

**New Undergraduate Program (Majors, Minors, Sequences) Proposal**  
**Illinois State University - University Curriculum Committee**

**Program Department** Politics and Government

**Initiator** Brittney Vietti

**Phone** 438-3709

**Initiator Department** Politics and Government

**Coauthor(s)** Thomas McClure (temccclu@ilstu.edu), Te-Yu Wang (tywang@ilstu.edu)

**Title of New Program** General Legal Studies Sequence

**Submission Date** Wednesday, November 1, 2023

**Email** bahens2@ilstu.edu

**Campus Address** 4600 Politics and Government

**Version** 1 **ID** 475

**Proposed Starting Catalog Year** 2024-2025

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**1. Proposed Action**

New Major

New Minor

✓ New Sequence

More than 50% of courses in this program are Distance Education

**Sequence Major**

Legal Studies

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**2. Provide Undergraduate Catalog copy for new program.**

Major Requirements

General Sequence

Minimum required credit hours: 40

- LGS 201
- LGS 203
- LGS 204
- LGS 313
- LGS 370
- LGS 371
- LGS 398a20 (3)
- POL 106
- POL 196

Take three (9 credit hours) Legal Studies major electives: Any non-required LGS courses

Take two (6 credit hours) additional electives

- POL 212
- POL 215
- POL 283
- POL 293a03
- POL 324
- POL 325
- POL 326
- POL 327
- POL 328
- ENG 248
- HIS 253
- PHI 242
- PHI 340
- SOC 365
- SOC 367
- non-required LGS courses if not already taken for the 9 hours of required LGS electives above

Notes

LGS 398a20 may be substituted for one of the Legal Studies elective courses with consent of either the Department Chair or the Director of Legal Studies.

A maximum of six (6) hours in LGS 398a20 may count towards the Legal Studies major

It is recommended that Legal Studies majors enroll in POL 106 in their first year of study. Transfer students wishing to complete the major are recommended to enroll in POL 106 in their first year at Illinois State University if they have not already had an equivalent course.

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**3. Provide a description for the proposed program.**

The Legal Studies curriculum is an American Bar Association approved paralegal educational program. It is designed to prepare students for a career as a paralegal in public and private law offices, corporate law departments, and government agencies. Students learn how to communicate effectively with both lawyers and laymen. When acting under an attorney's supervision, a trained paralegal can perform many law-related tasks although they do not give legal advice to clients, set fees or represent clients in court. Paralegals may not provide legal services directly to the public except as permitted by law.

Admission to the Legal Studies major is limited and based on space availability and the competitiveness of the applicant pool. Factors that may be considered include, but are not limited to: courses completed, cumulative GPA, hours completed, personal interview or written statement, and samples of work completed. For additional information on minimum requirements for admission, and the application process, visit the Majors website or contact the undergraduate advisor for the intended major.

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**4. Provide a rationale of proposed program.**

This general sequence is an administrative change to support the new Language Integration sequence working through the system. This is not a "new" program per se.

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**5. Describe the expected effects of the proposed program on existing campus programs (if applicable).**

No expected effects on existing campus programs.

6. **Provide a sample four-year plan of study that fulfills the following requirements:** 120 hours, 42 senior college hours (200 and 300 level courses), and 39 General Education Program hours or 36 hours with exemption. If the program is a BS program, show the BS-SMT degree requirement. If the program is from CAS, show Foreign Language Requirement (LAN 111/LAN 112). Confirm General Education requirement exemptions on the General Education page of the current Academic Catalog. *4-year plans are not required for minor program proposals.*

First Year - Fall Semester (15-16 credit hours)

ENG 101 or COM 110 (General Education) (3)  
POL 106 (General Education) (3)  
Foreign language course 111-level or University-wide elective (3-4)  
General Education course (3)  
General Education course (3)

First Year - Spring Semester (13-14 credit hours)

ENG 101 or COM 110 (General Education) (3)  
Foreign language course 112-level or University-wide elective (3-4)  
General Education course (3)  
General Education course (3)  
POL 196 (1)

Second Year - Fall Semester (15 credit hours)

General Education course (3)  
  
General Education course (3)  
General Education course (3)  
LGS 201 (3)  
IDEAS or University-wide elective (3)

Second Year - Spring Semester (15 credit hours)

General Education course (3)  
University-wide elective (3)  
General Education course (3)  
General Education course (3)  
AMALI or University-wide elective (3)

Third Year - Fall Semester (15 credit hours)

LGS 203 (3)  
LGS 313 (3)  
LGS major elective (3)  
LGS major elective (3)  
University-wide elective (3)

Third Year - Spring Semester (15 credit hours)

LGS 204 (3)  
LGS 398A20 or LGS major elective (3)  
LGS major elective (3)  
University-wide elective (3)  
  
University-wide elective (3)

Fourth Year - Fall Semester (15 credit hours)

LGS 370 (3)  
LGS 398A20 or LGS major elective (3)  
University-wide elective (3)  
University-wide elective (3)  
B.S.-SMT or B.A. foreign language (3)

Fourth Year - Spring Semester (15 credit hours)

LGS 371 (3)  
LGS 398A20 or LGS major elective (3)  
Senior level University-wide elective (3)  
Senior level University-wide elective (3)  
University-wide elective (3)

7. **Describe the expected curricular changes required, including new courses. If proposals for new courses have also been submitted, please reference those related proposals here:**

N/A

8. **Anticipated funding needs and source of funds.**

N/A

9. **No Does this program count for teacher education?**

10. **No Is this an Interdisciplinary Studies program?**

11. **The following questions must be answered.**

**Yes** Have you confirmed that Milner Library has sufficient resources for the proposed program?

**No** Are more than 120 hours required to complete a degree with this major?

- No** Beyond General Education, does the major require more than 66 semester hours?
- No** Does this sequence (if in a major) require more than 55 semester hours of courses in the major department/school?
- Yes** Does this program stipulate specific general education courses offered in the major department/school as a part of the major requirements only if such courses serve as prerequisites for other courses required by the major?

Explain why specific general education courses are required.

POL 106 - ICL

This course is designed to be an introduction to American government with a focus on political processes and historical foundations. The course emphasizes how citizen participation is crucial to a thriving democracy, as well as analyze the ways individuals and groups can affect political outcomes in the United States. It is important for students in the Legal Studies major to have an understanding of the above values.

- Yes** Does this program stipulate specific course requirements (majors/sequences only) that also satisfy general education and/or IAI requirements?

Please specify those courses below.

POL 106 - IAI S5 900 American/U.S. National Government

- No** Is the proposed program intended to be longer than four years (as indicated by the plan of study)?
- N.A.** Have letter(s) of concurrence from affected departments/schools been obtained?  
*A departments/school is affected if it has a program with significant overlap or if it teaches a required or elective course in the program.*

**12. [Proposal Routing](#)**

**Routing and action summary for New Program:**

**1. Politics and Government Department Curriculum Committee Chair**

<u>Te-Yu Wang (website)</u>	<u>Te-Yu Wang</u>	<u>11/1/2023 11:47:05 AM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**2. Politics and Government Department Chair/School Director**

<u>Te-Yu Wang (website)</u>	<u>Te-Yu Wang</u>	<u>11/1/2023 11:47:11 AM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**3. College of Arts & Science College Curriculum Committee Chair**

<u>Todd Stewart (website)</u>	<u>Todd Stewart</u>	<u>11/8/2023 12:02:07 PM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**4. College of Arts & Science College Dean**

<u>Rocio Rivadeneyra (website)</u>	<u>Rocio Rivadeneyra</u>	<u>11/9/2023 8:25:53 AM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

**5. University Curriculum Committee Chair**

<u>Joshua Newport (website)</u>	<u>Joshua Newport</u>	<u>12/7/2023 4:18:42 PM</u>
Signature	Print	Date

All new programs (majors, minors, sequences) are routed by the U.C.C. to the Academic Senate

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**Comments on Proposal.** (Required if proposal rejected)

**Academic Senate Approver**



