

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the legal, political, and philosophical contexts and current scholarly debates concerning jurisprudence.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST 409 – HUMAN RIGHTS IN LAW AND SOCIETY

3 credits.

Introduction to the theory, the politics and the sociology of human rights. Main themes: international human rights legal regime, questions of why human rights have become "legalized," and what the consequences of this legalization are on the ground.

Requisites: LEGAL ST/SOC 131, POLI SCI/LEGAL ST 217, or Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Articulate and analytically discuss the origins, structure, justification, and impact of the international human rights system. Students will know the main international institutions and treaties governing human rights in our world, as well as the main policy debates about human rights.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Articulate and analytically discuss human rights' potential and limits in creating social and political change.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Recognize the challenges facing human rights law and institutions in light of the changing geopolitical world order.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Articulate and critically discuss the distinct ways in which various academic disciplines approach the same topic, revealing the structure of how we create knowledge.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Identify opportunities for employment or further study, assess their qualifications for these opportunities, and identify strategies for gaining the necessary knowledge and experience.

Audience: Graduate

6. Develop and maintain portfolios of their written work and educational experiences to aid them in preparing applications and to learn how to present their materials.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/GEN&WS 422 – WOMEN AND THE LAW

3 credits.

Legal system, laws, and proposed legislation that have specific impact on the lives of women. Topics investigated in both the social and legal contexts.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate an understanding of feminist legal theories and methodologies and apply them to real-world cases and historical legal scenarios.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Examine historical roots of modern gendered/sexed legal systems in the United States and worldwide.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Identify key court cases related to gender and civil rights; summarize the major holdings of those cases.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Investigate and research original projects about sex and society, construct research arguments, and plan legal/policy brief proposals.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Analyze sociolegal governance trends/patterns in the U.S. and internationally over a wide variety of sex/gender topics, including family rights, economic and financial rights, employment, voting, politics, sexuality, sport, education, abortion, birth control, and health.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Effectively present legal arguments in oral form, using the "Before the Courts" style, and in written form, using the style of law review articles.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/GEN&WS/SOC 425 – CRIME, GENDER AND JUSTICE

3 credits.

Focuses on the intersection between gender, crime and justice from a cross-cultural perspective. The gendered nature of the criminal justice system, female experiences of crime, prosecution and incarceration as well as the extent to which women are victims, offenders, and participants in the criminal justice system will be explored. Special emphasis will be placed on the theoretical implications of offending behavior and the intersection of gender with sexuality, race, ethnicity and class. The goal of this course is to provide a foundation for critically assessing the often controversial issues surrounding race, gender, crime, and criminal justice in society.

Requisites: SOC/LEGAL ST 131, GEN&WS 101, 102, 103 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the U.S. criminal justice system, including incarceration, sentencing, and policing, through the lens of gender studies

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify and describe criminological theories, specifically those focused on gender, race, class, and feminist academic thought

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explore inequalities amongst gender groups and various other social intersections (race, class, ability, sexuality, age, parenthood, etc).

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Investigate topics related to gender and justice by conducting thorough literature reviews and preparing policy briefs with recommendations for legal change.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Examine and discuss real-world experiences in criminal justice systems, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 426 – THE HISTORY OF PUNISHMENT

3-4 credits.

Examines punishment across a vast range of historical traditions, examining how wrongdoing and punishment have been figured in law, literature, art and philosophy. Examines ancient, medieval and modern traditions.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe punishment across a wide range of historical traditions.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Evaluate a variety of historical materials to determine their origins, perspective, usefulness, and reliability.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze influences that shape historical narratives and debates across genres and media.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Recognize multiple ways of being in the world, and how what may seem natural in a society has been built over decades of accumulated human actions.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Assess the historiography or other scholarly debates that have shaped the study of punishment.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/ENVIR ST/HISTORY 430 – LAW AND ENVIRONMENT: HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

3 credits.

Explores environmental studies through a focus on law and legal history. Although its main concentration is on U.S. environmental law, the course will begin and end with broader historical and global perspectives.

Topics include a survey of English, European, and early American legal approaches to land use, natural resources, and pollution through World War II as well as an examination of the development and practice of contemporary U.S. environmental law and consideration of the recent emergence of international environmental law.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B

Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze and articulate their own arguments about how social, political, and cultural phenomena shape law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze and articulate their own arguments about the social, political, and cultural impacts of law at the societal and individual levels.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Demonstrate knowledge about how legal ideas and ideologies have changed over time and have shaped law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate their abilities to find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to law and society.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Demonstrate their abilities to analyze information, to write clearly and persuasively, and to construct original arguments.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Analyze the causes of and solutions for the sustainability challenge of the conservation of natural resources, especially insofar as their governance involves and impacts local stakeholders.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Analyze the social, economic, legal, political, and environmental dimensions of the sustainability challenge of regulating and governing biodiversity, clean air and water, and other, larger earth systems (such as climate).

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

8. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the historiography or other scholarly debates that have shaped the study of conservation and environmental law.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/AFROAMER 435 – CIVIL RIGHTS: POLICING, PRISONS, VOTING, HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT

3-4 credits.

Exploration of civil rights. Question what it means to discriminate (on the basis of race, sex, national origin, religion, and disability), how we might investigate and detect acts of discrimination, and the legal constraints on governmental efforts to remedy discrimination in employment, housing, and voting. Explore the intersection of government power and civil rights. Examine how the government targets groups during times of national crisis. Consider what constitutes acceptable conditions of incarceration for prisoners. Finally, learn police use-of-force doctrine, and discuss the challenge of protecting both officer and civilian safety.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Identify key historical events that led to the conception and creation of civil rights.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Identify constitutional justifications for the use of federal authority to legislate in the area of civil rights.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Summarize statutes and cases that protect against discrimination in employment, housing, and voting.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate an understanding of major civil rights controversies surrounding political detainees, prison inmates, and those subject to police force during street encounters.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the historical context, constitutional arguments, and current scholarly debates concerning civil rights law.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/CHICLA/SOC 440 – ETHNICITY, RACE, AND JUSTICE

3-4 credits.

An examination of ethnicity, race, and justice, with a specific emphasis on US Latinos, the largest minority group in the United States.

Requisites: C&E SOC/SOC 140, 210, 211, SOC 181, FOLKLORE/AFROAMER/AMER IND/ASIAN AM/CHICLA 102, CHICLA 201, CHICLA 210, CHICLA 230, POLI SCI/CHICLA 231, HISTORY/CHICLA/GEN&WS 245, LEGAL ST/SOC 131, or POLI SCI/LEGAL ST 217**Course Designation:** Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2024**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Discuss ethnic and racial differences in crime and criminal justice outcomes and analyze these patterns through the application of theory and empirical data in the social sciences.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Engage major theoretical debates in social and legal scholarship. Why are there racial/ethnic disparities in crime and violence? How and why have these disparities changed over time? Are minorities treated differently by legal officials? Has mass incarceration mitigated or exacerbated racial and ethnic inequality? How has the Supreme Court viewed issues of ethnicity, race, and the law?

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Competently interpret representations of data and critically analyze study design in published research on ethnicity, race, and justice.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Critically assess the often-controversial issues surrounding ethnicity, race, crime, and the law in society, drawing on readings and class discussion.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/ELPA 442 – CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS, THE COURTS, AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

3 credits.

Examines several legal issues confronting students and educators within the U.S. education system with a particular focus on race discrimination. Examines how civil rights laws and constitutional provisions can help create more equitable schooling experiences for students and educators from historically marginalized populations. Identifies pragmatic approaches to the law, and explores issues of the democratic underpinnings of education.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Summer 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Analyze the U.S. constitutional provisions and civil rights laws in the U.S. that impact U.S. public education, demonstrating an awareness of history's impact on the past and present.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Describe various legal documents related to education, recognizing how assumptions about minoritized populations may play out in school policy.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain and engage in discussions about racial injustice through the discussion of case law, demonstrating a consciousness or awareness of how the issue impacts themselves and others in a public school setting.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Identify ways to become more effective participants in a multiracial society through the examination of current issues and social movements rooted in education law and policy.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Examine issues in civil rights law in education using peer-reviewed research

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/CHICLA/SOC 443 – IMMIGRATION, CRIME, AND ENFORCEMENT

3-4 credits.

A study of immigration, crime, and border enforcement, engaging both historical and present-day debates, focusing on Latino immigration and the U.S.-Mexico border.

Requisites: C&E SOC/SOC 140, 210, 211, SOC 181, FOLKLORE/AFROAMER/AMER IND/ASIAN AM/CHICLA 102, CHICLA 201, CHICLA 210, CHICLA 230, POLI SCI/CHICLA 231, HISTORY/CHICLA/GEN&WS 245, LEGAL ST/SOC 131, or POLI SCI/LEGAL ST 217**Course Designation:** Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Discuss trends in immigration, crime, and border enforcement in recent decades and analyze these patterns through the application of theory in the social sciences and empirical data.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Engage major theoretical debates in migration scholarship. Why do people (not) move? How are migration decisions made? What effect does migration have on (a) receiving societies, (b) sending societies, and (c) migrants themselves? How is migration organized by gender? What differentiates forced and unforced migration? How are immigrants incorporated into new societies?

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Develop a broader understanding of border enforcement through critical analysis of immigration policies and practices from an international perspective. That is, are recent trends in border enforcement unique to the United States?

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Critically assess the often-controversial issues surrounding ethnicity, race, crime, and the law in society, drawing on readings and class discussion.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 444 – LAW IN ACTION

3 credits.

A review of the interaction of law (judicial decisions, legislation, administrative actions) with public policy by studying the approaches used to resolve a number of significant issues by use of law and examining the actual impact of such efforts.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Evaluate how law operates across different areas of practice

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Recognize the role of legal institutions, actors, and processes in specific contexts

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Articulate how different groups are situated unequally in relation to the law

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain the ways politics, culture, and society shape the working of law

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Compose effective arguments supported by evidence and critical thinking skills

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Recognize and access different kinds of legal documents and other legal resources

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/POLI SCI 445 – LEGAL WRITING, FROM COUNSELOR TO ADVOCATE

3 credits.

Introduction to legal reasoning, writing, and research. Draft memos and briefs based on fictional case files and independent legal research, simulating the practice of law. Topics include precedent, sources of law, reading and interpreting legal texts, objective legal analysis, persuasion, and oral argument.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Read legal sources critically and accurately to identify relevant information.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Recognize the weight and significance of legal authorities within the American legal system.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze and synthesize legal authorities to explain and formulate controlling rules.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Apply legal rules to a set of facts—both to predict legal consequences and to advocate for a preferred result.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Use research strategies to find controlling and persuasive legal authority.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Write clearly and concisely about the law in different professional contexts, including objective office memoranda and persuasive legal briefs.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Articulate legal analyses and argue legal positions via oral communication and advocacy.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 450 – TOPICS IN LEGAL STUDIES AND THE HUMANITIES

3-4 credits.

Addresses a variety of issues linking various humanities perspectives to the central themes of law and legal institutions.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze how social, political, and cultural phenomena shape law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze the social, political, and cultural impacts of law at the societal and individual levels.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Assess how legal ideas and ideologies have changed over time and have shaped law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to law and society.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Analyze information, write clearly and persuasively, and construct original arguments.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Analyze research methods, engage critically with scholarly literature, and assess debates among scholars and others who have shaped understandings of this topic and field.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/SOC 451 – RACE, FAMILY & THE STATE

3 credits.

Examines the politics of state involvement in family life in America, particularly in poor and minoritized families. Investigates the state's role in the regulation of the family through systems of governance such as criminal justice, immigration, and welfare that shape the legal possibilities for family life. Incorporates sociological, historical, and legal scholarship to critically assess the structural influences shaping the experiences, choices, and legal possibilities for families of color.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and describe key social science theories of race, ethnicity, and racism.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Articulate how the concept of family is a social construct.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Enumerate the ways state institutions intervene in family life, and how the role of race and racism these processes.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain how cultural assumptions about the meanings and purpose attached to families influence policy making.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Apply sociological research findings to evaluate family policy positions

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Communicate contemporary family policy issues to non-specialists through public speaking and writing.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 459 – RULE OF LAW: PHILOSOPHICAL AND HISTORICAL MODELS

3-4 credits.

From the perspectives of history and political theory, examines the multiple meanings of the idea of the rule of law, and its uses in American history. Explore prominent critiques of the rule of law ideal.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2024**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Analyze the debates and issues that arise around the term "the rule of law".

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Describe the historical developments undergirding modern law and modern legal institutions.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain how conceptions of "the rule of law" have been and continue to be mobilized to expand or restrict individual freedom and to exploit or preserve economic and natural resources.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Assess the historiography or other scholarly debates that have shaped the study of the rule of law.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/L I S 460 – SURVEILLANCE, PRIVACY, AND POLICE POWERS

3 credits.

Examines individual privacy and government information collection in law enforcement, security, public health, administrative law, and other contexts from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**LEGAL ST 473 – HEALTH IMPACTS OF UNMET SOCIAL NEEDS**

3 credits.

Engage in service learning through direct work with patients in the Community Resource Navigator Program. Develop a better understanding of how social determinants of health equity affect peoples' lives. Partner with patients to identify social and legal services, assist patients in connecting to needed resources, follow up with patients to be sure that the connection was made and evaluate the quality of the resources provided. Reflect on experiences in the clinic and further explore how social location impacts health, legal and social service delivery. Working directly in local primary care clinics will provide the opportunity to communicate directly with the health care team to problem solve barriers patients are facing in accessing resources for their social needs.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Frame your understanding of how social location and wider political and social constructs affect institutional interactions, self-determination, access to resources and your own perceptions of individual experiences.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify how the interconnectedness of social, legal, and health experiences are actualized in peoples' lives.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 476 – MEDIEVAL LAW AND SOCIETY

3 credits.

Introduction to the central historical developments of law and legal institutions in the European middle ages (400-1500).

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Summer 2023**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Discuss the central historical developments related to law and European social transformations in the years between 500 and 1500.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Describe how medieval conditions of thought and forms of social organization made the period's laws intelligible to those that practiced them, those that enforced them, and those that lived under them.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze how legal practices and frameworks of power from the medieval period form the foundation for aspects of our own world.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Assess significant interdisciplinary scholarship on medieval law.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 477 – HISTORY OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

3 credits.

Examines the diverse paths followed by forensic science (including medical jurisprudence or forensic medicine) in various times and places, focusing on the English-speaking world from the nineteenth century until the present. Explore the many ways that law and science have worked together--or at cross-purposes--to generate and assess evidence at the crime scene, in the lab, in the courtroom, and beyond.

Requisites: Sophomore standing and (LEGAL ST/HISTORY 261, SOC/LEGAL ST 131, or POLI SCI/LEGAL ST 217), or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

LEGAL ST/AMER IND 480 – FEDERAL INDIAN LAW AND POLICY

3 credits.

Historical survey of federal Indian law and policy and selected topics focusing on contemporary federal Indian law and policy issues and problems. Principles of jurisdiction, sovereignty, and federal trust duties will also be covered.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Characterize the key principles governing Federal Indian law, including the principles of tribal sovereignty, the federal trust relationship, the exercise of Congress' plenary power, and the construction of Indian treaty rights.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify the historical and legal foundations giving rise to the current legal status of tribes.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze regulatory questions involving tribal governments and tribal members in relation to the states and the Federal government.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Critique major legislation affecting Indian tribes.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/AMER IND 485 – AMERICAN INDIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LAW

3 credits.

Exploration of an array of issues from compensation for, or restoration of, lost resources, the ability to site or maintain major facilities, the allocation of water supplies, and pollution control. Principle of jurisdiction, sovereignty, and federal trust duties will also be covered.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Characterize the key principles governing Federal Indian law, specifically Natural Resource legislation including the principles of tribal sovereignty, the federal trust relationship, the exercise of Congress' plenary power, and the construction of Indian treaty rights.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify the historical and legal foundations giving rise to the current legal status of tribes in relation to tribal resources.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze regulatory questions involving tribal governments' natural resources in relation to the states and the Federal government.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Critique major Natural Resource legislation affecting Indian tribes and surrounding areas.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST/HISTORY 510 – LEGAL PLURALISM

3 credits.

Historical and anthropological perspectives on non-state "law," or systems of rules generated by normative orders that lay beyond the state; case studies include the mafia, Tokyo tuna traders' court, orthodox Jewish diamond merchants, California gold miners' courts, Inuit song dueling.

Requisites: Sophomore standing and (LEGAL ST/HISTORY 261, SOC/LEGAL ST 131, or POLI SCI/LEGAL ST 217), or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

LEGAL ST/ED POL/ELPA 542 – LAW AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

3 credits.

Examines the legal issues related to the policy decisions and delivery of public education (elementary and secondary) in the United States. Learn how law impacts both curriculum development and curricular delivery, explore current legal controversies, constitutional issues, and learn about legal reasoning and analysis. Examines how both legislation and litigation affects public education. Particular attention is paid to law as public policy and the analysis of the same.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Identify various analytic frameworks that guide legal analysis.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze the use of principles and/or frameworks to a situation or issue.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Understand the role of analytic frameworks in the development and implementation of law and policy.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Describe the many legal issues inherent in daily school practice.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Discuss various legal principles.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Examine the sources of law and the various interests that the law seeks to balance.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Recognize and identify independently the many legal issues inherent in daily school practice.

Audience: Graduate

8. Explore and apply various legal practices and their application.

Audience: Graduate

9. Examine the sources of law and the various interests that the law seeks to balance, provide varying arguments in written form.

Audience: Graduate

10. Find and understand primary sources of legal authority (e.g. actual cases, statutes, and administrative rules).

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST 600 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN LEGAL STUDIES

1-3 credits.

Special seminars are designed for opportunities such as short international seminar courses, the summer forum, and other special opportunities.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Analyze how social, political, and cultural phenomena shape law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze the social, political, and cultural impacts of law at the societal and individual levels.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Assess how legal ideas and ideologies have changed over time and have shaped law and legal systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Find, interpret, and utilize resources relevant to law and society.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Analyze information, write clearly and persuasively, and construct original arguments.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Analyze research methods, engage critically with scholarly literature, and assess debates among scholars and others who have shaped understandings of this topic and field.

Audience: Graduate

LEGAL ST/LAW/SOC 641 – SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

3-4 credits.

Theory and research on the social origins, processes and effects of law; examination of law-related behavior, legal institutions, law and social structure, and law and social change; linkage to contemporary theoretical and political debates.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

LEGAL ST/L I S 645 – INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

3 credits.

An examination of intellectual freedom in the United States including censorship, minors' rights, the Internet, privacy, and copyright with focus on theoretical questions related to the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and historical developments.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science
Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**LEGAL ST/L I S 663 – INTRODUCTION TO CYBERLAW**

3 credits.

The emphasis is on critical thinking about a broad variety of legal and policy problems that arise because of ever-changing information and communication technologies.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**LEGAL ST 681 – SENIOR HONORS THESIS**

3-4 credits.

Individual study for majors writing theses for honors degree.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**LEGAL ST 682 – SENIOR HONORS THESIS**

3-4 credits.

Individual study for majors writing theses for honors degree.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**LEGAL ST 691 – SENIOR THESIS**

3 credits.

Individual study for majors writing senior thesis (nonhonors).

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**LEGAL ST 692 – SENIOR THESIS**

3 credits.

Individual study for majors writing senior thesis (nonhonors).

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**LEGAL ST/SOC 694 – CRIMINAL JUSTICE FIELD OBSERVATION**

2-3 credits.

Field placements and seminar sessions to develop sociological understanding of criminal justice processes. Placement in criminal justice agencies and lectures and discussions applying concepts and theories to field experience.

Requisites: Declared in Criminal Justice certificate and LEGAL ST/SOC 131**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Workplace - Workplace Experience Course

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Explain the role that mental health or substance abuse can play in one's contact with the criminal legal system.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Assess how an individual's race and socio-economic class can impact the likelihood of contact with the American criminal legal system, as well as how it impacts their experience.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Evaluate how consideration of a client's/ individual's cultural heritage and practices can improve one's effectiveness in providing services.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze the potential effects of trauma exposure on a practitioner or service provider and compare self-care strategies to deal with this.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Conduct client interviews based on knowledge of the steps needed to prepare for interviews and document the information gathered.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Describe the breadth of stakeholders to the work being conducted by community agencies.

Audience: Undergraduate

LEGAL ST 699 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-4 credits.

Directed study in legal studies.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2026