

MINOR/CERTIFICATE IN LEGAL STUDIES (ABA-APPROVED)

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Quinnipiac University's ABA-approved Minor/Certificate in Legal Studies is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in the paralegal profession. The minor is planned and taught by lawyers to provide students with a solid grounding in the fundamentals of the legal system. The courses chosen for the minor prepare students to work as a paralegal in diverse legal settings. The legal studies minor/certificate has been approved by the American Bar Association as a paralegal education program. A paralegal performs specifically delegated substantive legal work under the supervision of an attorney. While paralegals may not give legal advice to clients or appear in court on their behalf, these highly skilled professionals perform a wide range of tasks and play an integral role in the delivery of legal services.

The education focuses on particular core areas of the law and on developing specific legal research, writing, and critical thinking skills, all within a framework of the ethical and statutory constraints confronting the paralegal profession. This combination of theoretical classwork with real-world experience, along with exposure to traditional liberal arts and general education, and a major in another discipline at Quinnipiac, prepares legal studies certificate students for a broad range of professional opportunities.

Minor Policy: Students may complete only one minor using the same courses. Majors may not complete a minor within the same department.

Legal Studies Minor/Certificate Curriculum

A total of 21 credits are required for completion of the minor/certificate:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses ¹		15
LE 101	Introduction to the American Legal System	
LE 211	Legal Reasoning, Research and Writing I	
LE 212	Legal Reasoning, Research and Writing II	
LE 305	Civil Procedures	
LE 485	Legal Internship Seminar	
Legal Studies Electives (choose two from electives approved as Legal Practice. Other courses cannot be substituted.)		6
LE 312	Family Law	
LE 315	Wills, Probate and Estate Administration	
LE 320	Land Transfer and Closing Procedures	
LE 328	Employment Law	
LE 330	Law of Business Entities	
LE 345	Intellectual Property	
LE 355	Environmental Law (ENV 355)	

LE 360	Mediation
LE 370	Negotiation

- ¹ Students must earn a grade of C or better in all 200 level or above required courses in the Legal Studies Minor/Certificate to move to the next required course.

Learning Outcomes

Students who graduate with a Minor/Certificate in Legal Studies will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. **Understand and critically assess** how law is made, interpreted and applied in the United States.
2. **Analyze** a legal problem, research and synthesize the law, apply it to a set of facts, and write a legal memo using a generally accepted format for the legal profession with proper legal citation.
3. **Draft, review, organize and manage** legal documents and correspondence using proper format and appropriate content.
4. **Formulate and present** a coherent, well-supported legal argument in both written and oral form to diverse audiences.
5. **Apply** their legal skills and knowledge in a professional legal setting, consistent with ethical standards governing the legal profession.