

Student Success Map

BA in Political Science—Legal Studies Option Department of Political Science

Essentials for Every Semester

- Meet with your major advisor and consult **Advisors** 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 (15–16 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**.

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.

Obtain 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.

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.

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**).



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.



Take the **LSAT** and apply to 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.

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*



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Get Good Advice

Take the Right Classes

Apply What You Learn

Connect with Peers

Think Globally

Prepare for Life After Graduation