

Pre-Law Advising Guide

The College St. Scholastica offers a robust Pre-Law Program that features two dedicated faculty advisors and a student-led Pre-Law Society. The faculty advisors assist pre-law students in developing an individualized program of study, in pursuing internship and research opportunities, and in completing the law school application process. Students develop leadership skills through involvement in the Pre-Law Society, which sponsors workshops and speakers, as well as other opportunities to explore the legal profession.

Through St. Scholastica's partnership with Mitchell Hamline School of Law (MHSL), well-prepared students can earn their B.A./B.S. and J.D. degrees in six years (based on full-time enrollment). Under this 3+3 program, students spend three years at CSS and three years at MHSL, transferring up to 30 credits from their first year at MHSL back to CSS to complete their baccalaureate requirements.

Pre-Law Faculty Advisors

Dr. Ashley Comstock (acomstock@css.edu)

Dr. Randall Poole (rpoole@css.edu).

Pre-Law Programs of Study

“Pre-law” is not a specific major or minor. Rather, CSS students can select from many majors and minors that provide good preparation for law school. The following majors and minors are commonly regarded as pre-law programs of study:

- Philosophy
- History
- English
- Economics
- Political Science
- Peace and Justice Studies
- Global, Culture and Language Studies

Other pre-law majors are possible in the humanities, business, and the sciences, ideally in combination with a minor (or double major) in one of the above disciplines. The CSS Honors Program offers a new Civic Studies minor that provides another excellent pre-law track.

Regardless of your specific major, your pre-law program of study should be designed to develop a set of core skills:

- Critical thinking, logical reasoning, and problem-solving
- Research, analysis, and interpretation

- Written and oral communication and presentation

In addition to developing core skills, it is important to study “content knowledge” specifically relevant to law. CSS offers many courses in which you can explore:

- Human dignity and the philosophical foundations of law
- The importance of law for human rights, civil society, liberal democracy, and justice
- The social, historical, cultural, and environmental contexts of law and legal developments

Law Internships

CSS pre-law students have completed internships at many area law firms, the St. Louis County Attorney’s Office, and the Duluth Public Defender’s Office. The local 11th District Bar Association maintains a College Outreach Program which provides opportunities for students to network with lawyers and judges.

CSS pre-law advisor Dr. Ashley Comstock served for six years on the 11th District Judiciary Ethics Committee and has valuable contacts within the Minnesota legal profession.

LSAT and Applying to Law School

The Law School Admission Council (LSAC) and American Bar Association maintain helpful websites:

<https://www.lsac.org/>

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/pre_law/

Public Legal also has a good pre-law page: <https://www.ilrg.com/pre-law.html>

CSS Pre-Law Courses by Discipline

This is a comprehensive (though not exhaustive) list of courses from which students can select in designing their pre-law program of study. Majors in a particular discipline are not limited by the courses listed here.

BIO 1115 Global Problems, Scientific Solutions

CME 2014 History of the Press

CME 3445 Argumentation

CME 4417 Mass Media Law and Ethics

CME 4445 Persuasion

ECN 2230 Principles of Microeconomics

ECN 2280 Principles of Macroeconomics

ECN 4445 International Economics

ENG 2105 Investigative Writing
ENG 3325 Brexit Sixteenth-Century Style
ENG 3345 War and Paradise Lost
ENG 3364 Management Communication: Written
ENG 3361 Victorian Bodies
ENG 3830 Piracy and Criminality in Early US Literature
ENG 4400 Shakespeare and Social Justice
ENG 4425 Literary Theory
HIS 1110 History of the United States I
HIS 1111 History of the United States II
HIS 2250 Environmental History of the Americas
HIS 3212 The Renaissance and Reformation in Global Perspective
HIS 3214 The World Since 1945
HIS 3304 Modern European Intellectual History
HIS 3310 United States Foreign Relations
HIS 3324 African American History I
HIS 3325 African American History II
MGT 3160 Labor Relations Management
MGT 4160 Legal Aspects of Management
MTH 2442 Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Statistics
MTH 4411 Probability and Statistics I
PHL 1105 Logic
PHL 2205 Philosophy of Person
PHL 2214 Introductory Ethics
PHL 2223 Political Philosophy
PHL 2250 Environmental Ethics
PHL 3303 Medieval Philosophy
PHL 3304 Modern Philosophy
PHL 3350 Contemporary Ethical Issues
POL 2001 Introduction to Political Science
POL 3001 Politics of Globalization
POL 3331 American Government
POL 4402 Environmental Politics
PSY 1105 General Psychology
PSY 3327 Social Psychology
PSY 3331 Statistics
PSY 3423 Abnormal Psychology
SWK 3350 Understanding Systems of Privilege and Oppression
SOC 1125 General Sociology
TRS 2101 Contemporary Moral Issues

TRS 2222 A History of Christian Thought
TRS 2501 Theologies of Peace and Justice
TRS 2601 Religions of the World
TRS 3320 Religion and Politics of Compassion