



PRE-LAW IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

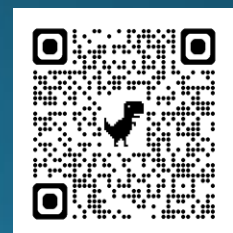
The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) will support you in creating an academic plan that best prepares you for law school. Your professional and faculty advisors can help you find ways to gain exposure to the law and the legal profession and assist you with the law school application process. They can be a resource in helping you select courses to achieve your goal, explore careers, choose a major or program of study, research law schools, and prepare for the LSAT.

Intentional academic pre-law pathways are provided by the following CLA programs

Criminology and Criminal Justice

Philosophy

Political Science



Other Advising Resources: Academic & Career Engagement & Success (ACES) <https://aces.umb.edu/resources/pre-law-advising/>

PHILOSOPHY AS A PATHWAY FOR PRE-LAW STUDENTS

The Philosophy Department offers a rich and intellectually demanding foundation for students considering law school through our Philosophy, Law, and Ethics (PLE) Major and our Philosophy and Law Minor. Our programs combine philosophical depth with practical legal training, preparing students not only for law school, but for engagement with justice, democracy, rights, and social change.

WHY PHILOSOPHY FOR PRE-LAW?

Philosophy majors consistently score among the highest on the LSAT nationwide. More importantly, philosophy cultivates the core capacities law schools value most:

- Analytical reasoning
- Close reading of complex texts
- Clear, structured argumentation
- Precision in writing
- Ethical reasoning
- Research skills
- Public speaking and discussion leadership

Students learn not merely what the law is, but how to analyze, question, and reason about it. Our curriculum ensures that students encounter law not only as a technical system, but as a field shaped by philosophical reflection on justice, rights, equality, democracy, and power.

Contact: Yumiko Inukai, Philosophy Department Chair
Yumiko.Inukai@umb.edu>

For more information on the impact of Philosophy on laws & the legal system visit page <https://www.umb.edu/academics/program-finder/philosophy--law-minor/>

POLITICAL SCIENCE, PUBLIC POLICY AS A PATHWAY FOR PRE-LAW STUDENTS

The Department of Political Science offers theoretical and hands-on learning opportunities for pre-law students. Our students begin their journey with introductory courses on the American legal system before moving onto advanced seminars on Constitutional Law, Civil Liberties, and International Law. Students with interests in both law school and public service tend to explore our applied courses on the interplay between Law and Public Policy. Finally, as part of their major or minor course of study, many of our students pursue internships in government, law offices, and legal clinics (e.g. Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice).

LAW SCHOOL AND BEYOND

Recent grads have attended regional law schools such as Northeastern, Boston College, Suffolk University, New England Law as well as more distant programs including Temple University, NYU, Northwestern, and UC Berkeley School of Law. In terms of employment, our alumni have worked or currently work in various settings, including:

- Non-profit law clinics (e.g. immigrant justice, housing)
- Clerkships in both state and federal district courts
- District Attorney's offices and other public sector positions
- Law firms of varying sizes and specialties (e.g. Davis Polk, Ropes and Gray)

Contact: PolSci Pre-Law < polsci-pre-law@live.umb.edu >

More information can be found on the Political Science, Public Policy and The Law Program page: <https://www.umb.edu/academics/program-finder/political-science-ba/>

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AS A PATHWAY FOR PRE-LAW STUDENTS

The Criminology and Criminal Justice major offers pre-law advising amongst other student resources. This program trains students in the study of the causes, consequences, and control of crime from a sociological perspective. Students explore the historical origins, theoretical foundations, and contemporary methods of criminology and criminal justice research. Students examine the nature of lawbreaking behavior, and the experiences of law enforcers and criminalized people. Students trace the structure and function of the criminal-legal system (i.e., police, courts, corrections) and the various social forces that shape legal actors, institutions, and outcomes.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Advocate for victims of crime as a legal or victim advocate, serve your community as a police officer or detective, or delve into the world of intelligence analysis and policy-making. Whatever your passions may be, a degree in criminology and criminal justice equips you with the tools you need to make a difference.

Become a:

- Social Worker
- Community Outreach Worker
- Paralegal or Legal Aid
- Private Investigator
- Criminologist
- Forensic Examiner
- Police Officer or Detective
- Probation Officer
- Prison Counselor
- Legal Advocate
- Crime Data Analyst
- Legal or Policy Analyst

Contact: Internship Coordinator, Academic Advisor, & Grants Manager: Alison Moll <Alison.Moll@umb.edu>

More information can be found on the CCJ Program Page
<https://www.umb.edu/academics/program-finder/criminology-criminal-justice-ba/>