

Stevenson University Catalog Addendum

2021-2022 Undergraduate Catalog and 2021-2022 Undergraduate Online Catalog

2021-2022 Undergraduate Catalog

Legal Studies Program

Updated 5 May 2022

Link to 2021-2022 Undergraduate Catalog:

<https://stevenson.smartcatalogiq.com/2021-2022/Stevenson-University-Online-Undergraduate-Catalog>

Policies

Updated content is highlighted in yellow.

Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in the major. The lowest acceptable grade is a "C" in all courses listed in the catalog under "Program Requirements" for the major, including both courses in the major and SEE courses required by the major. No student, regardless of major, will be permitted to advance to the next course without earning a grade of "C" or better in the prerequisite course(s). When a grade below "C" is earned in a major course, the student must repeat that course.

Legal studies majors who do not successfully complete a LAW course with a grade of "C" or better after a third attempt will not be allowed to continue in the legal studies program.

Students must take a minimum of 18 credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses at Stevenson University to earn a degree in legal studies. A legal specialty course is a LAW course that covers substantive law or legal procedures or process, has been developed for paralegals, emphasizes practical paralegal skills, and meets the American Bar Association's instructional methodology requirements. **Students must take at least nine semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through synchronous instruction.**

Credit for equivalent law courses considered legal specialty courses under the ABA Guidelines is accepted for students transferring from paralegal programs, whether ABA-approved or not. If a student has earned credit from an institution that is not ABA-approved, the department chair for traditional students or the department chair for SUO students reviews the description of the course content, the course syllabus (if necessary), and information about the institution before

credit is transferred for equivalent law courses. A maximum of 24 credits will be accepted for equivalent law courses.

If a student successfully completes a three-credit internship class through another ABA-approved paralegal education program, the internship requirement can be waived, and the student will take another three-credit legal specialty course in its place.

Some students work as paralegals while completing the legal studies program. These students may apply for a waiver of the internship requirement. Documentation from the student and the employer is required to verify that the student successfully performed paralegal tasks for a minimum of 120 hours. If approved, the student will take another three-credit legal specialty course in place of the internship class. SUO students working full-time, not as paralegals, may satisfy the internship requirement by completing a virtual internship as a paralegal, supervised by Stevenson University Online. This three-credit virtual internship class is considered non-legal specialty.

The award of legal specialty credits through examination or portfolio is monitored by the legal studies program to ensure that the quality and integrity of the program are maintained. A maximum of six legal specialty credits can be earned through examination or portfolio. To receive credit for prior learning for a legal specialty course through examination or portfolio, the examination or portfolio must be evaluated by a faculty evaluator, under the supervision of the department chair for traditional students or the department chair for SUO students. In conducting this evaluation, the faculty evaluator will ensure that the credit sought can be classified as legal specialty, the student meets the course objectives and practical skills to be developed for the course for which credit is sought, the student meets the needs of the legal community the program serves, and the student's work is comparable to course work offered within the legal studies program.

UPL Statement:

Paralegals may not provide legal services directly to the public, except as permitted by law.

Synchronous Instruction Statement:

Students must take at least nine semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through synchronous instruction.

2021-2022 Undergraduate Online Catalog

Legal Studies Program

Updated 5 May 2022

Link to 2021-2022 Undergraduate Online Catalog:

<https://stevenson.smartcatalogiq.com/2021-2022/Stevenson-University-Online-Undergraduate-Catalog>

Program Description

Updated content is highlighted in yellow.

The ultimate goal of the legal studies program is to fully prepare students for employment by law firms, corporate law departments, government agencies, legal aid providers, and other employers in the legal profession. Students gain an extensive knowledge of numerous areas of law and practical experience to enable them to perform tasks in specific legal specialty areas. By taking a combination of law and liberal arts courses each semester, students are able to pursue their legal interests immediately and develop skills gradually. Students may select a sequence of courses that permits them to focus on a specific area within the legal studies curriculum, such as corporate law, estate administration, or litigation.

Stevenson University Online offers synchronous online and asynchronous online delivery of courses. Students must take at least nine semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through synchronous instruction. The following required classes are offered in an online synchronous format:

- [LAW 102](#) Introduction to Legal Studies
- [LAW 125](#) Legal Research and Writing I
- [LAW 210](#) Legal Research and Writing II
- [LAW 216](#) Civil Litigation and Pleading
- [LAW 480](#) Legal Studies Capstone

Policies

Updated content is highlighted in yellow.

Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.00 in the major. Furthermore, the lowest acceptable grade is a “C” in all major courses. No student, regardless of major, will be permitted to advance to the next major course without earning a grade of “C” or better in the prerequisite course(s).

When a grade below a “C” is earned in a major course, the student must repeat that course. The lowest acceptable grade in Stevenson Educational Experience (SEE) courses is a “D,” with the exception of [ENG 151](#) and [ENG 152](#), for which the lowest acceptable grade is a “C.” If a SEE course is required for the major the lowest acceptable grade is a “C.”

Legal studies majors who do not successfully complete a LAW course with a grade of “C” or better after a third attempt will not be allowed to continue in the legal studies program. A **non-major** course may be repeated twice without special permission. Students must apply in writing to the dean of the school where the course resides requesting permission to attempt the course for a third time.

Students must take a minimum of 18 credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses at Stevenson University to earn a degree in legal studies. A legal specialty course is a LAW course that covers substantive law or legal procedures or process, has been developed for paralegals, emphasizes practical paralegal skills, and meets the American Bar Association's instructional methodology requirements. **Stevenson University Online offers synchronous online and asynchronous online courses. Students must take at least nine semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through synchronous instruction.**

Credit for equivalent law courses considered legal specialty courses under the ABA Guidelines is accepted for students transferring from paralegal programs, whether ABA-approved or not. If a student has earned credit from an institution that is not ABA-approved, the academic program administrator for SUO students reviews the description of the course content, the course syllabus (if necessary), and information about the institution before credit is transferred for equivalent law courses. A maximum of 24 credits will be accepted for equivalent law courses.

If a student successfully completes a 3-credit internship class through another ABA-approved paralegal education program, the academic program administrator for SUO will review the course to determine if transfer credit could be awarded.

The award of legal specialty credits through examination or portfolio is monitored by the academic program administrator to ensure that the quality and integrity of the legal studies program are maintained. A maximum of 6 legal specialty credits can be earned through examination or portfolio. To receive credit for prior learning for a legal specialty course through examination or portfolio, the examination or portfolio must be evaluated by a faculty evaluator, under the supervision of the academic program administrator for SUO. In conducting this evaluation, the faculty evaluator will ensure that the credit sought can be classified as legal specialty, the student meets the course objectives and practical skills to be developed for the course for which credit is sought, the student meets the needs of the legal community the program serves, and the student’s work is comparable to course work offered within the legal studies program.

UPL Statement:

Paralegals may not provide legal services directly to the public, except as permitted by law.

Synchronous Instruction Statement:

Students must take at least nine semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through synchronous instruction.

Courses

Updated content is highlighted in yellow.

LAW 225B Internship: Part II

Consists of 120 hours of supervised work in a law office or legal department as a paralegal. Includes the preparation of an internship portfolio based on professional experience. Legal specialty course (LSC)

Restricted to legal studies majors.

Credits

3 credits

Prerequisite

A grade of C or better in [LAW 225A](#) and [LAW 210](#), and 15 additional LAW credits

Requirements

Updated content is highlighted in yellow.

Major Requirements:

GEN 200	Writing and Research for the Adult Learner	3 credits
POSCI 102	American Government: Political Institutions and Procedures	3 credits
LAW 102	Introduction to Legal Studies	3 credits
LAW 112	Torts	3 credits
LAW 114	Estates and Trusts	3 credits
LAW 120	Contract Law	3 credits
LAW 125	Legal Research and Writing I	3 credits
LAW 130	Business Organizations Law	3 credits
LAW 204	Constitutional Law	3 credits
LAW 210	Legal Research and Writing II	3 credits
LAW 216	Civil Litigation and Pleading	3 credits

LAW 225A	Internship: Part I	1 credit
LAW 225B	Internship: Part II	3 credits
LAW 352	Law Office Technology	3 credits
LAW 480	Legal Studies Capstone	3 credits
LAW Electives	Six Law electives, two of which may be at the lower level.	18 credits