Course Suggestions for the Pre-Law Student

BASIC COURSES

COMM 1110 - Public Speaking

The critical study and practice of public speaking emphasizing the art of rhetoric from a humanistic perspective. Areas of study include research and preparation, ethics, audience analysis, and presentation of speeches.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ENGL 1101 or WRIT 1101

PHIL 2020 - Critical Thinking

This course is an introduction to the concepts and skills necessary for identifying, evaluating, and constructing good arguments. Topics will include strategies that are used to strengthen or weaken an argument, spot fallacious ways of reasoning, and identify hidden assumptions. The course also studies the basic elements of deductive reasoning.

COURSES IN CRITICISM, LOGIC, RHETORIC, AND WRITING

AAST (or COMS) 4337 - Rhetoric of Social Movements

Introduces students to the rhetorical significance of selected movements, including labor reform, civil rights and environment protection, emphasizing the analysis of persuasive social movement discourse.

COMM 3331 - Media Criticism

Familiarizes students with dominant paradigms currently used in media studies. Particular emphasis will be given to theories addressing the social context of the media and criticism as a rhetorical act.

COML (or ENGL) 5533 - Literary Criticism and Theory

An historical survey of literary criticism and theory from antiquity to modern times. Literary criticism considers issues important for all students of literature, such as the value of poetry in our world, the power of poets to represent reality or truth, and the sources of poetic inspiration. This course also delves into the subject of aesthetics, the nature of beauty, and the variety of forces that impact how humans respond to literature.
Prerequisite(s): COML 2531.

COMS 3331 - Argumentation

Examines the function and structure of argumentation by focusing on the critical analysis of argument around important issues in public policy, science, law, religion and politics.
COMS 3338 - Rhetorical Criticism

Introduces students to the major perspectives and approaches used in the practice of rhetorical criticism through the analysis of various rhetorical forms, including public speeches, drama and entertainment, tradition and ideology.

LING (or WRIT) 2430 - Essential Grammar for Successful Writing

Offers study and analysis of grammar, punctuation, and rules of writing used in both academics and the professions. Challenges students to understand the evolving and situational nature of language, and how its grammatical structures vary and change.

LING 3337 - Language, Power, Politics

An in-depth investigation of the role of language in national and international power structures. Comparative evaluation of language in social organization of politics, economic policy and law as aggregated by race, culture, ethnicity, class, group ideology and gender. Emphasis on social policy management and minority/linguistic rights.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ENGL 1102

PHIL 4233 - Symbolic Logic

Fundamentals of propositional and predicate logic. Emphasis will be placed on construction of proofs in formal systems.

WRIT 4570 - Writing, Rhetoric, and Culture

Explores the interaction of writing, rhetoric, and culture and the relationship between public and private discourses; emphasizes rhetorical practices in public discourse and the intersections of genre with cultural contexts as complex rhetorical situations.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ENGL 1102
COURSES WITH LAW-RELATED CONTENT

ACCT 4631 - Fraud Examination
This course takes a macro look at fraud by examining the pervasiveness of, and the causes of, fraud and white-collar crime in our society. Other topics to be explored include financial crime statutes, evidence gathering and admissibility, types and elements of fraud, general investigative methods, and report writing.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ACCT 2101 or ACCT 2030 and junior status

ACCT (or LSTD) 4633 - Forensic Interviews and Interrogation
This course examines the distinctions between interviews and interrogations and how each can be used in resolving criminal or civil allegations. Other topics to be explored include the verbal and nonverbal cues indicating truth or deception, preparation of interview memoranda, and obtaining and preparing legally-admissible admission statements.
Prerequisite(s): Junior Status

COMM 3337 - Mass Communication Law
This course surveys freedom of speech and press and its limitations by laws governing libel, privacy, copyright, contempt, free press, broadcast regulation, fair trial and reporter's shield. Broadcast industry self-regulation and ethical concerns of mass communications will be discussed.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in COMM 2332

COMM 4334 - Advanced Law and Ethics
Provides an evaluation of contemporary media regulations/law and ethical issues by way of case analysis along with the study of the evolution of media regulation for understanding of past, present, and future media performance.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in COMM 3337

CRJU 3131 - Criminal Law
Examines the social and political influences on criminal law in the United States. Analyzes the constitutional limits on criminal law, principles of criminal liability, elements of crimes, criminal defenses, and the application of the Georgia Criminal Code to specific crimes.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in CRJU 1100

1 If you choose to enroll in any of these courses, select only one or two. The courses with law-related content may help to provide an introduction to the subject matter of the law and/or the style of teaching and learning at law school. Do not load up on law-related courses; law schools emphasize that students should acquire their legal education in law school. As an undergraduate, you should focus on pursuing a broad-based education that will sharpen your skills in reading, researching, writing, and critical analysis.
CRJU 3133 - Evidence and Procedure
Focuses on the legal processes from arrest through appeal, with emphasis on the rights of the accused including due process, right to counsel, search and seizure, self-incrimination, and the rules of evidence governing criminal procedure.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in CRJU 1100

CRJU 3110 - Legal Process
This course will introduce students to the American court system with a focus on the sources of law and the actors, institutions, and processes that affect the administration of justice.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in CRJU 1100

CRJU 4137 - Law, Justice, and Society
A consideration of the primary theories of justice formulated through history. Examines and evaluates the theoretical foundations of conceptions of justice from a variety of perspectives.
Prerequisite(s): POLS 1101, or a minimum grade of "C" in CRJU 1100

ECON 4339 - Economic Analysis of the Law
This course examines the effects of legal rules on economic performance. The incentives for individual and firm behavior encompassed in legal rules are analyzed. Topics include legal systems and the economic analysis of property, torts, contracts, corporations, and criminal behavior.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ECON 2105 and ECON 2106

EURO 4130 - European Law and Legal Systems
This course focuses on the legal institutions that constitute the European Union, and the legal processes of those institutions. The course begins with a brief overview of the European Union, including the historical antecedents that preceded the present day entity of the EU.
Prerequisite(s): POLS 1101

HIST 3133 - United States Constitutional History
A survey of United States Constitutional history from its origins to the present including an exploration of the adaptation of the federal system to changing social, economic, and political demands.

LING (or POLS) 3338 - Language and Law
A critical examination of language as a problem-solving device and tool for understanding argument and legal contestation. Delineation of individual rights, institutional authority and legal jurisdiction with emphasis on language and legal power. Analysis of the sociology of language and law within the concepts of human rights and socio-political entitlements.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ENGL 1102
LSTD 2106 - Legal Environment of Business
This course is designed to give students a working knowledge of important legal concepts that affect the rights and responsibilities of American business persons and organizations. The course covers legal topics such as Constitutional law, torts, contracts, agency, and employment law matters. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation for the interrelationship between ethics, law, and business decision-making, as well as an understanding of the foundation of the legal system as it relates to business, including knowledge of the various court systems, phases of litigation, and alternative dispute resolution processes.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ENGL 1101 or WRIT 1101

LSTD 3630 - White Collar Crime
Fraud-fighting professionals must understand the laws governing a fraud investigation as it moves through the U.S. legal system. This course examines the US criminal justice system along with its response to the escalating incidence of white-collar crime.
Prerequisite(s): Junior Status.

LSTD 4334 - Employment Law and Legislative Compliance
An overview of the current issues in the work environment related to the job selection process, equal employment opportunity, and the rights of workers in the market.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in MGNT 3130.

LSTD 4633 - Forensic Interviews and Interrogations
This course examines the distinctions between interviews and interrogations and how each can be used in resolving criminal or civil allegations. Other topics to be explored include the verbal and nonverbal cues indicating truth or deception, preparation of interview memoranda, and obtaining and preparing legally-admissible admission statements.
Prerequisite(s): Completion of a minimum of 45 semester hours

PBAD 4231 Administrative Law
This course serves as an introduction to administrative law providing students with practical knowledge about administrative law procedures, how administrative law fits into the constitutional and legal framework, and the role of administrative law in policy. This course is designed to introduce students to decision-making based on a public agency's operating rules.

PHIL 3232 - Philosophy of Law
A study of major topics in the philosophy of law, all of which concern the relationship of law to morality and justice-including the nature of law in general; the importance of the rule of law and of limiting the rule of law; and some theory and practice of criminal law.

POLS 3137 - Judicial Politics
In this course, students analyze and evaluate judicial politics by examining the actors, institutions, processes, and procedures that contribute to the formulation, administration, and adjudication of the law.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in POLS 1101
POLS 3138 Constitutional Law: Government Powers
A study of the constitutional development of the national government through landmark Supreme Court decisions. Topics include: judicial power, separation of power, federalism, and interstate commerce.

POLS 3139 Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
This course focuses on the study of the Bill of Rights through landmark Supreme Court decisions. Topics include freedom of speech, press, and religion, the right to privacy, rights of the accused, search and seizure law, and equal protection of the law.

POLS 3438 - Gender and the Law
This course focuses on legal issues related to gender, and considers judicial decisions that have helped shape policies related to issues such as reproductive rights, employment discrimination, family law, Title IX, and sexual harassment.
Prerequisites(s): A minimum grade of "C" in POLS 1101

POLS 4134 - International Law and Diplomacy
Examines the body of literature, concepts, and historical perspectives of international law and diplomacy as related to the critical problems of the Post-Cold War era. Focuses on the legal, oral, and strategic dimensions of several past, present, and proposed means of conflict resolution.

POLS 4438 - Legal Reasoning and Writing
This course introduces rule-based reasoning in writing legal documents. Students read and analyze precedents and statutes, use them as a basis for their argument, and translate written arguments into oral arguments. The persuasive writing style is emphasized.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in POLS 1101

PSYC 4502 - Psychology and Law
An advanced introduction to the empirical application of psychology to the legal system, including the application of research in social, cognitive, and developmental psychology. Major content areas include eyewitness memory and identifications, interrogations and confessions, jury decision making, and criminal sentencing.
Prerequisite(s): PSYC 1101

SMGT 4337 - Legal Aspects of Sport
Helps the student understand the legal aspects of negligence, intentional torts, the essentials of contracts, and elements of constitutional law as they apply to the sport industry. Helps the student understand risk management in the sport industry.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ACCT 2030, CISM 2530, COMM 1110, ECON 2105, SMGT 2130, and STAT 2231.