

To: Faculty Senate
 From: Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee: Turgay Korkmaz (Chair), Pepe Chang, Brian Davies, Liang Tang, Langston Clark, Bill Ramos,
 Re: Review of proposal for the **Certificate in Legal Studies** for undergraduate students in University College
 Date: April 18, 2019

University College and Dean’s Council have reviewed and supported the proposal.

Faculty senate curriculum committee reviewed the proposal for the *Certificate in Legal Studies* from the University College. **Based on our evaluation, we recommend the proposal to be approved by the faculty senate.** Yes: 3, No: 0, Abstain: 0, No response: 3.

Please see below for the summary of our evaluation.

- The **objectives** of the program are to
 - (1) provide students with substantive skills to improve their analytical reasoning and logic, critical reading and thinking, and writing and research skills in preparations for law school;
 - (2) introduce students to law school and the legal profession; and
 - (3) facilitate exposure to the law to strengthen their desire to attend law school and have first-hand experience in the legal field.
- The certificate offers courses that help students develop ABA recommended skills and joins students’ academic coursework with experiential learning opportunities that may count towards the student’s major, minor, or elective credits.

The requirements for the *Certificate in Legal Studies* for undergraduate students include:

<p>Any undergraduate student from UTSA can apply the <i>Certificate in Legal Studies</i> and get the certificate. Students must complete a minimum of 15 semester credit hours at the upper division level for certificate completion. All courses may be completed in diverse colleges during fall or spring semesters or within the Summer Law School Preparation Academy (SLSPA).</p> <p>Students must take the following core courses (9 credit hours):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHI 2043 Introductory Logic • WRC 3013 Writing Strategies for the Prelaw Student (or PAL 3013 Legal Research and Writing and) • UCS 4933 Internship in Prelaw Studies (or PAL and POL 4933 Internship) <p>Students must choose 2 elective courses (6 credit hours) offering skill development in ABA suggested prelaw skills. The full list of elective courses is attached.</p> <p>Other Requirements Students must earn a C- or better in each course and achieve at least 2.5 GPA in all courses to satisfy the requirements of the certificate.</p>	15
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Reason for Request

- The Certificate in Legal Studies complements and strengthens UTSA’s position as a top feeder for law schools, helping students to become more competitive to be admitted into top rank law schools.
- The Certificate in Legal Studies will place UTSA within a strong group of universities that offer prelaw certificates helping students develop skills and professional learning experiences needed in law school.

Relationship to Existing Programs

- UTSA has the following related programs: Politics and Law (PAL), Political Science (POL), Criminal Justice (CRJ), Summer Law School Preparation Academy (SLSPA).
- The Prewlaw Studies Certificate complements rather than competes with PAL, POL, CRJ, and SLSPA.
- The Prewlaw Studies Certificate will benefit students who already earn credits for major or minor within their respective colleges. Additionally, the certificate is open to all undergraduate students, regardless of major or minor, as these courses may be taken as electives.

Expected Enrollment

YEAR	1	2	3	4	5
Headcount	50	55	60	65	70

Resources

- UCS 4933 Internship in Prewlaw Studies will be a new course that will provide experiential learning in a legal environment, and
- UCS 4913 Independent Study in Prewlaw will be created to allow students to do a prelaw research project. Can be taken as one of the two electives for the Certification.
- No additional resources are needed for this certificate. For completion of the certificate, other courses are already taught across disciplines and Colleges within the University. Classrooms, and technologies will support program delivery.

Other Information

Course Descriptions

--- Required ---

UCS 4933 Internship in Prewlaw Studies will be designed to serve as a pre-professional experience for students who may want to attend law school. The internship will provide students a learning experience at a law firm, in a legal department of a corporation, government agency, or nonprofit legal organization. The internship course will be under the direction of a faculty member of University College.

---Elective---

UCS 4913 Independent Study in Prewlaw will be designed for students to hone the skills needed for law school in case they decide to pursue a legal education. Students must do independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing on a prelaw topic under the direction of a faculty member of University College.

ATTACHMENT:

Elective Courses (6 credit hours) for the Certificate in Legal Studies:

<p>1) Problem solving PAL 4123 or POL 4123 Legal and Philosophical Reasoning</p> <p>2) Critical reading ANT 3733 Political and Legal Anthropology ECO 3113 Introduction to Mathematical Economics* ECO 3123 Introduction to Econometrics and Business Forecasting* HON 3513 Policy-Making Process MKT 3013 Principles in Marketing PAL 4133 Legal Analysis and Argumentation PHI 3213 Ethics PHI 4123 Contemporary Continental Philosophy</p> <p>3) Writing and editing ENG 3383 Writing in Public and Professional Contexts ENG 3413. Specialized Professional Writing ENG 4433. Advanced Professional Writing</p> <p>4) Oral communication COM 3113 Argumentation and Debate MGT 3123 Organizational Communication* MGT 3253 Interpersonal Communication*</p> <p>5) Research HON 3021 Honors Essay Writing SOC 3323 Introduction to Social Research PAL 3023 Legal Research and Writing</p> <p>6) Organization and management EDL 3003 Introduction to Leadership</p> <p>7) Public service and promotion of justice HON 3103 Honors Service and Social Entrepreneurship HIS 3623 History of the Civil Rights Movement PAL 3113 Minorities and the Law GLA 3043 International Human Rights</p> <p>8) Relationship-building and collaboration PSY 4213 Social Cognition PSY 4193 Relationships</p> <p>9) Background knowledge HIS 3093 United States Constitutional History HIS 3183 Law and American Development HIS 4223 Environmental History of the U.S.</p>	<p>10) Exposure to the law CS 3113 Principles of Cyber Security CSM 4633 Construction Law</p> <p>CRJ 3623 Substantive Criminal Law CRJ 4633 Constitutional Criminal Procedure CRJ 3573 Restorative Justice</p> <p>ES 3203 Environmental Law</p> <p>FIN 3433 Principles of Real Estate FIN 4613 Introduction to International Finance*</p> <p>GLA 3003 International Law GLA 3733 National Security Law GLA 4133 Conflict, Law, and Security in Global Affairs</p> <p>IS 3533 Cyber Law and Legal System</p> <p>MGT 4643 Human Resources Law*</p> <p>PAD 3153 Administrative Law and Policy</p> <p>PAL 3013 or POL 3013 The American Legal Process PAL 3323 Constitutional Analysis PAL 3413 Regulatory Law and Enterprise PAL 3513 Trial and Appellate Advocacy PAL 3583 or POL 3583 Jurisprudence PAL 3843 or POL 3843 Campaign and Election Law PAL 3853 or POL 3853 Immigration Law PAL 3863 Contracts PAL 4233 Federal Courts PAL 4323 or POL 4323 Administrative Law and Politics PAL 4223 Torts</p> <p>POL 3313 The Supreme Court POL 3323 Constitutional Law I POL 3333 Constitutional Law II POL 3373 The Legislative Process</p> <p>SOC 3113 Criminology</p> <p>SPE 3693 Special Education Law</p> <p>* Students need to complete the proper prerequisites to take these courses.</p>
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