

April 17, 2019

Law, Justice, and Society Minor

In 2015 the Senate of College Councils passed a resolution calling for the creation of pre-law certificate program. Following discussions within the Dept. of Government, an interdisciplinary faculty-student committee was convened during the 2017-18 academic year to study this issue. This committee was chaired by Professor Raúl Madrid (Government) and included Professors Gary Jacobsohn (Government), H.W. Perry (Government and Law), Mary Rose (Sociology), and Jeffrey Tulis (Government), along with Nathan Vickers, the head Academic Advisor of the Dept. of Government. The student representatives were Luciano Barraza and David Jenkins.

Our committee rejected the idea of a pre-law certificate in favor of creating an interdisciplinary certificate in Law, Justice and Society that would have a richer intellectual agenda. The aim of this certificate would be to provide students with broad expertise in the legal and criminal justice fields. The training the certificate provides would be valuable for those students who intend to go to law school, but it would be equally useful for those students interested in studying or working in the areas of law enforcement, ethics and human rights. The certificate program would also help students develop strong analytical and communication skills that would be useful in whatever careers or fields of study they decide to pursue.

Through the certificate program, students would become knowledgeable about constitutional law as well as legal structures, precedents, concepts and reasoning. They would learn about the latest research on criminology, law enforcement, incarceration, and rehabilitation as well as the state-of-the-art research methods used in these fields. Finally, they would explore the key ethical and human rights issues that our legal and criminal justice systems must address.

Students would be able to choose from a broad array of courses in constitutional law, human rights, comparative legal systems, criminology, ethics and communications. They would have the flexibility to design a certificate that fits their interests and needs, but they would be required to take two Government courses and one Sociology course in order to ensure that all students took courses dealing with our legal and criminal justice systems. On March 8, 2019, the CDA decided to approve the new credential as a minor, instead of a certificate, in order to facilitate administration.

The minor, which would be housed in the College of Liberal Arts, would require students to take 18 hours of coursework from among the courses on the attached list, including at least 6 hours of courses in GOV and at least 3 hours in SOC. A minimum of 12 hours of the coursework would have to be upper division.

The Law, Justice, and Society minor would also meet the following COLA requirements for certificates:

- 1) At least half of the hours must be completed in residence.
- 2) At least one course must be from outside the student's major.
- 3) A maximum of nine hours may be completed after the students finish their undergraduate degree requirement.

Courses that would count toward the minor

Government

GOV 312P Constitutional Principles: Core Texts
 GOV 314 (Topic 9) Human Rights: Theories and Practices
 GOV 320K United States Constitutional Development: Structures
 GOV 320N United States Constitutional Development: Rights
 GOV 331L Law and Society
 GOV 335M (Topic 12) Natural Law Theory. Same as Philosophy 342 (Topic 1)
 GOV 335M (Topic 11) Global Justice
 GOV 337M (Topic 7) Law and Democracy in Latin America. Same as LAS 337M Topic 12
 GOV 351C The Classical Quest for Justice
 GOV 357L Judicial Process and Behavior
 GOV 357M (all topics) Topics in Public law
 GOV 365N (Topic 23) Comparative Legal Systems
 GOV 365N (Topic 24) Human Rights and World Politics
 GOV 370L Topic 22: President, Congress, and the Supreme Court.

Sociology

307D	Capital Punishment in America
307T	Punishment and Society
318	Juvenile Delinquency
321D	Demography of Crime and Punishment
323C	Policing
325K	Criminology
325L	Sociology of Criminal Justice
336P	Social Psychology and the Law
340D	Violence
366	Deviance-Lecture
366	Deviance-Writing

Other departments and schools

AFR 317D Topic 7: Community Policing in the United States.

AFR 360: Race, Law, and United States Society. Same as [American Studies 370](#) (Topic 5) and [History 365G](#) (Topic 13).

AFR 372F Topic 10: Race and the Criminal Justice System. Same as ANT 324L Topic 38

AMS 370. Topic 6: Gender-Based Discrimination. Same as WGS 345 Topic 8.

C C 375 Topic 1: Roman Law. Same as Ancient History and Classical Civilization 378 (Topic 1).

CTI 326 Topic 1: Constitutional Interpretation. Same as Government 357M (Topic 5).

EUS 345 Topic 4: Law and Society in Early Modern Europe. Same as History 350L (Topic 57: Law and Society in Early Modern Europe) and Women's and Gender Studies 340 (Topic 13: Law and Society in Early Modern Europe).

HIS 350R Topic 4: Constitutional Issues in the Twentieth-Century United States.

HIS 355S United States Constitutional History

LAH 369H. Comparative Legal Systems.

PHL 342 (Topic 1). Natural Law Theory. Same as GOV 335M Topic 7.

PHL 347. Philosophy of Law.

RS 358 Topic 9: Islamic Law. Same as Islamic Studies 340 (Topic 5), Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures 321 (Topic 19), Middle Eastern Studies 342 (Topic 27), and Women's and Gender Studies 340 (Topic 27).

URB 354 Topic 12: Sociology of Criminal Justice. Same as Sociology 325L.

WGS 345 Topic 47: The Face of Justice. Same as Government 357M (Topic 11).

P R 353. Advertising and Public Relations Law and Ethics. Same as [Advertising 353](#).

J 350F. Media Law.

RTF 365C Topic 1: Media, Communication Law, and Ethics

S W 360K or S W 460K Topic 12: Social Work in the Legal System.

S W 360K or S W 460K Topic 15: Youth, Delinquency, and Juvenile Justice.