

# PRE-LAW

Minor:

- Pre-Law (p. 1)

The Pre-Law Program, designed to serve students from all areas of the University, provides undergraduates and alumni interested in law school with opportunities to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful legal career through both the Pre-Law Studies minor as well as through an extensive variety of pre-professional services and resources designed to help students plan an intentionally developmental undergraduate academic path. While students interested in careers in law should choose undergraduate majors to match their interests and abilities, they should also contact and stay engaged with the Pre-Law Program as early in their undergraduate careers as possible so they can receive effective prelaw advice.

Students can take advantage of one or both paths through the Pre-Law Program. The interdisciplinary Pre-Law Studies minor enhances the preparation of students planning to seek admission to law school by promoting both the development of skills considered essential by both law schools and legal professionals – critical reasoning, writing, and analytical skills – and professional skills. The Pre-Law Program, i.e., the Director, together with fifteen additional prelaw faculty advisors, provides students with curriculum guidance for developing the skills set needed for success in their future legal education and career, with law school admissions fairs, with aid in preparing for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), including simulated tests and prep workshops, and with individual assistance in law school selection and law school applications. Moreover, the Program has a legal internship program and a Mock Trial team, both of which offer students valuable experiential learning working with attorneys, an undergraduate chapter of Phi Alpha Delta, a Pre-Law Club, and other opportunities for development based on the individual student's talents, interests, and goals.

For further information concerning the Pre-Law Program at the University of Dayton, students should contact the Pre-Law Program in Alumni Hall, Room 117; phone (937) 229-4229 or at [prelaw@udayton.edu](mailto:prelaw@udayton.edu).

**Pre-Law Committee** (<https://udayton.edu/artssciences/academics/prelaw/faculty-staff.php>)

## Minor in Prelaw (PLW)

Pre-Law		20-22
Core Courses		
PLW 200	Legal Careers & Professional Development	1
PHL 302	Symbolic Logic	3
POL 301	The American Judicial Process	3
Additional Essential Skills Courses (13-15 hours)		
Writing Skills - select one course from:		3
ENG 316	Elements of Style	
ENG 368	Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	
ENG 370	Report & Proposal Writing	
ENG 372	Business and Professional Writing	
Quantitative Analysis Skills - select one from: <sup>1</sup>		3
ACC 207	Introduction to Financial Accounting	
ACC 208	Introduction to Managerial Accounting	
CMM 412	Research Methods in Communication	

DSC 210	Statistics for Business I	
DSC 211	Statistics for Business II	
ECO 203	Principles of Microeconomics	
MTH 148	Introductory Calculus I	
MTH 207	Introduction to Statistics	
PSY 216	Elementary Statistics	
SOC 308	Applied Research Methods	
Written Research Skills - select one from: <sup>2</sup>		3
CJS 409	Senior Capstone	
ENG 490	Research Seminar-Literature (majors only)	
HST 301	Historiography (majors only)	
HST 498	History Research Seminar 2 (majors only)	
INS 499	Senior Capstone Seminar (majors only)	
PHL 492	Directed Research (majors only)	
PLW 350	Introduction to Legal Research, Writing & Analysis	
POL 207	Political Science Research Methods (majors only)	
SOC 409	Senior Project Capstone (majors only)	
Legal Vocabulary and Concepts - select one from:		3
CJS 305	Criminal Law	
CJS 315	Criminal Procedure	
MGT 201	Legal and Ethical Environment of Business	
PHL 314	Philosophy of Law	
POL 411	Constitutional Law	
SOC 326	Law & Society	
Experiential Learning - complete 1-3 hours from the following: <sup>3</sup>		1-3
CJS 495	Internship in Criminal Justice I	
POL 495	Internship	
PLW 301	Mock Trial I <sup>4</sup>	
PLW 302	Mock Trial II <sup>4</sup>	
PLW 495	Legal Internship	

<sup>1</sup> Other MTH courses may also apply with permission of program coordinator.

<sup>2</sup> May be completed with an Honors Thesis course in any academic department or with permission of the program coordinator any other course not listed that both teaches research methods and requires the student to research and write a substantial paper (12-page minimum length) will also fulfill this requirement.

<sup>3</sup> Other internships may also apply with permission of program coordinator.

<sup>4</sup> Must complete sequence in consecutive semesters over the course of one academic year.

## Courses

### PLW 200. Legal Careers & Professional Development. 1 Hour

Introduction to careers in various legal practice fields and the different employment options students will have with a law degree. Emphasis is on exploring personal motives and strengths as students consider preparing for law school and a legal career. Includes academic planning and professional behaviors development.

### PLW 301. Mock Trial I. 1 Hour

Practice and performance of attorney and witness roles for Mock Trial National Competition case. Repeatable up to four semester hours.

**PLW 302. Mock Trial II. 1 Hour**

Practice and performance of attorney and witness roles for Mock Trial Regional and National competitions. Repeatable up to four semester hours. Prerequisite(s): PLW 301; invitation by mock trial coaches.

**PLW 350. Introduction to Legal Research, Writing & Analysis. 3 Hours**

Applied skills course integrating units on critical reading, legal reasoning, legal research, and predictive writing. Skills are applied toward examining the role of law in our society, the basic structure of our legal system, and the hierarchy of legal authority. Prerequisites: (ASI 110, ENG 100, ENG 114 or ENG 198).

**PLW 495. Legal Internship. 1-3 Hours**

Supervised legal work experience with an approved law or law-related office, organization or program. Prerequisites: Sophomore status, 3.0 minimum overall GPA, completion of PLW 200 and/or permission of supervising professor.