

ASSOCIATE IN ARTS

LEGAL STUDIES

(68 hrs. min.)

CIP: 22.0001

School of Business and Applied Technologies, (505) 428-1332

This program is designed for students who intend to obtain bachelor's degrees with emphasis in Pre-Law studies at a four year institution. It provides general education requirements, a foundation for success in law school and basic core courses designed to prepare students for work in the field of law passed their associate degree. The American Bar Association does not recommend to law schools exactly what courses should be included for pre-professional education. High on the list of courses recommended by leaders of the legal profession, however, are English language and literature, government, communication, economics, American history and English history. Majors in English, Spanish, and history are all recommended backgrounds for law school. This curriculum contains courses that fulfill the New Mexico General Education Common Core (NMGCEC) and a variety of legal and general electives. Students must work closely with their transfer institutions and their SFCC advisers to ensure the best transition to four-year schools.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the practical and analytical skills that will be demanded in law school.
- Analyze the relationships between ethics, law and social responsibility in organizational decision-making.
- Describe the American legal system.
- Demonstrate improvement in reading comprehension, analytical thinking, effective communication and other practical skills necessary to compete in today's legal job market.
- Discuss the historical and philosophical perspectives of the American legal system.
- Demonstrate the ethical values and reach of law in business, everyday life and contemporary American society.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: (42 HRS.)

Communications (12 hrs.)

ENGL 111 Composition and Rhetoric (3)
ENGL 112 Composition and Literature (3)
ENGL 216 Technical Writing (3)
SPCH 111 Public Speaking (3)

Math (4 hrs.)

MATH 121 College Algebra (4)

Sciences (8 hrs.)

Social/Behavioral Sciences (6 hrs.)

POLI 200 American Government and Politics (3)

[and]

Choose one of the following:

ANTH 112 The Nature of Culture (3)
ECON 200 Principles of Economics – Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 201 Principles of Economics – Microeconomics (3)
POLI 211 New Mexico Government (3)
POLI 215 Comparative Politics (3)
PSYC 111 Psychology I (3)
SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology (3)

Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hrs.)

PHIL 155 Logic and Critical Thinking (3)

[and]

Choose one of the following:

AHST 201 Art History I (3)
ENGL 244 Literature of the Western World I (3)
ENGL 245 Literature of the Western World II (3)
ENGL 261 American Literature I (3)
ENGL 262 American Literature II (3)
ENGL 270 Literature of the Southwest (3)
ENGL 273 Native American Literature (3)
ENGL 286 The Novel (3)
HIST 111 Western Civilization I (3)
HIST 112 Western Civilization II (3)
HIST 260 History of New Mexico (3)
HIST 161 United States History to 1877 (3)
HIST 162 United States History from 1877 (3)
MUSC 140 Music Appreciation (3)
PHIL 111 Introduction to Philosophy (3)
PHIL 245 Business Ethics (3)
SPAN 111 Spanish I (4)

Computers/Technology (4 hrs.)

OFTC 111 Business Software Essentials I (4)

**Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) or Dance
(2 hrs. min.)****CORE REQUIREMENTS: (20 HRS.)**

LEGL 111 Introduction to Law (4)
LEGL 115 Torts (3)
LEGL 121 Legal Research and Writing I (3)
LEGL 211 Contract Law (3)
LEGL 240 Constitutional Law (3)
LEGL 241 Legal Research Writing II/Westlaw (4)

*It's highly recommended that students take LEGL 111 and 121 in their first semester.

ELECTIVES: (6 HRS. MIN.)

Choose two from the following:

BSAD 232 Business Law I (3)
CRJS 203 Criminal Law and Procedure (3)
LEGL 201 Real Estate Law (3)
LEGL 207 Environmental Law (3)
LEGL 221 Wills, Probate and Estates (3)
LEGL 225 Family Law (3)
LEGL 230 Business Organizations (3)
LEGL 231 Evidence (3)
LEGL 260 Tribal Law and Government (3)
LEGL 298 Internship (1-3)

NOTE: See "College Success Course Requirement" on Page 10.

TOTAL 68 CREDITS MIN.