

LAW (BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, B.S.)

Overview

The Bachelor of Law provides students with an undergraduate legal education that teaches legal reasoning, substantive law, critical analysis, and professional ethics. The Bachelor of Law provides undergraduate law students with core competencies and skills required for all law-related work. Required law courses are taught by faculty with the appropriate terminal degrees who have both formal legal training and practical experience teaching law and legal reasoning.

This program prepares students for careers in law firms, legal departments of banks, insurance companies, land title insurance companies, corporate legal departments, legal aid offices, public defender offices, the office of the prosecuting attorney, and municipal legal departments.

To graduate from the program, students must:

- Satisfactorily complete all courses required in the program;
- Perform legal research and analysis by using legal research material;
- Draft and prepare legal documents;
- Identify and explain the various functions performed by various legal professionals;
- Explain the role of the paralegal in the legal profession;
- Identify ethical issues, rules and standards that a paralegal must follow when working under an attorney's supervision (a paralegal's conduct is expected to conform to these ethical standards);
- Perform the functions of a paralegal under the supervision of a practicing attorney.

Paralegals are not permitted to practice law in the state of Missouri. Only attorneys who are licensed in the state by the state Supreme Court are permitted to practice law.

Requirements

Students who choose this bachelor degree program will have no more than 6 years from admission or subsequent declaration to meet the requirements listed below. If certification, accreditation or statutory requirements change and additional requirements become effective during this time, the new requirements take precedence.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
General Studies		
Students must complete General Studies courses (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/university-information/academic-standards-regulations/baccalaureate-degree/#bachelor-general-studies)		42
Major Requirements		
CRJ 260	Criminal Law	3
CRJ 410	Criminal Procedure	3
GBA 211	Business Law I	3
GBA 311	Business Law II	3
LAT 101	Introduction to Law	3
LAT 115	Paralegal Studies	3
LAT 220	Legal Research	3

LAT 225	Litigation	3
LAT 250	Legal Computer Applications	3
LAT 310	Legal Drafting	3
LAT 335	Interpersonal Conflict Resolution	3
LAT 400	Advanced Legal Research	3
LAT 420	Civil Rights Law	3
PHL 230	Ethics	3
or PHL 232	Business Ethics	
PSC 110	American State and Local Government	3
PSC 210	Comparative Political Systems	3
Applied Learning Experience Requirement (3 credit hours from one of the following. Additional hours may be used as Restricted Electives)		
CRJ 365	Practicum I	
CRJ 465	Internship	
CRJ 450	Independent Research/Project	
PHL 450	Independent Research/Project	
PSC 450	Independent Research/Project	
Choice of a second major, minor, approved certification or twelve (12) credit hours of restricted electives from the following:		12
HIS 385	United States Constitutional History	
LAT 316	Philosophy of Law	
or PHL 316	Philosophy of Law	
LAT 340	Study Away in Criminal Justice and Legal Studies	
LAT 370	Domestic Relations	
PHL 210	Introduction to Philosophy	
PHL 219	Reasoning and Argumentation	
PHL 360	Selected Topics in Philosophy	
PHL 365	Selected Topics in Peace & Conflict Studies	
PSC 355	Interest Group Politics	
PSC 390	International Organizations	
PSC 410	Congressional Politics and Process	
PSC 420	Law and Politics	
PSC 426	Peace and Justice in Post-Conflict Societies	

Restricted electives may also be met with credit from an approved 3+3 law school program or with approved undergraduate credit from a foreign university.

Note: Students desiring to take 500 level courses to satisfy the criminalistics elective must meet the criteria required for undergraduates to enroll in graduate level courses.

Program Graduation Requirements

1. No more than 2 courses with a grade of D permitted in major and concentration coursework.
2. Earn an overall GPA of at least 2.0 and a major GPA of at least 2.0.

University Graduation Requirements

1. Earn a minimum of 120 credit hours (100 level and higher, maximum of 6 CED credit hours applicable).

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2. Earn a minimum of 30 credit hours in upper-division courses.
Lower-division transfer courses accepted as meeting upper-division departmental course requirements cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.
3. Earn 30 of the last 45 credit hours at MWSU in institutional coursework (exclusive of credit by examination).
4. Participate in required departmental and campus wide assessments.
5. Fulfill the Missouri Constitution requirement.
6. Successfully pass the Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement exam.