

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LEGAL STUDIES

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Legal Studies is designed to provide undergraduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in environments which require an understanding of legal concepts. The curriculum addresses the application of writing, research, analysis, ethics, and communication in a legal setting and includes a focus on American constitutional governance. The major in Legal Studies offers a general concentration as well as specific concentrations in the Paralegal Profession and in Business Law. This degree provides a strong foundation for students seeking challenging work in diverse legal settings, and for further study in legal and related disciplines. Students completing the BA in Legal Studies with Paralegal Professional Concentration will meet the qualifications required to sit for the Paralegal Core Competencies Exam (NFPA), to sit for the Certified Paralegal Exam (NALA), and to work as a paralegal within the state of California.

## Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Legal Studies is to empower students to be dynamic, ethical problem-solvers who effectively apply critical thinking, analytical and research skills in a legal context.

## Program Learning Outcomes

- **Legal Writing:** Demonstrate proficiency in legal writing.
- **Governance:** Demonstrate an understanding of modern American constitutional governance.
- **Ethics:** Apply ethical practices to situations in a legal environment.
- **Legal Research:** Demonstrate proficiency in current legal research methods.
- **Communication:** Apply communication skills in such areas as negotiation, arbitration, mediation, dispute resolution, and interviewing.
- **Legal Analysis:** Apply critical thinking and analytical skills in a legal environment.

All courses taken in the major program must be passed with a letter grade of "C" or higher. Courses may be used to fulfill both major and general education requirements.

### Major Core Requirements

CJCU 460	White Collar Crime	3
LEST 300	Foundations of Law	3
LEST 304	Constitutional Governance	3
LEST 306	Business Organizations	3
LEST 320	Torts	3
LEST 322	Contracts	3
LEST 324	Interviewing, Negotiation and Alternative Dispute Resolution	3
LEST 402	Litigation and Trial Advocacy	3
LEST 403	Legal Research and Writing	3
LEST 462	Ethics in a Legal Environment	3
LEST 495	Legal Studies Capstone	3
Major Core Requirements Subtotal		33
<b>Electives or Concentrations</b>		

Students choose four approved elective courses or may select from the concentrations below.

Electives or Concentrations Subtotal	12
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>45</b>

## Electives

Select four courses from the following approved electives:

CJCU 418	Victim Advocacy	
COMU 315	Intercultural Communication	
LEST 410	Employment Law	
LEST 412	Intellectual Property	
LEST 414	Transactional Law	
LEST 416	Contemporary Legal Issues	
LEST 418	Electronic Discovery and Legal Technology	
LEST 420	Law Practice Management	
LEST 499	Independent Study	
LBSU 492	Experiential Learning	
SOWK 391	Youth At Risk	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

## Concentration

### Paralegal Profession Concentration

Take the following three courses

LEST 416	Contemporary Legal Issues	3
LEST 418	Electronic Discovery and Legal Technology	3
LEST 420	Law Practice Management	3

Select one of the following:

CJCU 418	Victim Advocacy	
COMU 315	Intercultural Communication	
LEST 410	Employment Law	
LEST 412	Intellectual Property	
LEST 414	Transactional Law	
LEST 420	Law Practice Management	
LEST 499	Independent Study	
LBSU 492	Experiential Learning	
SOWK 391	Youth At Risk	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

### Business Law Concentration

LEST 410	Employment Law	3
LEST 412	Intellectual Property	3
LEST 414	Transactional Law	3
Select one of the following:		3

CJCU 418	Victim Advocacy	
COMU 315	Intercultural Communication	
LEST 416	Contemporary Legal Issues	
LEST 418	Electronic Discovery and Legal Technology	
LEST 420	Law Practice Management	
LEST 499	Independent Study	

LBSU 492 Experiential Learning

SOWK 391 Youth At Risk

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**Total Credits** **12**