

LEGAL STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

Laws affect every person, everywhere, every day. Laws structure the rights and responsibilities of citizens, the conduct of business, and the powers and obligations of governments. The minor in legal studies introduces students to a variety of perspectives on the law, its operation, and its effects in different contexts. Students take a core set of courses that examine how laws are made, how they are put into practice, and how they affect the broader world. They build on this foundation with coursework focused on specific aspects of law or areas of its application.

This minor is an excellent complement to the major field of study for students who are interested in the broad ways that law touches citizens' everyday lives as well as for students with more focused interests in the legal environment and consequences of their primary area of study. The program will be particularly valuable to students outside of the liberal arts who are interested in law. The array of courses from which students can choose to complete the minor makes the program compatible with a wide range of majors, including engineering, business, criminal justice, communication, environmental/resource management and sustainability, information technology, and intellectual property.

The Legal Studies minor requires 18 credits. 9 credits are required courses that provide a foundational understanding of various facets of the law, including the US legal system, the power and function of law as a social institution, and the sources and effects of change in legal orders. The remaining 9 credits are selected from a cross disciplinary list that enables students to focus their study of law in accordance with their interests and professional goals.