

Paralegal Studies Certificate

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Many students express an interest in pursuing a career in law. For some of these students this means attending law school, but for others, it means working in the legal field as paralegals, policy analysts, researchers, or in an administrative capacity. All of these students would benefit from earning a certificate in paralegal studies. Many graduates take some time off before attending law school and working as a paralegal in a law firm is a fruitful way to spend the time between completing their undergraduate degree and attending law school. For students seeking to enter the legal field as non-lawyers, a certificate in paralegal studies would allow them to show potential employers that they received specialized education in the area of paralegal studies within their undergraduate program of study.



PATHWAYS TO THE PARALEGAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE

PATHWAY #1

(for students completing the Legal Studies minor)

Nine of the 18 credits required for the Legal Studies minor must be comprised of the following three courses:

CRJ 114: Survey of Criminal Justice

MGT 220: The Legal Environment of Business

POS 282: Introduction to American Law

This pathway will result in both a Paralegal Certificate and a minor in Legal Studies.

A minimum grade of C- will be required for a course to count for the certificate in paralegal studies. Both pathways will require the three core courses to be completed at the University of Maine, with the legal studies minor pathway also requiring at least 12 credits be completed at the University of Maine.

PATHWAY #2

(for any UMaine undergraduate interested in a standalone certificate)

This will require 15 credits to complete, nine of which must be the following three courses:

CRJ 114: Survey of Criminal Justice

MGT 220: The Legal Environment of Business

POS 282: Introduction to American Law

Plus two additional courses selected from the Legal Studies minor.



College of
**Liberal Arts
and Sciences**

For further information about the Paralegal Studies Certificate, contact Prof. Mark Brewer of the Department of Political Science (113A Boudreau Hall) - 207.581.1863 or mark.brewer@maine.edu