

Legal Advocacy Baccalaureate Program Proposed Curriculum

Program Name: Legal Advocacy

Program Description: The Legal Advocacy Baccalaureate Degree features an interdisciplinary approach to representing people, ideals, and organizations in a complicated legal and governmental system. Students will be exposed to and develop skills in persuasive and intrapersonal communication, understand the policies, socio-political norms, bureaucratic demands, and cultural attitudes that will aid them in seeking redress and obtaining positive outcomes for their community, and will learn how to utilize skills required to ethically lead and advocate for people and organizations. Participants in the major course of study will focus on the development of collaborative, intersectional environments emphasizing leadership and service and how advocates can benefit socio-cultural change and attitudes in order to empower people and address both systemic issues in underrepresented groups and private issues for individuals in need.

Program Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the program, students should be able to:

- A. Understand the legal and governmental systems in which society operates and how to carefully navigate nuance in approaches to advocacy therein.
- B. Understand and utilize leadership skills to drive teams forward together and obtain positive outcomes for stakeholder groups.
- C. Evaluate both individual and institutional needs/standards and how to approach issues on a case-by-case basis using historical context and experience to temper plans for advocacy.
- D. Navigate complex societal structures and governmental bureaucracy in order to effect change.
- E. Identify social problems and issues and strategize/plan effective solutions
- F. Collaborate within and without an organization to achieve heightened success, share resources, and enhance solution-oriented decision-making processes.
- G. Research, interpret, synthesize and apply relevant legal, factual and ethical matters in the practice of advocacy.
- H. Apply creative thinking, analysis and judgment to generate appropriate responses to legal and ethical issues and problems in the practice of advocacy.
- I. Communicate effectively, concisely, persuasively and in a professional manner, using oral, written and non-verbal communication in the practice of advocacy.

TOTAL B.A./B.S. UNITS: 120

60 Units Required for Admission plus Completion of an Approved Associate Degree

GENERAL EDUCATION UNITS: 30
ASSOCIATES DEGREE MAJOR UNITS: >30

AA UNITS - Major Specific (FROM AN APPROVED AA) -

Addictive Disorders Studies (AS) - 39 Major (72-79 incl. Gen Ed)
Paralegal Studies (AS) - 60 UNITS incl. 29 Gen Ed
Social Justice Studies (AA-T) - 60 UNITS incl. 48 Gen Ed
Law, Public Policy, and Society (AA-T) - 60 UNITS incl. 28-29 Gen Ed
Communication Studies (AA-T) - 60 UNITS incl. 30 Gen Ed

60 Units of Required Major Coursework as Follows:

Lower Division Required Courses (6 Classes - 18 Units):

- Introduction to Legal Advocacy *
- Introduction to Social Justice Studies (SJS R110)
- Social Problems (SOC R102)
- Social Philosophy (SOC R114)
- Introduction to Law and Society (POLS R102)
- Advanced Research & Writing*

Lower Division Elective Courses (4 Classes - 12 Units):

- Government of the United States I: Institutions and Politics (POLS R101)
- Crime and Society (SOC R116)
- Analyzing Social Welfare Services (SOC R110)
- Global Issues and Problems (GLST R102)
- Introduction to Human Geography (GEOG R120)
- African American Culture and Experience (ETHS R114)
- Sociology of the Chicano Community (SOC R108)
- Intercultural Communication (SPCH M12)
- Argumentation & Debate (COMM R107)
- Interpersonal Communication (COMM R111)
- Occupational Work Experience (COT R190V/R191V)
- Interpersonal Relations (PSY R102)
- Introduction to Public Mental Health (PSY R115)
- Introduction to Urban Studies (URBS R101)
- Introduction to Women's Studies (SJS R120)
- Introduction to LGBTQ Studies (SJS R130)

Upper Division Required Coursework (10 Classes - 30 Units):

- Negotiation and Persuasion (USC MOR 469)*

- Mastering Decision Making (USC MOR 451)*
- Leading a Collaborative Organization (USC URP 671)*
- Race, Ethnicity, and the Law (Harvard)*
- Ethics, Economics, and the Law (Harvard)*
- Ethics for Activists (Stanford)*
- The Science and Practice of Effective Advocacy (Stanford CSRE 178P)*
- Communications for Advocates (Georgetown PSPK 204)*
- Social Differences in American Society (UPenn SDEI 1100)*
- Capstone Course: Practical Advocacy (USC BUAD 497)*

* New Course

+ May Need New Major Specific Course