

Law School Preparation

Pre-professional program

Pre-law Advisor:

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- While you cannot major or minor in law school preparation, there are law-related courses offered at Frostburg State University.
- Prospective law students should carefully examine the catalog of the law school they wish to attend in order to determine the test requirements for that school.

The traditional preparatory majors for entering law schools have been political science, history, English, philosophy, or sociology. Most law schools prefer that undergraduates interested in admission to law school *not* follow a prescribed “pre-law” curriculum. Rather, they prefer that students pursue a broad, *liberal* education.

Almost all professional law schools require applicants to take the Law School Aptitude Test. In some cases, the Graduate Record Exam may also be required. Information regarding the L.S.A.T. may be obtained from this university’s pre-law advisor. Information regarding the G.R.E. may be obtained from University Counseling and Psychological Services.

Prospective law students should strive to acquire exceptional ability in communication; gain critical understanding of human values and institutions; and develop understanding in the use of various types of reasoning: deductive, inductive, and analogous. Students should develop the ability to think creatively and to analyze critically. They should also learn how to recognize, differentiate, and organize facts according to their relevance to particular issues.

Suggested Elective Courses for Law School Preparation

The following courses may be especially helpful in achieving the qualities stated above. Students are advised to choose elective courses from this list:

BLAW 291	Legal Environment of Business	ENGL 338	Technical Writing
CMST 122	Intro. to Public Speaking	GEOG 450	Urban Planning
CMST 225	Interviewing	GEOG 473	Environmental Law
CMST 302	Argumentation & Advocacy	HIST 103,104	History of U.S. I, II
CMST 322	Presentational Communication	PHIL 102	Contemporary Ethical Problems
CMST 451	Seminar in Communication Theory	PHIL 205	Logic
ECON 307	Govt. and Business	PHIL 410	Philosophy of Law
ECON 404	Public Finance	POSC 324	Criminal Justice Systems
ENGL 330	Business Writing	POSC 422,423	American Constitutional Law I, II
ENGL 334	Creative Writing	SOCI 200	Social Problems
ENGL 336	Journalistic Writing	SOCI 443	The Amer. Correctional System

Law School Admission Test (LSAT) Preparation Course

This non-credit course is designed to help students prepare for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), a prerequisite for all students seeking admission to law school. The course is offered twice during the academic year in preparation for the October and June tests. There is a fee for the course that covers the costs of instruction and a textbook that contains more than 500 questions and problems, including analytical exercises, practice tests, and a full-length home-study exam. The course covers each of the main sections of the LSAT in depth: application of rules, reading comprehension, logical games, logical reasoning, and essay writing. For each section, students are exposed to a wide variety of sample questions, which are analyzed in class, and various suggestions and methods are presented in lectures for approaching the types of questions in each section.

Graduates of the LSAT prep course have gained admission to such law schools as The Georgetown University Law Center, Duquesne University School of Law, The University of Baltimore School of Law, The West Virginia University College of Law, Appalachian School of Law, Ohio Northern University College of Law, The Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and Liberty College of Law.

For further information, contact Dr. Scott Johnson, pre-law advisor and instructor of the course.