

2019 Fall Class Suggestions for Pre-Law Students

These courses are SUGGESTIONS; they are NOT REQUIRED for pre-law students. Course details and descriptions based on most recent information provided by Illinois Course Explorer and are subject to change

Class Title	Credit Hours	Description	Recommended For
AAS 370/LLS 372: Immigration, Law, and Rights.	3 Hours	Exploration of the histories, cultures, and experiences of immigration to the United States by examining cultural production (literary and visual narratives and texts) alongside legal discourses (legislation, federal court cases)	Those interested in immigration law
ACE 240: Personal Financial Planning	3 Hours	Examines principles of financial planning applied to individuals and households, with attention to organizing and analyzing financial information, budgeting, acquiring financial assets, managing credit, planning for taxes, investments, risk management, retirement, and estate planning.	Those interested in a better understanding of personal finance issues
ACE 306: Food Law	3 Hours	Explores the legal and political dimensions of food law, policy and trade in the United States and major trading partners. Examines the development of major national and state laws that apply to production, distribution and retail sale of food. Evaluates current issues in food regulation, including: biotechnology, organics, health labeling claims, food safety and products liability litigation.	Those interested in food law and trade policy
ACE 406: Environmental Law	3 Hours	Examination of environmental law issues. Topics include common-law pollution control; role of administrative agencies and courts; federal and state power; air and water pollution; regulation of toxic substances; protection of land, soil and other natural resources	Those interested in environmental law
ADV 310: Intro to Public Relations	3 Hours	Introduces the student to the practice and profession of public relations. Course material covers topics such as the history of public relations, the role of law and ethics in public relations, and theories that guide public relations research and practice.	Those interested in PR and ethics
CHLH 100: Contemporary Health	3 Hours	Examines concepts of health and health promotion in contemporary society with emphasis on a healthy	Those interested in health law

		lifestyle for individuals and groups. Topics include self-care, health insurance, exercise, nutrition and weight control, sexuality, contraception, tobacco, alcohol, cardiovascular health, infectious diseases, and cancer.	
CHLH 101: Intro to Public Health	3 Hours	Introduction to the nation's public health system; includes an overview of the basic concepts and core functions of public health practice, the scope of applications, and the variety of service organizations (both public and private) that shape public health.	Those interested in health law
CMN 101: Public Speaking	3 Hours	Preparation and presentation of short informative and persuasive speeches; emphasis on the selection and organization of material, methods of securing interest and attention, and the elements of delivery	Everyone considering law school
CMN 211: Business Communication	3 Hours	Focus on relevant theory and research on communication strategies and skills vital to diverse business contexts. Topics include personal branding and self-marketing; job interviewing basics; business ethics; business writing; networking; professional etiquette and behaviors; and business presentations	Those considering corporate law
CMN 321: Strategies of Persuasion	3 Hours	Studies of powerful instances of public persuasion; students examine key means of public influence.	Everyone considering law school
CMN 323: Argumentation	3 Hours	Study of the theory of argument, e.g., evidence, reasoning, and construction of briefs; practice in formal and informal forms of debate and public discourse on current public questions.	Everyone considering law school
ECON 484: Law and Economics	3 Hours	Applications of economic theory to problems and issues in both civil and criminal law and the effect of legal rules on the allocation of resources; includes property rights, liability and negligence assignment, the use of administrative and common law to mitigate market failure, and the logic of private versus public law enforcement.	Those with a strong interest in economic theory who are planning to go to law school
EDUC 202: Social Justice, School & Society	3 Hours	Examines the nature of justice and the dynamics of a pluralistic society to derive a conception of social justice. Working with this conception, it asks	Those interested in public interest law

		how schools function to perpetuate and/or remediate social injustice.	
ENGL 360: Environmental Writing	3 Hours	Equips students to write about the environment for various audiences, with a focus on specific current efforts to promote sustainability on the Urbana-Champaign campus.	Building writing skills; those interested in environmental law
ESE 210: Social & Environmental Issues	3 Hours	Introduction to the complex relationship between people and the natural environment from a social science perspective.	Those interested in environmental law
ESE 466: Environmental Policy	3 Hours	Examination of the geographical and political aspects of human-environmental relations; focusing on how environmental problems are defined, negotiated, and addressed through policy formulation.	Those interested in environmental law
FIN 241: Fundamentals of Real Estate	3 Hours	A survey of real estate finance, appraisal, investment, law, brokerage, management, development and economics. Special attention is given to the analysis of aggregate real estate and mortgage markets, to the individual transactions within these markets, and to the legal and institutional factors which affect these markets.	Those interested in real estate law
FSHN 101: Intro to Food Science & Nutrition	3 Hours	Discusses the evolution of the food system to meet the needs and desires of a complex, heterogeneous society. Provides an overview of food in relation to nutrition and health, composition and chemistry, microbiology, safety, processing, preservation, laws and regulations, quality, and the consumer.	Those interested in food law and regulation
GEOG 101: Global Development & Environment	3 Hours	Introduces geographical perspectives on environment and development studies with case studies drawn from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Investigates the origins of the global South in relation to the global North, especially the historical and contemporary processes driving environmental, economic, and cultural change.	Those interested in international and environmental law
GEOG 210: Social & Environmental Issues	3 Hours	Introduction to the complex relationship between people and the natural environment from a social science perspective. Explores different approaches to environmental issues, and examines the role of population change, political economy,	Those interested in environmental law

		technologies, environmental policymaking, and social institutions in causing and resolving contemporary social and environmental global issues.	
GLBL 100: Intro to Global Studies	3 Hours	Foundation course for understanding a range of contemporary issues and learning to analyze them from multiple disciplinary perspectives. Students consider globalizing trends within themes of wealth and poverty; population, cultures, and human rights; environment and sustainability; and governance, conflict, and cooperation	Those interested in international law
GWS 387/HIST 387: History of Sexuality in the U.S	3 Hours	Explores a wide variety of sources to understand how notions of sexuality have emerged and been contested at key moments in U.S. history.	Those interested in discrimination law
INFO 303: Writing Across Media	3 Hours	The ability to communicate effectively in multiple types of media is a crucial part of literacy in our society. In this course, students will explore the intersections of various media: print, film, images, sound, etc. Students will consider the ways in which writing--as an object and as a practice--is shaped by multimodal interactions.	Building writing skills
LAW 301: Introduction to Law	2 or 3 Hours	Guides the undergraduate student in an initial study of law and legal reasoning. Covers the nature and function of rules/law, the distinctiveness of legal reasoning, and the way in which law responds to social phenomena and contributes to the development of different social, business and economic institutions.	All students interested in law school
LER 100: Introduction to Labor Studies	3 Hours	Provides an overview of workers and unions in American society. Looks at economic, political, and workplace issues facing working people, why and how workers join unions, how unions are structured and function, and how unions and management bargain a contract.	Those interested in labor law
LER 290: Introduction to Employment Law	3 Hours	Addresses and critiques the content, interpretation, and applications of the laws that govern employer-employee relations in the American workplace.	Those interested in employment law
LER 320: Gender, Race, Class, and Work	3 Hours	Provides a historical and contemporary overview of the impact and interplay of gender, race, class	Those interested in labor/employment discrimination law

		and other issues of identity in the workplace.	
PHIL 102: Logic & Reasoning	3 Hours	Practical study of logical reasoning; techniques for analyzing and criticizing arguments, with emphasis on assessing the logical coherence of what we read and write.	Those planning on taking the LSAT and going to law school
PHIL 104/105: Intro to Ethics	3 Hours	Some basic questions of ethics, discussed in the light of influential ethical theories and with reference to specific moral problems	Anyone planning on going to law school
PHIL 436: Philosophy of Law and of the State	3 Hours	Examination of issues in the philosophy of law, such as the nature of law, law and morality, justice, liberty and authority, punishment, and legal responsibility.	Those interested in learning more about the nature of laws and justice
PS 101: Intro to US Government & Politics	3 Hours	Examines the organization and development of national, state, and local governments in the U.S.; the federal system; the U.S. Constitutions; civil and political rights; the party system; and the nature, structure, powers, and procedures of national political institutions.	Those interested in going to law school
PS 199: Politics, Power and Protest	3 Hours	Study of how political institutions and laws can be both the vehicle and target of social and political transformation.	Those interested in learning about laws as vehicles for change
PS 220: Intro to Public Policy	3 Hours	Surveys the policy process including adoption, implementation, and evaluation. Topics may include reviews of substantive policy issues such as crime, energy, environment, poverty, foreign policy, civil liberties, or economic regulation.	Those planning on practicing in a variety of public interest areas
PS 225: Environmental Politics & Policy	3 Hours	Examinations of the political, economic, ecological, and cultural trade-offs between the use and the preservation of the environment, with particular emphasis on the preservation of land and water resources in national parks, forests, and other reserved lands.	Those interested in environmental law
PS 280: Intro to International Relations	3 Hours	Structure and processes of international relations, trends in international politics, and the future of the international system.	Those interested in international law
PS 301/302: US Constitution I & II	3 Hours	Analyzes issues related to judicial interpretation of the constitution; the separation of governmental powers; federalism; checks and balances among the three branches of the	Anyone planning on attending law school – provides “background

		national government; and the jurisdiction of federal courts.	knowledge” of the US legal system
PS 306: Judicial Politics	3 Hours	Introduction to the study of courts and judges as political institutions and actors. Focuses primarily on federal courts in the United States, but also covers courts in the American states	Those interested in learning more about the US judicial system
PS 313: Congress and Foreign Policy	3 Hours	Examines cases of foreign-policy making over 100 years with a focus on the struggle between the legislative and executive branches, constitutional questions, explanations for changes in behavior, and the impact on democratic process.	Those interested in the way the US determines and conducts foreign policy
PS 329: Immigration & Citizenship	3 Hours	Examination of the conceptual issues associated with citizenship and immigration, considering current political debates from a variety of perspectives: empirical, historical, and normative.	Those interested in immigration law
PS 491: Internship with the Champaign County Public Defender's Office	3 Hours	Students follow a program of study and research related to an approved internship under the direction of the internship director and/or a faculty sponsor.	Those interested in practicing criminal law
PSYC 468: Psych and Law	3 Hours	Examines relationship of the administrative, civil, and criminal justice systems to educational and mental health institutions; individual rights, social issues, and psychological well-being.	Those interested in practicing criminal law
SOC 275: Criminology	3 Hours	Nature and extent of crime; past and present theories of crime causation; criminal behavior in the United States and abroad, and its relation to personal, structural and cultural conditions; the nature of the criminal justice system and the influences of the exercise of discretion among actors in the criminal justice system.	Those interested in practicing criminal law
SOC 378: Sociology of Law	3 Hours	Examination of law and legal institutions sociologically. We begin with an introduction to theoretical perspectives on the problem of order, illustrated by juxtaposing formal law with other means of achieving order.	Those interested in learning more about the sociology of legal institutions
SOCW 200: Intro to Social Work	3 Hours	Broad survey of the field of social work; introduction to social services, social welfare organizations, major social problems and target population groups, and the methods used in	Those interested in public interest law as it relates to serving economically

		working with individuals, groups, and communities	disadvantaged individuals
JOUR 199: Free Speech & the Right to Offend	3 Hours	Free Speech and the Right to be Offensive What is the law of Hate Speech? Cross Burning? Flag Burning? Can you say the F-word? the N-Word? Can a judge or the government do anything about it?	Those interested in learning more about the 1 st Amendment and “free speech”
JOUR 311: Media Law	3 Hours	Detailed analysis of the theories of freedom of expression, the legal doctrines of greatest concern to mass communicators, and contemporary issues related to free speech and press, including libel, copyright, and news-gathering in a digital age.	Those interested in learning about issues related to free speech and press, including libel and copyright issues
RST 354: Legal Aspects of Sport	3 Hours	A study of legal principles and their impact on the sport industry; the course examines the application of different areas of law including tort, contract, constitutional, anti-trust, and intellectual property law to professional, amateur and recreational sport.	Those interested in sports and entertainment law
SE 400: Engineering Law	3 Hours	Nature and development of the legal system; legal rights and duties important to engineers in their professions; contracts, uniform commercial code and sales of goods, torts, agency, worker's compensation, labor law, property, environmental law, intellectual property.	Those interested in intellectual property law
TE 450: Startups: Incorporate, Fund, Contracts, Intellectual Property	3 Hours	Explore legal tools used in constructing and operating companies.	Those interested in corporate law
UP 211: Local Planning, Government and Law	3 Hours	Provides students with a basic understanding of the governmental structure, legal aspects, and practice of local municipal planning, with special emphasis on case law, constitutional principles, zoning, subdivision regulations and comprehensive planning.	Those interested in local government law