What you can do with your
LEGAL STUDIES MAJOR

Major Skills:

Global and Intercultural Competency
You understand and learn from legal systems in the US and in other countries and cultures; you understand how legal systems impact individuals from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, religions, and socioeconomic classes.

Analytical & Creative Thinking
You apply systematic and organized thinking to just about any problem; you draw your own conclusions and make your own arguments about complex social, political, and legal issues.

Writing for Various Purposes and Audiences
You identify audience, viewpoints, appropriate style, and evidence to present and justify ideas and arguments about what shapes law and legal systems; you use attention to detail to proofread and revise legal writing and communicate complex ideas, even to those unfamiliar with legal languages.

Research
You find and filter information to determine the best, most credible sources, comprehend complex written ideas and understand the context behind legal decisions, use evidence to support arguments, and summarize information to explain clearly and concisely.

Public Speaking and Oral Communication
You craft succinct arguments that classify, explain, or exemplify all manner of details; you summarize, synthesize, and communicate clearly and effectively in various situations.

Professionalism and Work Ethic
You demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits, both individually and with others; you demonstrate integrity and ethical behavior and act responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind.

Supplement Your Skills With:

Global & Intercultural Experience (Study or Internships Abroad)
Leadership, Volunteering, Internships, and Mentoring Programs
Experience Fostering Professional Equity & Inclusion
Career & Self Development

Chart Your Path Forward
Activate Your Handshake Account for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.
Explore Career Communities to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your major into success.
Get Career & Internship Advising from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu
Put your Legal Studies major to WORK

Frequent Job Titles of Alumni:
- Attorney
- Paralegal/ Legal Assistant
- Account Executive/ Manager
- Counsel
- Director
- Law Clerk
- Consultant
- Project Manager
- CEO
- Business Owner
- Owner
- Police Officer
- AbbVie
- Amazon
- American Family Insurance
- Axley Attorneys
- Charles Schwab
- Compeer Financial
- CUNA Mutual Group
- Epic
- Exact Sciences
- Godfrey & Khan, S.C.
- Google
- Hennepin County
- Latham & Watkins
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Northwestern Mutual
- Quarles & Brady LLP
- State of Wisconsin
- University of Wisconsin
- UW Health
- Wisconsin Army National Guard

Top Employers of Alumni

Recent Grads’ Career Plans
2016-2021:
- 60% Employment
- 35% Continuing Education or Grad School
- 5% Military, Volunteer Service, or Other

Industry of Employment:
- Legal and Law Enforcement
- Government
- Insurance
- Non-Profit
- Education
- Information Technology
- Finance
- Healthcare
- Hospitality
- Retail and Consumer Goods
- Military

Where Alumni Live & Work:
- 45% Wisconsin
- 13% Illinois
- 8% Minnesota
- 5% New York
- 5% California
- 2% Colorado
- 22% Other

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Legal Studies majors can start.

Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law
Non-Profit Management & Education
Consulting, Management, Finance, and Client Relations
Tech, Data & Analytics

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

“Majoring in Legal Studies provided the foundational skills I needed to accelerate my career. The Legal Studies major taught me how to properly research by utilizing and interpreting different resources. It also taught me how to analyze masses of information, interpret it, and produce a concise and persuasive argument. Both of these skills are extremely valuable and used daily in my career as a contract manager for Mayo Clinic.”
Samantha Francis, 2017
Contract Manager, Mayo Clinic
Madison, WI

“Legal Studies courses equipped me with the necessary knowledge to understand the criminal legal system, so I could work with cross-disciplinary leaders to effect change across the system. From interviewing courses to Sociology of Gender, my major also prepared me to serve the diverse population that interfaces with the criminal legal system every day.”
Erin Perkins, 2008
Project Manager, Milwaukee Community Justice Council
Milwaukee, WI

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