Get Good Advice

FRESHMAN
Learn where to find and how to use campus resources such as the Student Learning Center, Health Center, Academic Advising, and Wellness Center.
Visit each of your instructors during their office hours. Make a point to get to know your professors and meet with your Legal Studies Advisor at least once a semester.
Verify your Major Academic Plan (MAP). It will enable you and your advisor to plan for each semester.
If you need preparatory math and/or English courses, complete them in your first year.
Join the Pre-Law Society or the Women in Law student organizations.
Read the Book in Common (BIC) and participate in BIC activities.
Select courses in GE that meet the diversity requirements (US Diversity and Global cultures).
Get to know International Students in your classroom.
Consider a time management workshop in the Student Learning Center.
Use the Career Center to assess your interests, skills, and work values.

SOPHOMORE
Confirm that you are officially declared as a Legal Studies major. See the Legal Studies advisor to get enrolled in the paralegal certificate program.
Take Legal Studies 300-level courses if schedule permits.
Complete your GE Foundation courses. Explore GE Pathways. Consider completing an interdisciplinary minor within your GE. Consult an advisor for help.
Consider running for a leadership position in a student organization.
Explore Study Abroad opportunities. Attend an info meeting they offer every semester. Or consider National Student Exchange.
Meet alumni for insights on legal careers.

JUNIOR
Apply for graduation one year in advance of your expected graduation date.
Take Legal Studies 300-level courses if you haven’t already. Take POLS 451B, POLS 454, and your political theory course.
Select a minor and start its courses.
Start your internships at the Community Legal Information Center (CLIC).
Start visiting potential law schools.
Visit the Career Center to learn about career opportunities and resume building. Attend a career fair on campus, regularly scheduled early in fall semesters and several times during spring semesters.

SENIOR
Submit paralegal certificate application to Legal Studies advisor.
Take POLS 455, POLS 459, and moot court course.
Continue applying what you’ve learned in an internship at CLIC.
Consider applying for membership in Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society.
Consider applying for the paralegal certificate program.
Take the LSAT and apply to law schools.

Graduation and Beyond

Private Sector
• Solo Legal Practice
• Law Firms

Government
• State, Local, and Federal
• District Attorney
• Public Defender
• Judge

Non-Profits
• Legal Services

Other Careers
• Legal Publishing
• Business
• Politics

Prepare for Life After Graduation

Think Globally

Apply What You Learn

Connect with Peers

Get the Right Classes

Essentials for Every Semester
• Meet with your major advisor and consult Advisers in SSC 220 as needed for course selection strategies. Take courses in the proper sequence.
• Meet deadlines to register, pay fees, and apply for financial aid.
• Check your DPR. Are you on-track to meet requirements?
• Complete a sufficient number of units each term (35–46 units) to graduate in four years. Some programs require more.
• Check your Student Center prior to registration for registration holds and updating your personal info.
• Check your Student Center in the first two weeks of classes to confirm your class schedule and that all adds and drops have been processed as you expected.
• Check your Student Center after each semester for your grades and academic standing. If your GPA drops below a 2.0, consult an Advisor.