

### What is Pre-Law?

Preparation for law school requires development of strong research, communication and analytical skills. Students are encouraged to explore the various specializations in law and choose a bachelor's degree based on their area of interest. Some of the most popular majors include: Business, Communication Studies, Economics, English, History, International Studies, Law and Justice, Multicultural Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology. Any bachelor's degree, including degrees in physical sciences, can be good preparation for law school.

**Contemporary issues in Law:** Business/Corporate Law, Civil Rights Law, Criminal Law, Commercial and Real Estate Law, Environmental Law, Estate Planning, Family and Juvenile Law, International Law, Intellectual Property Law, International Law, Labor and Employment Law.

### Where does my path start?

You will complete an Associate of Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) at Shoreline.

Use the AA -DTA **Degree Planning Guide** to understand the requirements for graduation.

Once you complete your Shoreline degree, you can transfer to a four-year school to earn a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree. Provided you meet program prerequisites, you are encouraged to major in any B.A. or B.S. degree of interest.

Once you have completed a Bachelor's degree you will move on to a graduate program in law to receive a Juris Doctorate.

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### Where can I go for help?

#### Pre-Law Faculty Advisors

**Steve McCloskey** 206-546-5871  
[smccloskey@shoreline.edu](mailto:smccloskey@shoreline.edu) Rm 1408

**Terry Taylor** 206-546-4589  
[ttaylor@shoreline.edu](mailto:ttaylor@shoreline.edu) Rm 5343

#### Career Planning

[www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/](http://www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/)

#### General Academic Advising

FOSS (5000) Building, Rm. 5229  
206-546-4559

[advising@shoreline.edu](mailto:advising@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/advising](http://www.shoreline.edu/advising)

#### International Advising

9000 Building, Rm. 9302  
206-546-4697

[leadvisors@shoreline.edu](mailto:leadvisors@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/](http://www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/)

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### Where can I transfer?

Students will need to complete a Bachelor's degree before beginning graduate work in Law. The following colleges in Washington have law schools offering a Juris Doctorate degree:

[Gonzaga University](#)

[Seattle University](#)

[University of Washington – Seattle](#)

[University of Washington – Bothell](#)

[University of Washington – Tacoma](#)

#### Law Information Websites

Law School Admission Council: [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org)

Pre-Law Student Services [www.ilrg.com/pre-law.html](http://www.ilrg.com/pre-law.html)

American Bar Association [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org)

Council on Legal Education Opportunity [www.cleoscholars.com](http://www.cleoscholars.com)

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### What can I do with a Juris Doctorate degree in Law?

The practice of law requires strong reading, writing, speaking and negotiation skills. Lawyers must analyze problems, gather evidence, research the law, interpret the law, synthesize information, present arguments, write legal briefs, and give legal counsel. These skills can transfer to multiple career opportunities.

**Potential employers include:** Law firms, private practice, federal, state and local governments, court systems, colleges and universities, public advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, foreign service, businesses and corporations. For more, please visit <http://www.shoreline.edu/counseling-services/career-counseling.aspx>

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## What courses should I take?\*

*Below are recommendations for fulfilling the AA-DTA requirements if you are planning to pursue a four-year degree that prepares you to apply to law school.*

### Strongly Recommended

These are commonly **required** for admission. Check with your chosen four-year program(s) to confirm.

### Other Recommendations

These courses are well-matched with this major, but are not commonly required for admission.

## I. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

|                            |    |                        |
|----------------------------|----|------------------------|
| Quant. and Symb. Reasoning | -- | MATH &146 or PHIL &120 |
|----------------------------|----|------------------------|

## II. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

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|------------|----|--|
| Humanities | -- | CMST &101, &210, &220, ENGL &230, 276, PHIL 102, 115, 240, 248; World Language if required for university admission or graduation. |
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|------------------|----|--|
| Natural Sciences | -- | MATH &146 or PHIL &120 if not used on Q/SR |
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|                 |    |                                      |
|-----------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| Social Sciences | -- | POLS &101, &202, PSYC &100, SOC &101 |
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## III. GENERAL ELECTIVES

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|----|--|
| -- | World Language if required for university admission or graduation. |
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### Recommended Courses for Law Specializations:

**Business, Corporate or Tax Law:** ACCT &201-&203, ECON &201, &202, BUS &201, MATH 111, &148, 211

**Civil Rights Law:** MCS 105, AES 119, GWS, 284-286, 288, HIST &136, &137, &215, &246, &247, &256, SOC 288

**Criminal Law:** CJ &101, &106, &110, 120, 238, &240, 241, 242, SOC 112, &201

**Family and Juvenile Law:** GWS 285, PSYC &100, &200, 208, 210, &220, 245, SOC &101, &201, 250, SOC 112/CJ 112, CJ &106

**Environmental Law:** ENV5 &101, GEOG 203, 204, GEOL &101, HIST 218, OCEA &101

**International Law:** CMST 285, EASIA 215, HIST 215-218, ECON &201, &202, HIST 245, INTST 101, 200, 201, 205, MCS 210, POLS &203, 221

## What else should I consider?

Before choosing classes, become familiar with the four-year program where you want to apply: visit the website, email the department, and/or speak with a Shoreline advisor. Check with the school for world language requirements. (Non-native speakers of English are often exempt from this requirement.)

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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What colleges/universities are you considering?</li> <li>• What are the application requirements of these schools?</li> <li>• What are the general education requirements?</li> <li>• Is there a composition requirement beyond ENGL&amp; 101?</li> <li>• Is there a world language requirement?</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there distribution requirements? In what areas?</li> <li>• What major(s) are you considering?</li> <li>• What courses are required for those major?</li> <li>• What Shoreline courses correspond to requirements at your chosen four-year school(s)?</li> </ul> |
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**\*\* This unofficial guide is intended to support you as you prepare for your major. Please consult with an advisor and your chosen four-year school(s), as program and admissions requirements vary and may change without notice.**