JURISPRUDENCE, LAW AND SOCIETY MAJOR (B.A.)

The Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence, Law and Society provides a solid foundation for students aspiring to law school and other graduate study, as well as for work in many other careers that require analytic, conceptual, and communications skills. It provides an opportunity for the interdisciplinary study of law in the liberal arts. The major in Jurisprudence represents the confluence of law, theories of justice, humanistic studies and social issues.

Through this major, undergraduate students at Montclair State University have the opportunity to acquire the fundamental knowledge essential to understanding legal institutions and processes. Students in the major develop intellectual skills necessary to evaluate policies, practices, and philosophies within the context of nation and legal systems.

The major draws its essence from a core of Jurisprudence courses, while at the same time building upon the liberal arts focus of discipline-based courses at the university. The capstone experience of the major is a rigorous Senior Research Seminar. This two part, year-long course involves intensive research and writing in a seminar setting. Students prepare a scholarly interdisciplinary, law related, research paper, developed in consultation with a faculty advisor and designed to enhance the student’s understanding of the field. Many law schools find the Senior Seminar particularly advantageous in student preparation.

Program objectives include:

1. To sharpen skills as readers and thinkers, as interpreters of culture, and as citizens.
2. To advance the ability to test ethical arguments and textual understandings in contexts where decisions must be made.
3. To understand legal materials, by further developing students interpretive and analytical skills.
4. To study the role of law in the liberal arts by inviting an examination of a wide range of critical questions about people and the ways they live together, to raise issues traditionally linked to liberal inquiry.
5. To participate in a rigorous two-semester Capstone Research Seminar which encompasses intellectual preparation for thinking processes, expands the knowledge base and enhances preparation for law-related study.

In addition to the general criteria for admission to Montclair State University, all students must apply to and be admitted into Jurisprudence, Law and Society major. For entry into the program students must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Top twenty percent of high school graduating class.
2. An overall minimum GPA of 3.0 at the completion of a minimum of 24 credits at Montclair State University or transfer institution.
3. An overall minimum GPA of 3.0 in the student’s first three courses in the Jurisprudence major.

Program Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>Major Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>JURI 210</td>
<td>Perspectives on Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>or LAWS 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Law</td>
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Major Electives

Select two of the following:

- JURI 316 Theories of Conflict
- JURI/PHIL 376 Feminist Jurisprudence
- or GSWS 376 Feminist Jurisprudence
- JURI 418 Seminar in Comparative Legal Systems
- JURI 474 Human Rights Law
- JURI 499 Selected Topics in Jurisprudence (May be taken twice for credit)
- LAWS 362 Legal Writing
- LAWS 388 Advocacy and Persuasion
- POLS 101 American Government and Politics
- POLS 320 Law in Society: Civil Law
- POLS 321 Law in Society: Criminal Law
- POLS 322 American Constitutional Law: The Federal System
- POLS 323 American Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties
- POLS 331 Animal Rights: Law, Politics and Culture
- POLS 332 U.S. Immigration: Law and Politics
- POLS 351 Comparative Legal Perspectives: Israel and the United States
- POLS 353 Intelligence and National Security
- POLS 363 Politics and Morality of War
- POLS 430 International Law
- POLS 431 Globalization and Security

Other Major Electives

Select one of the following:

- PHIL 102 Ethics
- PHIL 106 Logic
- PHIL 206 Philosophical Issues in Law and Justice
- PHIL 264 Critical Reasoning and Arguments
- PHIL 316 Philosophy of Law

Select one of the following:

- ENWR 205 Creative Nonfiction
- WRIT 204 Writing for Clarity and Style
- GNHU 182 English Vocabulary: Classical Roots
- GNHU 202 General Humanities II (from 1400)
- GNHU 282 Roman Civilization
- LAWS/LNGN 290 Language of the Law
- LAWS 473 Seminar in Law and Literature
- LNGN 250 Language of Propaganda

Select one of the following:

- CHAD 300 Forensic Interviewing of Children
- HIST 212 Social History of the United States
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<tr>
<td>HIST 218</td>
<td>Political History of the United States</td>
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<td>HIST 411</td>
<td>Intellectual History of the United States</td>
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<td>LAWS 497</td>
<td>Pre-Law Internship</td>
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<td>POLS 307</td>
<td>American Political Thought</td>
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<td>POLS 317</td>
<td>The American Congress</td>
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<td>POLS 324</td>
<td>American Public Policy</td>
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<td>PSYC 330</td>
<td>Forensic Psychology</td>
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<td>SOCI 420</td>
<td>Sociology of Law</td>
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Total Credits 33