

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 Overview

Code	Title	Credits
	General Education Requirements	42
	World Languages and Cultures Requirements	3-9
	Major Requirements	33

Free Electives	42-36
Total Credits	120

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
JURI 210 or LAWS 200	Perspectives on Law Introduction to Law	3
JURI 300	Essentials of Jurisprudence	3
JURI 324 or PHIL 324	Legal Reasoning Legal Reasoning	3
JURI 495	Senior Research and Writing Seminar in Jurisprudence I	3
JURI 496	Senior Research and Writing Seminar in Jurisprudence II	3
LAWS 302	Legal Research	3
Major Electives		
Select two of the following:		6
JURI/PHIL/ GSWS 376	Feminist Jurisprudence	
JURI 474	Human Rights Law	
JURI 499	Special Topics in Jurisprudence (May be taken twice for credit)	
LAWS 362	Legal Writing	
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		
<i>Philosophy Elective</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
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	
<i>Additional Elective I</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
ENWR 205	Creative Nonfiction	
WRIT 204	Style and Editing	
HUMN 182	English Vocabulary: Classical Roots	
HUMN 202	General Humanities II (from 1400)	
HUMN 282	Roman Civilization	

LAWS 473	Seminar in Law and Literature	
LNGN 250	Language of Propaganda	
<i>Additional Elective II</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
CHAD 300	Forensic Interviewing of Children	
HIST 212	Social History of the United States	
HIST 218	Political History of the United States	
HIST 411	Cultural and Intellectual History of the United States Since 1880	
LAWS 497	Pre-Law Internship	
POLS 307	American Political Thought	
POLS 317	The American Congress	
POLS 324	American Public Policy	
PSYC 330	Forensic Psychology	
SOCI 420	Sociology of Law	
Total Credits		33

General Education Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill General Education categories. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/undergraduate-graduate-degree-requirements/general-ed-ba-bs/>)

Code	Title	Credits
A. New Student Seminar		
Complete a 1 credit New Student Seminar		1
C. Communication		
1. <i>Writing</i>		3
2. <i>Literature</i>		3
3. <i>Communication</i>		3
D. Fine and Performing Arts		
Complete a 3 credit Fine and Performing Arts course.		3
F. Humanities		
1. <i>Great Works and Their Influences</i>		3
2. <i>Philosophical and Religious Perspectives</i>		3
G. Computer Science		
Complete a 3 credit Computer Science course.		3
H. Mathematics		
Complete a 3 credit Mathematics course.		3
I. Natural Science Laboratory		
Complete a 4 credit Natural Science Laboratory course.		4
J. Physical Education		
Complete a 1 credit Physical Education course.		1
K. Social Science		
1. <i>American and European History</i>		3
2. <i>Global Cultural Perspectives</i>		3
3. <i>Social Science Perspectives</i>		3
L. Interdisciplinary Studies		
Complete a 3 credit Interdisciplinary Studies course.		3
Total Credits		42

World Languages and Cultures Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill World Languages and Cultures categories. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/undergraduate-graduate-degree-requirements/world-languages-cultures-requirement/>)

Code	Title	Credits
World Languages		
Based on language placement exam, complete one or two sequential courses in the same language.		3-6
World Cultures		
Requirement may be fulfilled by course selected in General Education 0-3 - Social Science: Global Cultural Perspectives.		
Total Credits		3-9

Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This recommended four-year plan is provided as an outline for students to follow in order to complete their degree requirements within four years. This plan is a recommendation and students should only use it in consultation with their academic advisor.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (A) New Student Seminar		1
GENERAL EDUCATION: (C1) Writing		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (C3) Communication		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (H) Mathematics		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (K3) Social Science – Social Science Perspectives		3
World Language 1		3
		Credits 16
Spring		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (C2) Literature		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (G) Computer Science		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (K1) Social Science – American and European History		3
JURI 210 or LAWS 200	Perspectives on Law or Introduction to Law	3
World Language 2		3
		Credits 15
Second Year		
Fall		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (D) Fine and Performing Arts		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (F1) Humanities – Great Works and Their Influences		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (K2) Social Science – Global Cultural Perspectives		3
LAWS 302	Legal Research	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
		Credits 15
Spring		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (F2) Humanities – Philosophical and Religious Perspectives		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (I) Natural Science Laboratory		4
World Cultures		3
JURI 300	Essentials of Jurisprudence	3

Major Department Elective		3
	Credits	16
Third Year		
Fall		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (L) Interdisciplinary Studies		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
JURI 324	Legal Reasoning	3
Major Department Elective		3
Major Elective		3
	Credits	15
Spring		
Major Elective		3
Major Elective		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
	Credits	15
Fourth Year		
Fall		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (J) Physical Education		1
JURI 495	Senior Research and Writing Seminar in Jurisprudence I	3
LAWS 497	Pre-Law Internship	4
Major Elective		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		2
	Credits	16
Spring		
JURI 496	Senior Research and Writing Seminar in Jurisprudence II	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
	Credits	12
	Total	120
	Credits	