



Legal and Social Studies

Program: General Studies

Program Code:

GS_GSLS

Academic Area:

Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

Type:

Associate in Science

CIP Code:

24.0102

Program Statement

This program provides students an opportunity to explore the Social Sciences and Legal Studies programs available at the College. These programs prepare students for positions in the criminal justice and social services system or for transfer into a baccalaureate degree-granting institution in their chosen social sciences or legal discipline. Developing and practicing helping relationships are emphasized in these programs. It can also prepare current practitioners for career advancement.

Program Information

- Students should take any required developmental courses in their first semester.
- The skills developed provide excellent job mobility in some of the fastest growing professions in America. Students can work in general positions or specialize in a wide variety of fields within business, professional, and government entities.
- The faculty represent all of the major fields of the criminal justice, legal and social services systems, and students benefit from their years of formal study and professional experience.
- Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) is available to students for some program and general education courses.
- Students should consider completing certificates that contain required program courses that will complement their degree.

After Bristol

- This program is designed for students to explore other academic programs at the college. It is not designed for transfer.
- Students are encouraged to select a specific social and legal studies program, including Criminal Justice, CIS-Computer Forensics, Human Services, Deaf Studies-Human Services, OFC-Legal Office Concentration, Paralegal or a Certificate(s) in these disciplines. Some of these programs are designed for transfer.
- Bristol participates in the statewide MassTransfer program and has developed many program-to-program transfer articulation agreements which guarantee admission and credit transfer. For a complete listing of eligible MassTransfer programs, current Bristol articulation agreements, and to complete an A2B Program Search, visit the Transfer Services website to review which credits will be transferred and applied to your degree.



Degree Requirements

General Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
COM 104	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
CSS 101	College Success Seminar	1
ENG 101	Composition I: College Writing	3
ENG 102	Composition II: Writing about Literature	3
HST 114	United States History from 1877	3
MTH 119	Fundamental Statistics	3
	SOC 101 or SOC 252	3

Elective Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
	Legal and Social Studies Exploratory Courses	6
	Scientific Reasoning and Discovery Elective	3-4
	PLS 105 or Information Literacy Elective	0-3

Program Electives

Course #	Title	Credits
	Legal and Social Studies Program Electives	28-33

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 1

Course #	Title	Credits
COM 104	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
CSS 101	College Success Seminar	1
ENG 101	Composition I: College Writing	3
MTH 119	Fundamental Statistics	3
	SOC 101 or SOC 252	3



Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 2

Course #	Title	Credits
ENG 102	Composition II: Writing about Literature	3
HST 114	United States History from 1877	3
	Information Literacy Elective	0-3
	Legal and Social Studies Exploratory Courses	6
	Scientific Reasoning and Discovery Elective	3-4

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 3

Course #	Title	Credits
	PLS 105 or Information Literacy Elective	0-3
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 4

Course #	Title	Credits
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3
	Program Elective	3
	Total credits:	60

Category Descriptions

SOC 101 or SOC 252

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following:

Course #	Title	Credits
SOC 101	Principles of Sociology	3
SOC 252	The Sociology of Human Relations	3



Legal and Social Studies Exploratory Courses

Credits: 6

Choose two of the following:

Course #	Title	Credits
CRJ 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRJ 113	Criminal Law	3
PLS 100	Introduction to Legal Studies & Ethics	3
PLS 121	Family Law and Procedure	3
PSY 101	General Psychology	3
SER 101	Introduction to Social Welfare	3

Scientific Reasoning and Discovery Elective

Credits: 3-4

Choose one Scientific Reasoning and Discovery elective.

PLS 105 or Information Literacy Elective

Credits: 0-3

Choose one of the following:

Course #	Title	Credits
PLS 105	Law Office Management	3
	Information Literacy Elective	0-3

Legal and Social Studies Program Electives

Credits: 28-33

Consult with your advisor to select college-level courses to achieve a total of at least 60 credits.

(CUL, DHG, HCI, MAS, MAT, MED, NUR, OTA, and PLB courses are approved electives within General Studies for all students who had previously been enrolled in a selective/competitive program.)

Recommended Electives: ACC, ASL, CIS, CIT, COM, CRJ, DST, ECN, FIR, GIS, GVT, HLT, HST, INT, LGL, OFC, PLS, PHL, PSY, SER, SOC, or World Language.