

Rochester INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Minor Program proposal form

College of Liberal Arts

**Departments of Criminal Justice and Political Science**

**Name of Minor:** Legal Studies

**Brief description of the minor to be used in university publications**

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| Recognizing the critical role that law plays in societies, the minor in legal studies is designed to guide students to courses that will deepen and expand their understanding of law as practiced, especially its influence on social, political and economic institutions. |

**1.0 Minor Program Approvals**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Approval request date: | Approval granted date: |
| Academic Unit Curriculum Committee |  | 2/14/12 |
| College Curriculum Committee | 2/14/12 | 2/14/12 |
| Inter-College Curriculum Committee | 2/27/12 | 2/27/12 |

**2.0 Rationale:**

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript

How is this set of academic courses related?

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| The legal studies minor provide students with a foundation in the study of law and legal institutions, and in the relationship of law to other aspects of society and culture. The courses included provide a broad perspective on law and legal institutions including historical, ethical, sociological, political, and philosophical approaches to the study of law and legal institutions. |

**3.0 Multidisciplinary involvement:**

If this is a multidisciplinary minor spanning two or more academic units, list the units and their role in offering and managing this minor.

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| The Departments of Criminal Justice and Political Science will oversee the minor in Legal Studies. A two person Coordinating Committee comprised of one faculty member from the Criminal Justice Department and one faculty member from the Political Science Department will provide oversight of the minor in legal studies. The Coordinating Committee will be the primary policy making body for the minor, and be responsible for program assessment functions. A Minor Coordinator will be selected among the above faculty, and serve a three year term. The Coordinator will serve as the primary faculty advisor and administer the day-to-day operations of the program.  In addition to course offerings from the Department of Criminal Justice and Department of Political Science, other departments that will offer courses toward the minor in Legal Studies include Communication, Philosophy and Sociology/Anthropology. Permission for inclusion of courses from these various departments was sought and granted by the following department chairs: Laverne McQuiller Williams (Criminal Justice), Sean Sutton (Political Science), Patrick Scanlon (Communications), Philosophy (John Capps), and Sociology/Anthropology (Christine Kray). |

**4.0 Students ineligible to pursue this minor:**

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

Please list below any home programs whose students will not be allowed to pursue this minor, provide the reasoning, and indicate if this exclusion has been discussed with the affected programs:

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| Any student who is matriculated in a program leading to the baccalaureate degree may declare a Legal Studies Minor. However for majors in Criminal Justice, Political Science and Philosophy, students can count a maximum of 3 credits from their home departments. |

**5.0 Minor Program Structure, Sequence and Course Offering Schedule:**

Describe the structure of the proposed minor and list all courses, their anticipated offering schedule, and any prerequisites.

* All minors must contain at least fifteen semester credit hours;
* Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
* In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses (300 or above) to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor;
* As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree;
* Provide a program mask showing how students will complete the minor.

Narrative of Minor Program Structure:

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| This minor requires students to gain a general understanding the relationships between law and *other social institutions, and examines the values and interests that are expressed in law and shaped by legal structures and processes (CRIM 215/POLS 200). Beyond this, students can then choose four more courses from the list below depending on their personal interests. This minor includes semester credit hour (SCH) courses equivalent to currently existing quarter credit hour (QCH) courses. Changes in course numbers from QCH to SCH were made prior to the creation of the new semester minor policy. The proposed minor represents an approach typical of best practices in the discipline.  See the Minor Course Conversion Table for details.* |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course Number & Title | SCH | Required | Optional | Fall | Spring | Annual Biennial | Prerequisites |
| CRIM -215 Law and Society  or POLS-200Law and Society | 3 | X |  | X  (PS) | X  (CJ) | A (CJ)  B (PS) |  |
| CRIM -~~255~~  225Criminal Law | 3 |  | X |  | X | A | CRIM 110 |
| CRIM-260 Courts | 3 |  | X |  | X | A | CRIM 110 |
| CRIM-315 Evidence | 3 |  | X |  | X | B | CRIM 255 |
| CRIM- 489 Major Issues in Criminal Justice | 3 |  | X | X | X | A | CRIM 110 |
| POLS-325 International Law & Organizations | 3 |  | X | X |  | B |  |
| POLS 330-Human Rights in Global Perspective | 3 |  | X | X |  | B |  |
| POLS-425 Constitutional Law | 3 |  | X | X |  | B |  |
| POLS-430 Constitutional Rights & Liberties | 3 |  | X |  | X | B |  |
| POLS-460 Classical Constitutionalism, Virtue & Law | 3 |  | X | X |  | B |  |
| POLS-464 Modern Constitutionalism, Liberty & Equality | 3 |  | X |  | X | B |  |
| COMM-342 Communication Law and Ethics | 3 |  | X |  | x | A |  |
| COMM-362 Law & Ethics of the Press | 3 |  | X |  | X | A |  |
| PHIL-204 Introduction to Logic | 3 |  | X |  | X | A |  |
| PHIL-302 Symbolic Logic | 3 |  | X | X | X | B |  |
| PHIL-304 Philosophy of Law | 3 |  | X | X | X | B |  |
| PHIL-403 Social and Political Philosophy | 3 |  | X | X | X | B | One course in philosophy, political science, sociology, or criminal justice, or permission of instructor |
| SOCI-310 U.S. Housing Policy | 3 |  | X | varies | varies | B | SOCI 102/SOCI 103 |

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| Total credit hours: | 15 |

**Minor Course Conversion Table: Quarter Calendar and Semester Calendar Comparison**

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| **Directions: The tables on this page will be used by the registrar’s office to aid student’s transitioning from the quarter calendar to the semester calendar.**  **If this minor existed in the quarter calendar and is being converted to the semester calendar please complete the following tables.**  **If this is a new minor that did not exist under the quarter calendar do not complete the following tables.**  Use the following tables to show minor course comparison in quarter and semester calendar formats. Use courses in the (2011-12) minor mask for this table. Display all required and elective minor courses. If necessary clarify how course sequences in the quarter calendar convert to semesters by either bracketing or using some other notation. |

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| Name of Minor in Semester Calendar: | Legal Studies |
| Name of Minor in Quarter Calendar: | Legal Studies |
| Name of Certifying Academic Unit: | Criminal Justice and Political Science |

| **QUARTER: Current Minor Courses** | | | **SEMESTER: Converted Minor Courses** | | | | |  | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course # | Course Title | QCH | Course # | | Course Title | | SCH | **Comments** | |
| 0501-443  0513-459 | Law and Society  Law and Society | 4  4 | CRIM-215  POLS-200 | | Law and Society  Law and Society | | 3  3 |  | |
| 0501-444 | Concepts in Criminal Law | 4 | CRIM-255 | | Criminal Law | | 3 | Note course title change | |
| 0501-456 | Courts | 4 | CRIM-260 | | Courts | | 3 |  | |
| 0501-405 | Major Issues in Criminal Justice | 4 | CRIM-489 | | Major Issues in Criminal Justice | | 3 |  | |
| 0501-506 | Evidence | 4 | CRIM-315 | | Evidence | | 3 |  | |
| 0513-447 | Human Rights in Global Perspective | 4 | | POLS -330 | | Human Rights in Global Perspective | 3 | |  | |
| 0513-457 | Constitutional Law | 4 | | POLS- 425 | | Constitutional Law | 3 | |  | |
| 0513-460 | Constitutional Rights & Liberties | 4 | | POLS -430 | | Constitutional Rights & Liberties | 3 | |  | |
| 0513-465 | Modern Constitutionalism, Liberty & Equality | 4 | | POLS- 465 | | Modern Constitutionalism, Liberty & Equality | 3 | |  | |
| 0513-487 | International Law & Organizations | 4 | | POLS -325 | | International Law & Organizations | 3 | |  | |
| 0513-514 | Political Theory | 4 | | POLS-460 | | Classical Constitutionalism, Virtue & Law | 3 | | Replacement course | |
| 0509-446 | Philosophy of Law | 4 | PHIL-304 | | | Philosophy of Law | 3 | |  |
|  |  |  | COMM-342 | | | Communication Law and Ethics | 3 | | New course for the minor |
|  |  |  | COMM-362 | | | Law & Ethics of the Press | 3 | | New course for the minor |
|  |  |  | PHIL-204 | | | Introduction to Logic | 3 | | New course for the minor |
|  |  |  | PHIL-302 | | | Symbolic Logic | 3 | | New course for the minor |
|  |  |  | PHIL-403 | | | Social and Political Philosophy | 3 | | New course for the minor |
|  |  |  | SOCI-310 | | | US Housing Policy | 3 | | New course for the minor |