

# Legal Studies

## Master of Arts - Legal Studies

www.uis.edu/legalstudies/

Email: les@uis.edu or les-online@uis.edu

Office Phone: (217) 206-6535

Office Location: PAC 350

Many professionals need a comprehensive understanding of the legal system. The Master of Arts in Legal Studies addresses these needs within the framework of an interdisciplinary liberal arts education.

M.A. students work with professors, not teaching assistants. We offer small class sizes to facilitate learning and clinical education opportunities. M.A. students tailor their degrees to suit their needs and interests.

Both the blended and the online Master of Arts Degree in Legal Studies degrees allow students to gain professional skills, as well as study legal theory and the role of law in American society. The Legal Studies M.A. provides students with a broad general understanding of the legal system, how it works, how it interrelates with societal change, and how individuals can assert their rights within the legal system.

The degree is particularly suited for U.S. students who are pursuing professions where practical knowledge of the law and legal system is required, including those who participate in judicial processes as witnesses, investigators, or resource persons; enforce compliance with the law; work with legal forms or requirements; or need to know how legal regulations affect businesses. It is also useful for those who practice law in another country, who are required to interact with U.S. lawyers and businesses, but do not need a U.S. law degree.

The curriculum seeks to develop students' professional and scholarly abilities with a view to the kinds of skills they will need in law-related careers or more advanced studies. Particular emphasis is placed on analytical thinking, research, and writing skills. Our online students have the same curriculum requirements as our on campus students.

## The Master's Degree

The Master of Arts program in Legal Studies is designed to present the master's candidate with an interdisciplinary course of study in public law, emphasizing law as a social phenomenon as well as a technical body of rules. It is a rigorous course of study, designed to develop the candidate's critical understanding of the legal system and its role in public policy and within society more generally. It emphasizes analytical and conceptual thinking, legal and scholarly research and writing, substantive areas of the law, ethical and public interest concerns, public policy advocacy skills, and the role of law in society.

The objectives and outcomes for the M.A. graduate are to:

1. Outline the functional structure and operation of the American legal system.
2. Conduct and critique legal research and empirical research.
3. Use legal theories to explain real-world phenomena.
4. Effectively critique and construct legal arguments both orally and in written form.

5. Use social theories to explain legal phenomena and behavior.

## Advising

Applicants should consult with the Department Chair, and/or the Legal Studies Online Coordinator for preliminary advising. Students admitted to the program will be assigned a faculty advisor who will be identified in the acceptance letter. If the advisor is not available for any reason, the student may contact the Department Chair.

## Grading Policy

Students must maintain a B (3.0) or higher average within the program, and must earn a B (3.0) or better in all LES **core** courses (grades of B- or lower are not accepted). In LES elective courses, students may have a maximum of four hours in which they earn less than a B but at least a C (grades of C- or lower are not accepted). In non-LES elective courses, students may have an additional four hours in which they earn less than a B but at least a C (grades of C- or lower are not accepted), as long as an overall B (3.0) average is maintained. Clinical education courses, tutorials, and thesis courses are graded on a credit/no credit (CR/NC) basis. Campus policy on Master's Degree grades can be found in Grades Acceptable Toward Master's Degrees.

## Degree Requirements

Pre-registration advising is important because many legal studies courses must be taken sequentially, and required courses are not offered every semester. Course requirements and sequences are available on the LES website.

### Required preliminary courses <sup>1</sup>

LES 401	Legal Research And Citation	4
---------	-----------------------------	---

### Core Courses

LES 501	Introduction to Graduate Legal Studies	4
LES 504	Graduate Seminar	4
	or LES 590 Thesis	
LES 512	Theories of Justice	4
LES 513	Seminar in Politics and Law	4
LES 587	Public Advocacy	4

<b>Elective courses (with approval of advisor) <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>16</b>
---	-----------

<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>40</b>
--------------------	-----------

<sup>1</sup> All students who have not completed LES 401 or its equivalent should take LES 401 during the first semester it is available. Students who wish to receive credit for an equivalent course for which they received a grade of B or better, or for other competency in this area, must apply for a waiver. (See Waivers section below.) The LES waiver committee will decide whether a course taken at another institution is equivalent to the LES course(s). Students requesting a waiver should consult with their advisor for further information and instructions.

<sup>2</sup> Graduate students must take 16 hours of electives, including a minimum of eight hours of LES-prefixed electives. Students are encouraged to choose a focus in a particular area of law or legal policy in consultation with their advisor. Students may choose two of the four PAD courses required for the graduate certificate in Public Sector Labor Relations. Students may also create their own focus from the resources of the Department, College, or University. Suggested areas of focus include, but are not limited to, Law and Public Policy (online option); Human Rights/Social Justice (online option); Criminal Justice; or Regulatory Compliance (online option).

## Clinical Education

The clinical education experience provides students with skills necessary to be successful in a legal environment. Master's candidates may earn up to four hours of clinical education credits, which will be applied toward LES elective credit.

Government agencies, the Illinois Supreme Court, and other organizations sponsor interns, both paid and unpaid. Placement options include courts, administrative agencies, state and federal attorneys' offices, legal aid offices, private law firms, and other public interest groups. Students enrolled in the UIS Graduate Public Service Internship Program (GPSI) may count the GPSI Seminar course towards their non-LES electives. Similarly, students enrolled in the Illinois Legislative Staff Internship Program (ILSIP) may count the ILSIP: Academic Seminar towards their non-LES electives.

## Waivers

Students must fulfill all 36 hours of required courses and, if necessary, the four hours of preliminary courses. If it is impossible for a student to take a required course, or if a student has already taken one of the core courses or its equivalent as an undergraduate at another institution and wants to waive the requirement, the student must still complete the credit hours in some other course, with the exception of waivers for required preliminary courses.

## Master's Closure

Completion of LES 504 or a master's thesis is required of all master's degree candidates as a closure exercise. Students selecting the thesis option may enroll in up to eight hours of the master's thesis course (LES 590). They may accrue that total in increments.

Campus policy requires that students be enrolled in at least one semester hour of master's closure credit for each regular semester (fall/spring) after they have begun their master's closure exercise until that exercise is completed. For LES students choosing the thesis option, this requirement means that if the thesis is not completed during the initial four hours of enrollment in LES 590, students must register for LES 590 for one credit hour in each subsequent regular semester (fall/spring) until eight hours are accumulated or the thesis is completed. If the thesis is still not completed by the time eight hours of continuous enrollment in LES 590 have been accumulated, students must register for LES 598 (zero credit hours, one billable hour) each regular semester (fall/spring) until the thesis is completed. Likewise, if students choosing to take the graduate seminar fail to complete the required course work/project during the initial four hours, they must enroll in LES 597 (zero credit hours, one billable hour) each regular semester (fall/spring) until the course work/project is complete. Department policy allows students until the end of the first week of

classes in the subsequent semester to complete closure requirements before they are required to re-enroll in the closure course.

## Online Master's Program

The Master of Arts in Legal Studies is offered either in a blended on campus and online format, or entirely online. The online M.A. Legal Studies program is designed with the working professional in mind. We provide online classes (students can complete their degree 100% online) and evening classes. Online delivery permits a student to master the course material by attending classes from any location around the world, saving them the time and expense of having to attend the classes in person by either living on campus or commuting to and from campus.

The online-only program allows students to gain professional skills, as well as to study legal theory and the role of law in American society. It presents the master's candidate with an interdisciplinary course of study in public law emphasizing law as a social phenomenon as well as a technical body of rules. It is a rigorous course of study, designed to develop the candidate's critical understanding of the legal system and its role in society and public policy. It emphasizes analytical and conceptual thinking, legal and scholarly research and writing, substantive areas of the law, ethical and public interest concerns, public policy advocacy skills, and the role of law in society.

The objectives and outcomes for the M.A. graduate are to:

1. Outline the functional structure and operation of the American legal system.
2. Conduct and critique legal research and empirical research.
3. Use legal theories to explain real-world phenomena.
4. Effectively critique and construct legal arguments both orally and in written form.
5. Use social theories to explain legal phenomena and behavior.

## Advising

Applicants should consult with the Department Chair, and/or the Legal Studies Online Coordinator for preliminary advising. Students admitted to the program will be assigned an advisor who will be identified in the acceptance letter. If the advisor is not available for any reason, the student may contact the Department Chair.

## Grading Policy

Students must maintain a B (3.0) or higher average within the program and must earn a B (3.0) or better in all LES **core** courses (grades of B- or lower are not accepted). In LES elective courses, students may have a maximum of four hours in which they earn less than a B but at least a C (grades of C- or lower are not accepted). In non-LES elective courses, students may have an additional four hours in which they earn less than a B but at least a C (grades of C- or lower are not accepted), as long as an overall B (3.0) average is maintained. Clinical education courses, tutorials, and thesis courses are graded on a credit/no credit (CR/NC) basis. Campus policy on Master's Degree grades can be found in Grades Acceptable Toward Master's Degrees.

## Degree Requirements

Pre-registration advising is important because many legal studies courses must be taken sequentially, and and required courses are

not offered every semester. Course requirements and sequences are available on the LES website.

**Required Preliminary Courses**<sup>1</sup>

LES 401	Legal Research And Citation	4
---------	-----------------------------	---

**Core Courses**

LES 501	Introduction to Graduate Legal Studies	4
LES 512	Theories of Justice	4
LES 513	Seminar in Politics and Law	4
LES 587	Public Advocacy	4
LES 504	Graduate Seminar	4
or LES 590	Thesis	

<b>Elective Courses (with approval of advisor)</b> <sup>2</sup>		<b>16</b>
---	--	-----------

<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>40</b>
--------------------	--	-----------

<sup>1</sup> All students who have not completed LES 401 or its equivalent should take LES 401 during the first semester it is available. Students who wish to receive credit for an equivalent course for which they received a grade of B or better or for other competency in this area must apply for a waiver. (See Waivers section below.) The LES waiver committee will decide whether a course taken at another institution is equivalent to the LES course(s). Students requesting a waiver should consult with their advisor for further information and instructions.

<sup>2</sup> Graduate students must take 16 hours of electives, including a minimum of eight hours of LES-prefixed electives. Students are encouraged to choose a focus in a particular area of law or legal policy in consultation with their advisor. Students may choose two of the four PAD courses required for the graduate certificate in Public Sector Labor Relations. Students may also create their own focus from the resources of the Department, College, or University. Suggested areas of focus include, but are not limited to, Law and Public Policy (online option); Human Rights/Social Justice (online option); Criminal Justice; or Regulatory Compliance (online option).

**Clinical Education**

The clinical education experience provides students with skills necessary to be successful in a legal environment. Master’s candidates may earn up to four hours of clinical education credits, which will be applied toward LES elective credit. Government agencies, the Illinois Supreme Court, and other organizations sponsor interns, both paid and unpaid. Placement options include courts, administrative agencies, state and federal attorneys’ offices, legal aid offices, private law firms, and other public interest groups. Students enrolled in the UIS Graduate Public Service Internship Program (GPSI) may count the GPSI Seminar course towards their non-LES electives. Similarly, students enrolled in the Illinois Legislative Staff Internship Program (ILSIP) may count the ILSIP: Academic Seminar towards their non-LES electives.

**Waivers**

Students must fulfill all 36 hours of required courses and, if necessary, the four hours of preliminary courses. If it is impossible for a student to take a required course, or if a student has already taken one of the core courses or its equivalent as an undergraduate at another institution and wants to waive the requirement, the student must still

complete the credit hours in some other course, with the exception of waivers for required preliminary courses.

**Master’s Closure**

Completion of LES 504 or a master’s thesis is required of all master’s degree candidates as a closure exercise. Students selecting the thesis option may enroll in up to eight hours of the master’s thesis course (LES 590). They may accrue that total in increments.

Campus policy requires that students be enrolled in at least one semester hour of master’s closure credit for each regular semester (fall/spring) after they have begun their master’s closure exercise until that exercise is completed. For LES students choosing the thesis option, this requirement means that if the thesis is not completed during the initial four hours of enrollment in LES 590, students must register for LES 590 for one credit hour in each subsequent regular semester (fall/spring) until eight hours are accumulated or the thesis is completed. If the thesis is still not completed by the time eight hours of continuous enrollment in LES 590 have been accumulated, students must register for LES 598 (zero credit hours, one billable hour) each regular semester (fall/spring) until the thesis is completed. Likewise, if students choosing to take the graduate seminar fail to complete the required course work/project during the initial four hours, they must enroll in LES 597 (zero credit hours, one billable hour) each regular semester (fall/spring) until the course work/project is complete. Department policy allows students until the end of the first week of classes in the subsequent semester to complete closure requirements before they are required to re-enroll in the closure course.

Leadership lived

University of Illinois Springfield  
One University Plaza

For more information, contact the Legal Studies Online Coordinator at (217) 206-8545, or at les-online@uis.edu.

**Courses**

**LES 101. Comparative Justice. 3 Hours.**

Examines through the use of literature, films, and news stories how different cultures view and effect justice. Course Information: This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Comparative Societies Social Sciences.

**LES 201. Introduction to the American Political System. 3 Hours.**

Designed to provide an introduction to the American political system for both majors and non-majors. Examines the role and function of governments in providing for a variety of public goods. In addition to examining the system’s institutions and political behavior, special attention will be devoted to federalism and the role of the states. Course Information: Same as PSC 201. This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Social and Behavioral Sciences (IAI Code: S5 900).

**LES 202. Introduction to the American Legal System. 3 Hours.**

Provides basic understanding of and introduction to the American Legal System including: the Illinois and federal courts systems and the concept of federalism. Emphasis on how the American legal system works, how it differs from other major legal systems, the basic elements of tort, contract, criminal and property law as well as basic criminal and civil procedure. Discussion will include current controversies. Course Information: Same as PSC 202. Will require participation in off-campus field trips beyond scheduled class time. This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**LES 203. Legal Themes in Stories and Plays. 3 Hours.**

Focus on law and literature and major themes of law in contemporary society as reflected in literary works. Examination of range of fiction works to learn what they can tell us about law, justice, and lawyers, then and now. Course Information: This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Humanities.

**LES 303. American Law in Comparative Perspective. 3 Hours.**

An introduction to the core concepts of American law in comparison with those of other traditions. The ideas central to American law are presented in their historical and intellectual contexts. These ideas are then contrasted to those abroad to provide a foundation in American law and its place among world legal systems. Course Information: Recommended: Lower division course in the American legal system.

**LES 307. Law and Society. 3 Hours.**

Introductory, interdisciplinary survey of the functions of law in society. Analyzes law, legal and social institutions, and legal theory, with special emphasis on issues of justice, fairness, and equality.

**LES 333. ECCE: Sexual Orientation and Public Policy. 3 Hours.**

Interdisciplinary examination of factual basis of majority ideas about sexual orientation, gender identity, or sexuality used to assign important legal rights and disabilities to lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender and queer communities. Explores political movements and issues involved in the struggle for civil rights for sexual minorities. Requires an open mind. Course Information: Same as PSC 333, SOA 333, and WGS 333. This course fulfills an Engaged Citizenship Common Experience requirement at UIS in the area of U.S. Communities.

**LES 334. ECCE: LGBTQ Law and Politics. 3 Hours.**

This course examines the U.S. sexual minority community through the prism of politics and law. It explores the history and contemporary dynamics of the LGBT rights movement and investigates the ways in which dynamics in U.S. law politics have limited and advanced the movement. Course Information: Same as PSC 334, SOA 334, and WGS 334. This course fulfills an Engaged Citizenship Common Experience requirement at UIS in the area of U.S. Communities.

**LES 351. The American Jury. 3 Hours.**

Provides an interdisciplinary examination of the fascinating socio-legal institution that is the jury. Encourages critical analysis of how laypersons from different communities make legal decisions as well as the jury's history and role in both civil and criminal trials Course Information: Same as PSC 351.

**LES 352. History of American Law. 3 Hours.**

Historical examination of the professional and constitutional development of law in the United States. Topics include the common-law legacy, substantive and procedural aspects of legal history, jurisprudence, the American lawyer, and the interaction of law with American society, thought, and politics. Course Information: Same as HIS 352.

**LES 354. Philosophy of Law. 3 Hours.**

Philosophy of justice, law and legal systems. Emphasizes origins, purposes and practices of legal institutions. Examines major legal theories about the nature of law and its place in political system. Course Information: Same as PSC 354.

**LES 376. Trial Advocacy. 1 Hour.**

This course is built around a simulated trial in which students play the roles of attorneys and witnesses. Students will develop trial advocacy skills, study courtroom procedures, and etiquette, and learn criminal substantive and evidentiary law. Students will also enhance numerous transferable skills by participating in American Mock Trial Association competitions. Course Information: Same as PSC 376.

**LES 377. Trial Advocacy: Civil. 3 Hours.**

This course is built around a simulated trial in which students play the roles of attorneys and witnesses. Students will develop trial advocacy skills, study courtroom procedures, and etiquette, and learn civil substantive and evidentiary law. Students will also enhance numerous transferable skills by participating in American Mock Trial Association competitions. Course Information: Same as PSC 377.

**LES 378. Mock Trial Competition. 1 Hour.**

In this course, students prepare for and participate in Mock Trial scrimmages and tournaments. Through academic competition, this course provides students with the opportunity to hone valuable skills, including critical thinking, active listening, public speaking, and teamwork. Course Information: Prerequisites: LES 376 and permission of the instructor.

**LES 379. Mock Trial Competition: Civil. 3 Hours.**

In this course, students prepare for and participate in Mock Trial scrimmages and tournaments. Through academic competition, this course provides students with the opportunity to hone valuable skills, including critical thinking, active listening, public speaking, and teamwork. Course Information: Prerequisites: LES 377 and permission of the instructor.

**LES 380. Topics in Comparative Law. 3 Hours.**

Examines how globalization, knowledge of the three major legal traditions affects different legal and political legal systems. Current legal issues will be studied in different legal cultures.

**LES 401. Legal Research And Citation. 4 Hours.**

Explores the principles of legal research into case, statutory, constitutional, and administrative law materials. Components of the course include an introduction to the kinds of law books, the use and patterns of law books, and the methods of finding and citing legal materials. Use of research tools such as digests, legal encyclopedias, legal periodicals, government documents, indexes, citators, treatises, and social science periodicals related to law is also stressed. Students are given training in and experience with computer-assisted legal research. Students write case briefs and are exposed to basic concepts in legal analysis. Course Information: Restricted to LES majors. Not for Freshman or Sophomore.

**LES 402. Advanced Lawyering Skills. 3 Hours.**

Building on skills learned in LES 401, Advanced Lawyering focuses on the practice of law, developing writing and persuasive skills in the legal field. Students will draft key legal documents such as complaints and motions, and will learn to draft persuasive legal arguments in the form of legal briefs. Students will also have the opportunity to engage in-depth with contemporary legal issues through learning about law reviews and developing case notes. Course Information: Prerequisites: LES 401 with a grade of C or better. Must have junior status or higher.

**LES 403. Civil Practice Skills. 3 Hours.**

Legal skill building, including exposure to interviewing and counseling, legal drafting, and legal ethics. Civil trial practice covers pleadings, motions, discovery, pre-trial conference, jury selection, trial protocol, and appellate strategies. Learning techniques involve role playing and media demonstrations. Course Information: Prerequisite: LES 401.

**LES 404. Law and Inequality. 3,4 Hours.**

Role of law and the legal system in creating, maintaining, and reducing inequality, with emphasis on race, class, and gender inequality in the United States. The relationship between law and the legal system and political/economic institutions and ideologies. Course Information: Same as PSC 421, SOA 425, and WGS 445.

**LES 412. Making Mass Incarceration: Criminal Justice Policy, Past & Present. 3,4 Hours.**

Today, the United States imprisons more of its citizens than any country in the world. How and why did we arrive in this era of "mass incarceration"? What, if anything, should we do to address this issue? These questions will serve as your guide as you read, think, discuss, and write about U.S. criminal justice policy in the past and present.

**LES 413. Appellate Advocacy: Moot Court. 3,4 Hours.**

In this course, students will study legal argumentation and prepare for, and participate in, the Model Illinois Government Moot Court Competition. In addition to completing assignments about legal reasoning and argumentation, students will examine and analyze the competition's fact pattern and will engage in role-playing simulations as lawyers and judges. Course Information: Same as PSC 414.

**LES 414. American Constitution: Government Powers and Institutions. 3,4 Hours.**

Introduction to federal constitutional law and constitutional theory. Considers the delineation of spheres of responsibility between the executive, judicial, and legislative branches and between the nation and the states.

**LES 415. The Supreme Court and Judicial Politics. 3,4 Hours.**

The place of the Constitution and Supreme Court in American policy, using both empirical and case materials. Focus on structure and powers of national government, with special emphasis on the Supreme Court as a policy-making institution. Course Information: Same as PSC 415.

**LES 416. The American Constitution and Civil Liberties. 3,4 Hours.**

Civil liberties constitutional law, with examination of the Supreme Court's role in the definition and development of civil liberties. Emphasis on Bill of Rights and Civil War Amendments. Course Information: Same as PSC 416.

**LES 419. Environmental Law. 4 Hours.**

Surveys the major federal statutes and regulatory schemes relating to environmental quality and analyzes and compares the contrasting approaches to regulation that have been used. Focuses on the interaction of law and policy and considers the role of Congress, the regulatory agencies, and the courts in defining and implementing environmental mandates. Course Information: Same as ENS 419, MPH 419, and PSC 419.

**LES 420. National Security Issues and the U.S. Constitution. 3,4 Hours.**

Provides an historical and contemporary examination of the issues of U.S. constitutional law raised during times of heightened concern about national security. Course Information: Same as PSC 420. Undergraduates are restricted to 3 credit hour sections; graduates are restricted to 4 credit hour sections.

**LES 422. ECCE: Politics and Religion: Culture Wars. 4 Hours.**

This ECCE course seeks to examine the multifaceted connections between politics and religion in the United States, although with a global perspective. Our goal will be to establish a dialogue on the issues that increasingly confront us about the proper role of religion in our public life. Course Information: Same as: HIS 422 and PSC 422. This course fulfills an Engaged Citizenship Common Experience requirement at UIS in the area of U.S. Communities.

**LES 424. Forensic Evidence in Criminal Law. 3 Hours.**

This class is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the development of law as it pertains to selected scientific principles and their application within the criminal justice system. Students completing this course should gain an improved understanding of the legal and scientific principles applicable to forensic evidence. Course Information: Same as CCJ 424.

**LES 425. Business Law. 3,4 Hours.**

This course examines the application of law to various business transactions. The course examines business associations, business in the context of major legal fields such as criminal law, tort law, contract law, and property law. In addition, the course addresses the government regulation of business and related ethical concerns from a theoretical perspective.

**LES 435. ECCE: American Political Thought. 3,4 Hours.**

This course examines developments in political thought in the United States from the American Revolution through the end of the twentieth century. Particular attention will be paid to issues of political inclusion and exclusion on the basis of race, gender, and class/economic status. Course Information: Same as PSC 435. This course fulfills an Engaged Citizenship Common Experience requirement at UIS in the area of U.S. Communities.

**LES 441. Poverty, Law, and Justice. 3,4 Hours.**

Addresses questions concerning what poverty is and why it exists. Will consider historical and current welfare policies in the U. S. and their implications with respect to societal well-being, individual rights, and justice. Discussion of the intersection of race, gender, and poverty, and possible solutions to the problem. Course Information: Same as PSC 441, SWK 441, and WGS 441.

**LES 444. Legal Anthropology. 3,4 Hours.**

Legal Anthropology is the cross-cultural and fieldwork-based study of social ordering. It takes as its primary object of study the symbols and practices employed by people in creating, navigating, and altering the rules and norms of their communities. This course will examine legal practices around the world for similarities and differences in their uses of ritual, myth, language, ideology, and power. Course Information: Same as SOA 444.

**LES 446. Family Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Topics include divorce, domestic violence, illegitimacy, adoption, child support and custody, parental control, abuse and neglect laws, issues affecting the elderly, domestic law reform, and the impact of the women's rights movement. Course Information: Same as HDC 446, SOA 454, SWK 446, and WGS 446. Not for Freshman or Sophomores.

**LES 447. Women in American Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Overview of gender as a factor in American law with particular emphasis on women's rights and legal issues concerning women, including constitutional standards, employment relationships, education, family, criminal processes, sexual harassment and reproductive rights among other issues. Course Information: Same as WGS 447.

**LES 448. Juvenile Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Laws and legal practices governing children and youth, particularly wards of the courts and juvenile offenders. Rights of children, youth services available, and institutional practices and laws governing juveniles. Course Information: Same as CCJ 428.

**LES 449. Employment Discrimination Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Development and implementation of anti-discrimination laws in employment, including hiring, firing, promotion, terms and conditions, benefits and pay, with respect to race, gender, disability, religion, and national origin, among others. Course Information: Same as PAD 452 and WGS 449.

**LES 451. Law, Film and Popular Culture. 3,4 Hours.**

Movies capture, distort and shape public perception about the law, lawyers and the legal system. A focused look at how movies reflect and influence popular culture of law today. This class combines viewing films and written and oral critiques of the films and the images of the legal system and the law which they convey.

**LES 453. The Politics of Reproduction. 4 Hours.**

This interdisciplinary, discussion-based course will provide a critical examination of political and ideological influences on women and reproduction. Readings will focus on such themes as: birthing practices, birth control, eugenics, race and sterilization, abortion, reproductive technologies, and the political economy of wombs in the world of adoption. Course Information: Same as PSC 453 and WGS 473.

**LES 454. Law and Literature. 3,4 Hours.**

This course explains important aspects of the law through close readings of literary texts. Through these texts, we will address legal theory, ethics and history, black letter law, legal controversies regarding race, gender, sexuality, and whether or not there is a moral obligation to obey the law. We will read several novels, short stories, and plays in addition to short excerpts from secondary sources such as legal cases, theoretical and philosophical texts and popular culture.

**LES 455. The Politics of Prosecution. 3,4 Hours.**

Through politics, people make decisions and choices about values and interests to be preferred or denied. This concept will be brought to bear on the roles of local prosecutors, state attorneys general, and Department of Justice officials. As executive-bureaucratic decision-makers, they may exercise greater power, in the aggregate, than does the judiciary. Course Information: Same as CCJ 455 and PSC 455.

**LES 456. Capitalism and the Law. 3,4 Hours.**

This course explores capitalism as a creation of law. It considers how a variety of American legal institutions have demarcated what can be owned, what can be sold, and how economic power is to be distributed in a democratic society. It examines capitalism and the law from several disciplinary perspectives, and through the experiences of many different kinds of economic actors – including workers, debtors, property owners, welfare recipients, and reformers.

**LES 462. International Law and Organizations. 3,4 Hours.**

This course will examine the major principles and concepts of international law. Students will study the sources of international law, the purposes of international organizations, and affected issues such as security, peacekeeping, ethnic conflicts, human rights, and economic and social development. Course Information: Same as PSC 462. Undergraduates are restricted to 3 credit hour sections; graduates are restricted to 4 credit hour sections.

**LES 463. Labor Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Study of concepts and laws governing collective bargaining in both private and public sectors. Includes a thorough discussion of bargaining units, election procedures, unfair labor practices, and good faith bargaining.

**LES 464. Introduction to Human Rights. 3,4 Hours.**

This course will introduce students to the large issue of human rights as an American phenomenon and as an international phenomenon. The course may focus on one or two particular human rights issues and then compare the problems and the possible solutions at home and globally. For example, the course might focus on the problem of human trafficking and how it is manifested in the United States. Students will examine how the U.S. Communities deal with human trafficking and then how it is manifested in another country and how it is dealt with there. Students will examine international treaties and their implementation to judge efficacy and possible changes locally and internationally. Course Information: Same as CCJ 463 and GBL 464.

**LES 465. International Human Rights Law: Skills and Advocacy. 3,4 Hours.**

This course aims at providing students with a background to international human rights law and the institutions that carry it out. While providing students with an overview of rights-based norms, the course will primarily focus on how work is undertaken promoting human rights, skills are necessary to undertake such work and opportunities for becoming involved. The course will combine discussions and exercises as well as notable speakers from international organizations carrying out rule of law functions.

**LES 469. So, You Want to be a Lawyer. 3,4 Hours.**

This course provides an overview of the U.S. legal profession and the historical, economic, and sociological forces that shape the profession and the practice of law. A central focus of this course is to examine the everyday realities of the practice of law and explore what it means to be a lawyer - a "professional" - in a variety of the many contexts in which lawyers work, including big firms, small firms, solo practices, and government law offices. Class readings, critical discussion, and taped interviews with practicing lawyers will examine such topics as the history of the American legal profession, the changing social structure of the bar, the business of practicing law, public interest and "cause" lawyering, the realities of legal ethics in everyday law practice, issues in the practice of law for women and minorities, and the future of legal practice and the legal profession.

**LES 472. Research Methods for Legal Studies. 3 Hours.**

Introduces students to social science research process as applied in law. Includes an examination of research methods and techniques used in the empirical study of law, such as survey, ethnography, content analysis, comparative and historical methods, among others. Students are exposed to works by legal scholars utilizing the law and society approach. Course Information: Prerequisite C or better in LES 401. Not for Freshman or Sophomores.

**LES 473. The Law of Military Conflict. 3,4 Hours.**

Examines the legal and political issues raised by military conflict. Includes the origins of modern law governing military conflicts, the definition of combatants and noncombatants in a conflict and the specifications of the military's responsibilities to those two groups, and difficulties related to adjudicating specific cases. Course Information: Same as PSC 472.

**LES 474. Law of Evidence. 3,4 Hours.**

Basic study of rules of evidence for nonlawyers working in lawyer-support or investigatory situations that require basic evidentiary knowledge. Provides practical knowledge of problems faced in investigations with a view toward evidentiary sufficiency and possible admissibility in hearings or trials. Course Information: Same as CCJ 474.

**LES 475. Government Regulations and Administrative Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Administrative law and administrative agencies, the so called 4th branch of government, have a profound effect on everyone's daily lives. They dictate who, what, where, why and how things are done. This course will explore their impact on Federal and state governments and the American people. Course Information: Same as PAD 475. 420228.

**LES 476. Immigration and the Law: The Regulation of World Travel. 3,4 Hours.**

In this class students will address major themes in the relationship between global migration and law. Students will be introduced to the historical roots of travel and immigration, the development of U.S. immigration law, and current topics such as mass migration, refugees, trafficking in persons and the regulation of migrant labor. Students will have the opportunity to engage in thoughtful debate as well as practicing legal and analytical skills throughout the course.

**LES 477. Criminal Procedure. 3 Hours.**

Examines the rights of criminal defendants as set out in the U.S. Constitution and interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court. Studies procedures governing state and federal criminal justice systems and related public policies using court opinions, statutes, and case studies. Course Information: Same as CCJ 417.

**LES 478. Substantive Criminal Law. 3,4 Hours.**

Examines the elements of selected crimes, using both state and federal court cases and statutes. Topics include criminal responsibility, criminal liability, and criminal defenses. Particular attention paid to the Illinois criminal code. Course Information: Same as CCJ 418.

**LES 479. Documenting Injustice in the Criminal Law: Criminal Law through Podcast. 3 Hours.**

This class uses documentaries and podcasts such as "The Confessions Tapes", "Serial", and "The Making of a Murderer" to highlight potential sources of injustice in the U.S. Using narratives in the documentaries and the relevant case law introduced in those stories, students engage with issues of false confessions, plea bargaining, bail, informants, and evidence disclosure in order to reflect upon larger issues of wrongful conviction and penal reform in the United States.

**LES 480. Special Topics Seminar. 2-4 Hours.**

Intensive examination of selected issues important to study of the legal system. Topics announced each time course is offered. Course Information: May be repeated if topics vary.

**LES 488. ECCE: Conviction of the Innocent. 3,4 Hours.**

A multi-disciplinary examination of the conviction of people for serious crimes who are likely to be innocent. Will examine policies that contribute to this system and explore alternative solutions that minimize the chances of convicting innocent people. Course Information: This course fulfills an Engaged Citizenship Common Experience requirement at UIS in the area of U. S. Communities.

**LES 489. Closing Seminar: Ethics and Current Legal Questions. 3 Hours.**

A seminar for legal studies undergraduates in their final semester, providing an opportunity to build on research and writing skills and integrating the law and liberal arts. Students explore current social and legal problems, critically analyze solutions, and suggest appropriate alternatives. The content of the course varies from semester to semester.

**LES 491. Policy Reform for Wrongful Convictions. 3,4 Hours.**

Improving fairness and accuracy in the criminal justice system benefits all segments of society. This course will examine the process of enacting policy reforms to reduce wrongful convictions. Students will have the opportunity to fully engage in development of reforms to current state laws and learn the methods to secure those reforms. Through this process, students will develop legal analytical skills and policy advocacy skills.

**LES 499. Tutorial. 1-8 Hours.**

Intended to supplement, not supplant, regular course offerings. Students interested in a tutorial must secure the consent of the faculty member concerned before registration and submit any required documentation to him or her. Course Information: Credit/No Credit grading only. May be repeated up to 1 time(s) if topics vary.

**LES 501. Introduction to Graduate Legal Studies. 4 Hours.**

Provides a common framework for graduate students in legal studies, focusing on such topics as history and philosophy of justice, law, and legal institutions. Course Information: Prerequisite: College course in American government.

**LES 504. Graduate Seminar. 4 Hours.**

A seminar for second-year graduate students that provides an opportunity to build on and further develop research, writing, and analytical thinking skills and to apply these skills to the resolution of a current legal problem(s) or issue(s) in such a way that the relationship of law to society and to social change is heightened. Seminar design varies with instructor. The final paper in this course will be reviewed by the Graduate Review Committee and will constitute the master's level project. NOTE: If the course requirements are not completed during the initial four-hour enrollment, students must register for LES 597 for zero credit hours (one billable hour) in all subsequent semesters until these requirements are completed. Course Information: Prerequisite: LES 587, or equivalent experience, and permission of instructor.

**LES 512. Theories of Justice. 4 Hours.**

This course will provide an introduction to a range of theories that consider the meaning of justice. The topics covered will include classic theories from the tradition of philosophical liberalism as well as contemporary critical theories, with a focus on how these frameworks conceptualize law and interpret legal issues.

**LES 513. Seminar in Politics and Law. 4 Hours.**

Exploration of inequality in the American political and legal system; nature and functions of law in general, given the economic and political organization of American society. Law and the legal system viewed from the critical perspective, including relationship between the legal system and justice, fairness, and equality. Issues of inequality, race, class, and gender will be stressed. Course Information: Same as PSC 513.

**LES 519. Seminar in Courts and Policymaking. 4 Hours.**

This graduate seminar focuses on courts as policymaking institutions and their relationship to other institutions. The wisdom, legitimacy, and efficacy of judicial policymaking will be explored, with a particular focus on courts and social policy. The extent to which courts can achieve social change is also addressed. Course Information: Same as PSC 519.

**LES 522. Health Care Law, Patient Privacy, and HIPAA. 4 Hours.**

Covers basic concepts in the law as it relates to health care with emphasis on the implications of the privacy requirements of the HIPAA law and its privacy regulations. Students will review and address issues dealing with access to care, patient and provider rights and responsibility, the interplay of state and federal regulatory schemes and evolving legal issues related to delivering health care. Special emphasis will be placed on the impact the new HIPAA rules relating to access to patient records and privacy.

**LES 525. Health Law. 4 Hours.**

Introduce students to health law, patient/physician relationship, informed consent, the liability of health care professionals and health care institutions, structure of health care enterprises, life and death decisions and public health.

**LES 554. Clinical Education. 1-8 Hours.**

Work experience in a legal setting. Placement arranged and supervised by student's adviser or program's clinical educational instructor. Course Information: Credit/No Credit grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours.

**LES 563. International Criminal Law. 4 Hours.**

In this class students will address both substantive international criminal law (the crimes committed – such as slavery, crimes against humanity, genocide) and its enforcement mechanisms (the institutions – international criminal tribunals and courts, international treaty enforcement mechanisms). Students will also interrogate the legitimacy of international criminal sanctions and address the political ramifications of criminal sanctions across national borders. Course Information: Same as PSC 561.

**LES 565. Law, Policy, and Administration. 4 Hours.**

This course provides a graduate level overview of the legal foundations of the environment in which public managers and policy makers operate. A case study approach is used to illustrate the interrelationship of public management, policymaking and law. Course Information: Same as PSC 565.

**LES 568. Labor Arbitration and Dispute Resolution. 4 Hours.**

Philosophy and practice of labor arbitration in the unionized private and public sectors. Students develop skills in arbitration practices, decision making, negotiation, rules and procedures, selection of arbitrators, and presentation of cases in a simulated arbitration proceeding. Students also learn alternative methods of settling disputes, including conciliation and mediation, and understanding processes of when and how to use alternative techniques. Course Information: Same as PAD 568. Restricted to graduate students and to senior undergraduates with permission from Department of Public Administration.

**LES 575. Effective Public Affairs Writing. 4 Hours.**

Writing-intensive course examining a range of writing styles, structures and components used by public affairs practitioners and graduate students. Includes such topics as thesis statement literature review, fact sheet, policy memo and press release. Course Information: Same as PSC 575.

**LES 587. Public Advocacy. 4 Hours.**

Focus on skills, methods, and strategies of institutional advocacy. Students study the role and uses of effective advocacy, both written and oral, through structured readings and use of various advocacy techniques in a variety of posited situations. Topics of current interest that are allied to students' thesis research topics will be emphasized. Course Information: Prerequisite: LES 401, or equivalent course and LES 501.

**LES 590. Thesis. 1-8 Hours.**

NOTE: If the thesis is not completed by the time eight hours are accrued in continuing enrollment, students must register for LES 598 for zero credit hours (one billable hour) in all subsequent semesters until the thesis is completed. Course Information: Credit/No Credit grading only. May be repeated a maximum of 8 hours.

**LES 597. Graduate Seminar Continuing Enrollment. 0 Hours.**

Refer to the NOTE in course description for LES 504. Course Information: May be repeated.

**LES 598. Thesis Continuing Enrollment. 0 Hours.**

Refer to the NOTE in course description for LES 590. Course Information: May be repeated.

**LES 599. Tutorial. 1-8 Hours.**

Independent study, structured readings, or research in fields of legal studies and administration of justice. Course Information: Credit/No Credit grading only. May be repeated up to 1 time(s) if topics vary.