

Social Sciences

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Social Sciences Web Site (<https://www.etamu.edu/social-sciences/>)

The mission of the Department of Social Sciences is to provide quality learning experiences to equip students with social, intellectual, leadership, and critical thinking skills, preparing them for a global and diverse society.

The department offers several majors which prepare students for entry into a variety of careers or graduate professional study. In addition to a major and minor in sociology, students may select a broadfield major in criminal justice or a minor in criminal justice.

Although most courses are offered every semester (not including summer sessions), particular courses in sociology and criminal justice are offered alternating semesters. Please note the courses denoted with (1) are offered only during the fall semester, and those denoted with (2) are offered only during the spring semester.

- Courses transferred in from a Community College cannot count for a 300-400 level course.
- Fifteen Semester Hours in the major must be taken at East Texas A&M University.
- All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher.

Social Science offers the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, and Master of Science degrees in political science as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in paralegal studies. It also serves as the academic home for the Legal Studies Program that provides students interested in law school an Emphasis in Legal Studies appropriate for law school preparation and the Latin American and Latino American Studies Program that offers a minor.

Students seeking a bachelor's degree in the following major must complete:

1. Degree requirements for a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree, and
2. Core Curriculum Requirements (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/core-curriculum-requirements/>) (refer to those sections of this catalog).

In addition to the core curriculum requirements (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/core-curriculum-requirements/>), at the undergraduate level the department requires that all students take PSCI 347: Introduction to Research Methods and the department's capstone PSCI 488: Contemporary Ideas. Students seeking the Bachelor of Science degree are also responsible for PSCI 348: Applied Data Analysis in lieu of the language requirements for the Bachelor of Arts. Students then choose courses from five broad subject areas in the discipline: Political Theory and Philosophy, Public Policy, American Politics, International Relations, and Comparative Politics. Students seeking the BA or BS in Paralegal Studies take six required courses and then a series of electives to fulfill their semester credit hour requirements and develop expertise in their chosen career path. No political science course grade lower than a "C" will count toward a major, second major, or minor.

Regardless of the path that students choose toward their degree, students will effectively develop competencies in critical and analytical thinking, communication (both oral and written), and a deeper understanding of their own roles as students, citizens, human beings, and the responsibilities that each of these entail. In addition, students will master content and ideas particular to their chosen field of study.

As a traditional "liberal arts" degree, the bachelor's in political science prepares students for a variety of careers in both the public and private sectors.

These opportunities include business, education, public advocacy groups, non-governmental organizations, intelligence service, journalism, lobbying, the foreign service, and the legal profession (this list is not exhaustive—there are many more areas in which a degree in political science is helpful). For those students who desire to continue their academic training, the undergraduate program in political science helps to prepare them for graduate work or law school.

Criminal Justice B.A.C.J./B.S.C.J. (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/sociology-criminal-justice/criminal-justice-bacj-bscj/>)

Criminal Justice Second Major (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/sociology-criminal-justice/criminal-justice-second-major/>)

Paralegal Studies B.A./B.S. (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/paralegal-studies-major/>)

Paralegal Studies Second Major (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/paralegal-studies-second-major/>)

Political Science B.A./B.S. (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/political-science-ba-bs/>)

Political Science Second Major (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/political-science-second-major/>)

Political Science B.A./B.S. - Legal Studies Emphasis (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/political-science-ba-bs-legal-studies-emphasis/>)

Sociology B.A./B.S. (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/sociology-criminal-justice/sociology-ba-bs/>)

Criminal Justice Minor (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/sociology-criminal-justice/criminal-justice-minor/>)

Latin American US Latino Studies Minor (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/minor-in-latin-american-us-latino-studies/>)

Legal Studies Minor (https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/legal_studies/)

Political Science Minor (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/political-science/political-science-minor/>)

Sociology Minor (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/humanities-social-sciences-arts/sociology-criminal-justice/sociology-minor/>)

ANTH 2351 - World Cultures: Perspectives from Anthropology

Hours: 3

This course introduces major concepts, theoretical frameworks and research methods of cultural anthropology. We will examine societies from small-scale foraging bands to complex societies; students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends and symptoms). A range of topics will be addressed from a global perspective including, social, economic and political development and underdevelopment; marriage, religion, gender, and language. In addition to examining the diversity of human cultures', students will be able to apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics. Through cross-cultural study students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

CJ 1301 - Introduction to Criminal Justice

Hours: 3

This course provides a historical, philosophical, ethical, and practical overview of the American criminal justice system. It focuses on the nature and defining of crime, its impact on society, and the processes of the justice agencies - law enforcement, courts, and corrections.

CJ 1306 - Courts and Criminal Procedure

Hours: 3

(CRIJ 1306) A survey of federal, state, and local judicial systems with an emphasis on pretrial, trial, and appellate criminal procedure. A description of court structures and roles of the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, juries, and other court personnel. Prerequisites: CJ 1301 or equivalent.

CJ 1307 - Crime in America

Hours: 3

American crime problems are studied in the historical perspective. Social and public policy factors affecting crime are discussed. The impact of crime and crime trends are shown along with the social characteristics of specific crimes. The prevention of crime is emphasized.

CJ 1310 - Fundamentals of Criminal Law

Hours: 3

This course is the study of criminal law including application of definitions, statutory elements, defenses and penalties using Texas statutes, the Model Penal Code, and case law. The course also analyzes the philosophical and historical development of criminal law and criminal culpability. Prerequisites: CJ 1301 with a minimum grade of C.

CJ 1313 - Juvenile Justice System

Hours: 3

An overview of the American juvenile justice system with an emphasis on contemporary themes of its different aspects including school violence and drugs. It will explore the juvenile justice system from arrest through intake, prosecution, adjudication, and dispositions. It will also cover the organization, processes, and functions of the juvenile justice system in the United States, its historical antecedents, and contemporary challenges. Consideration is also given to sociopolitical factors in juvenile justice decision-making including surveys of juvenile law and a comparative analysis of adult and juvenile justice systems. Prerequisites: CJ 1301 with a minimum grade of C or SOC 1301 with a minimum grade of C.

CJ 2301 - Community-Based Corrections

Hours: 3

A study of probation, parole, diversion, pre-trial release, and intermediate sanctions. A critical analysis of the statutes and policies relating to the administration of community-based correctional programs. Prerequisites: CJ 1301 with a minimum grade of C.

CJ 2313 - Correctional Systems

Hours: 3

A theoretical, historical, and pragmatic overview of institutional corrections, including the administration, design, and organization of adult prisons and jails and juvenile detention facilities and reformatories. An examination of punishment and treatment philosophies and objectives. Prerequisites: CJ 1301 with a minimum grade of C or equivalent.

CJ 2314 - Criminal Investigation

Hours: 3

An examination of theories and practices of the investigation process in the criminal justice system. An analysis of information and application of operational techniques relating to crime scenes, forensic sciences, interviews, and interrogations. A study of issues concerning rules of evidence, trial testimony, and other constitutional processes.

CJ 2323 - Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement

Hours: 3

This course covers police authority, responsibilities, and constitutional constraints. Topics include laws of arrest, search and seizure, and police liability.

CJ 2328 - Police Systems & Practices

Hours: 3

This course examines in a general survey format the establishment and functioning of law enforcement in a democratic society. The course will focus on types of police agencies, their organizational structure, administration, police ethics, use of authority and police-community interaction.

CJ 302 - Detection and Investigation

Hours: 3

This course presents methods of gathering and evaluating information (evidence) related to criminal acts, while focusing on the fundamentals and techniques of investigation, the organization and management of the investigative process. A major focus of this course is on the knowledge and skills necessary for law enforcement investigations, while covering preparation and presentation of evidence; and addressing professional standards and ethics. Prerequisites: None.

CJ 326 - Juvenile Delinquency

Hours: 3

The study of the nature, extent, causation, treatment, and prevention of juvenile delinquency. Prerequisite: CJ 1301 with a minimum grade of C.

CJ 328 - Juvenile Justice System

Hours: 3

An overview of the American juvenile justice system with an emphasis on contemporary themes of its different aspects including school violence and drugs. It will explore the juvenile justice system from arrest through intake, prosecution, adjudication, and dispositions. It will also cover the organization, processes, and functions of the juvenile justice system in the United States, its historical antecedents, and contemporary challenges. Consideration is also given to sociopolitical factors in juvenile justice decision-making including surveys of juvenile law and a comparative analysis of adult and juvenile justice systems. Prerequisites: CJ 1301 or SOC 1301.

CJ 330 - Criminology

Hours: 3

The focus of this course is on criminological theories as they address the causation of criminal or deviant behavior. An examination of a range of criminological theories as they point out several explanations grounded in sociological, psychological, and biological perspectives. Prerequisites: CJ 1301; CJ 1306 and/or CJ 1310 and earning at minimum a C grade in each of these courses.

CJ 337 - Statistics for Criminal Justice

Hours: 4

This online course is designed to provide students with a practical, applied approach to understanding the introductory fundamentals of descriptive and inferential statistics and the vital role that research and statistics play in the study of criminology and criminal justice. Students will explore various types of data used within criminal justice and the fundamentals of elementary statistical analysis including the appropriate use of data, limits of various data methods, how data is collected and how to interpret findings. Students will be provided with numerous opportunities to practice statistical analysis and interpretation by using SPSS with real data, including subsets of data from the National Crime Victimization Survey, Monitoring the Future, and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Prerequisites: SOC 1301 or SOC 111, and SOC 331 or SWK 350 and MATH 1314 or Math 141, or MATH 1324 or Math 179.

CJ 340 - CJ Policy and Practice

Hours: 3

This course will evaluate various policy dimensions of crime and criminal justice. Students will learn the process through which policy is made, will critically evaluate current criminal justice policies, and will study the impact of policy decisions on criminal justice practice. Prerequisites: CJ 1301.

CJ 360 - Mass Media and Crime

Hours: 3

This course examines the media's effects on perceptions of crime and justice in America. An examination is performed on media-generated crime and criminal justice policies. An example of media-generated crime would be when politicians/media "emphasize" a problem to essentially "create" a crime or crime wave. A discussion of the effect of social constructionism and the ability of the various types of media to create a new type of crime will occur. An investigation of the impact of various types of media (radio, television, motion pictures, records, and printed sources, etc.) on criminals, crime fighters, and the courts will be conducted. An example of criminal topics to be discussed is the drug problem, sex offenders, murders, etc.

CJ 383 - CJ Administration and Mgmt

Hours: 3

Criminal Justice Administration and Management - Three semester hours The study of criminal justice administration (i.e., police, courts, and corrections) with special emphasis on applying theoretical concepts to practical planning and application, including the policy-making process, implementation of new policy, and policy assessment. Pre-requisite: CJ 101

CJ 384 - Terrorism

Hours: 3

The course provides various meanings and interpretations of terrorism as a unique form of violence in human society. It identifies various forms of types of terrorism such as one based on suicide. The course also explores a variety of theoretical as well as empirically based explanations, and preventive strategies for terrorism around the globe along with their relevance to the American criminal justice system

CJ 390 - White-Collar Crime

Hours: 3

White-Collar Crime. Three hours. This course examines the theories, ideas, nature and scope that are dominant in the field of white-collar crime. An examination of the structural foundation of occupational, political, and organization/corporate crimes, with some comparison with street (predatory) type crimes will occur in this class. Multi-level responses and forms of intervention will also be discussed.

CJ 397 - Special Topic

Hours: 0-4

Special Topics. Three semester hours. Organized class. May be repeated when topics vary.

CJ 420 - Crime Profiling

Hours: 3

Crime Profiling. Three semester hours This course examines various types of crimes, in terms of offender profile, victim profile and situational elements, using both national crime and victimization data. Within each crime typology, data are utilized to examine the characteristics of the most likely offender, and the circumstances under which the crime is most likely to be committed. Pertinent theories are examined, relating to both the crimes and offenders, by types of crimes. Responses to each type by law enforcement agencies are also discussed.

CJ 430 - CJ Policy and Practice

Hours: 3

This course will evaluate various policy dimensions of crime and criminal justice. Students will learn the process through which policy is made, will critically evaluate current criminal justice policies, and will study the impact of policy decisions on criminal justice practice. Prerequisite: CJ 1301.

CJ 431 - Law and the Courts

Hours: 3

This course is an advanced approach which focuses on a combined examination of the criminal justice system highlighting the principles and nature of criminal law; while examining the operation of the American Court system at the federal, state, and local judicial levels. This course examines the court system working group(s) and the development of criminal law as it impacts society. Prerequisites: CJ 1306 and/or CJ 1310 and earning at minimum a C in each of these courses.

CJ 468 - Institutional (jails, prisons) and Community Corrections

Hours: 3

This course is an examination of punishment and treatment objectives as they describe the functioning of institutional entities such as jails and prisons; while connecting these institutions to the operations of community corrections (including probation and parole systems). A connected investigation of the complete correctional system including from maximum punishment to minimum community type institutions. Prerequisites: CJ 1301; CJ 1306 and/or CJ 1310 and earning at minimum a C in each of these courses.

CJ 469 - Victimology

Hours: 3

This course will present a number of different definitions of Victimology to include early theorists and recent theories as to the causes of victimization. Methods of reporting crimes, both official (government) and unofficial reports will be examined including the Uniform Crime Report (UCR). The course will offer an examination of the criminal and civil process as it relates to victims. It explains the impact of crime on victims; a global perspective of victimization; and responses to victimization.

CJ 470 - Criminal Justice Internship I

Hours: 3

Criminal Justice Internship I. Three semester hours. An academically based work experience within selected agencies of the criminal justice system. The purpose of the internship is to provide an arena for the application of classroom principles within the context of the day to day reality of the criminal justice system. The internship includes field supervision as well as classroom experiences. Prerequisites: Junior standing with 12 hours in criminology, law enforcement, and permission of the instructor. NOTE: Students with previous work experience within the criminal justice system are not eligible.

CJ 479 - Offender Reentry

Hours: 3

Offender reentry is the process of transitioning offenders from prison/jail to the community. This course will provide students with an in-depth analysis of the issues impacting successful offender reentry, including employment, drug treatment, family reunification, and housing issues. In addition, this course will educate students about barriers and impediments to offender reentry such as voter disenfranchisement. Prerequisites: CJ 1301.

CJ 480 - Senior Sem in Criminal Justice

Hours: 3

A review and discussion of significant current research and case studies in the criminal justice field. Examination and application of methods of transferring theoretical perspectives, knowledge, and skills from academics to the work environment. An overview of career opportunities, resume preparation, and job interviewing skills. Prerequisite: CJ 1301, declaration as a Criminal Justice major, and completion of at least 90 semester hours.

CJ 488 - Ethics in Criminal Justice

Hours: 3

Ethics in Criminal Justice. Three semester hours. A review of ethical theories and their application to the fields of law enforcement, courts, and corrections. The development of ethical reasoning, familiarity of professional standards and codes of ethics, and resolution of complex ethical dilemmas.

CJ 489 - Independent Study

Hours: 1-4

Independent Study. One to four semester hours. Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated when the topic varies. Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

CJ 490 - Honors Thesis

Hours: 3

CJ 491 - Honors Reading

Hours: 3

CJ 497 - Special Topics

Hours: 3

Special Topics. Three semester hours. Organized class. May be repeated when topics vary.

COH 112 - Scholastic Enhancement

Hours: 1

This course assists students in refining approaches and practices that can lead to enhanced scholastic success in college-level classes and academic activities.

GOV 323 - Internat Politics

Hours: 3

GOV 324 - Internat Organiza

Hours: 3

GOV 330 - Modern Euro Govs

Hours: 3

LAC 497 - Special Topics

Hours: 1-4

LALS 101 - Introduction to Latin American & US Latino Studies

Hours: 3

This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of Latin America and the Latin American Diaspora in the United States, as manifested through politics, history, language, the arts, literature, economics, and social realities. Students will be exposed to the principal themes and methodologies of Latin American and U.S. Latino Studies, by synthesizing contributions from various disciplines. The course emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration across various fields of study and provides students with a basic knowledge base for understanding Latin America and Latinas in the United States in both a contemporary and historical perspective.

PA 330 - Introduction to Public Administration

Hours: 3

Principles and problems of public administration in America. Special attention is given to the problems of democratic control and the development of basic concepts of the field.

PA 333 - Leadership in Public Administration

Hours: 3

The study of public organizations' managerial functions, processes, ethics, and practices. Topics may include goals, objectives, policies, organizational structures, leadership, and decision-making theory and practice in public organizations.

PA 350 - Public Budgeting and Financial Management

Hours: 3

An analysis of public budgeting at the national, state, and local levels of government, including the relationship of the federal budget to fiscal policy. The politics of the budgetary process and various types of budgets are examined.

PA 360 - Ethics in Public Administration

Hours: 3

This course examines the public good relative to public service, including ethical decision-making and professional responsibility.

PA 380 - Ethics in Public Administration

Hours: 3

This course examines the public good relative to public service, including ethical decision-making and professional responsibility.

PA 390 - Administrative Law

Hours: 3

The study of administrative agencies, their rule-making powers, adjudicatory functions, and judicial control over such agencies. Areas covered include the scope of administrative power, judicial review, regulatory law, due process, and personal liability of public servants.

PA 470 - Internship

Hours: 3

Practical public administration experience under the direction of an experienced public administrator in an agency. Faculty supervision and a final administrative report are required.

PLGL 222 - Introduction to Law

Hours: 3

This course provides an overview of the law and the legal system. Topics include basic legal concepts and terminology in various areas of the law; structure, jurisdictions, functions, practices, and political impact of the judicial system at the local, state, and national levels; current issues in law; and ethical obligations of the paralegal. Prerequisites: PSCI 2305 with a minimum grade of C or PSCI 2306 with a minimum grade of C.

PLGL 223 - Legal Research

Hours: 3

This course is designed to aid the beginning student in acquiring and enhancing legal research skills. Topics covered include the techniques of legal research and writing, sources of the law and how each can be found; case analysis, legal citation, and legal bibliography; and ethical obligations of the paralegal in legal research. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 or concurrent enrollment or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 310 - Law Office Management

Hours: 3

This course is designed to acquaint the paralegal student with the fundamentals of law office management and organization. Topics include the organization and utilization of support personnel, time and billing systems, budgets, case and file management, calendaring and docket control, accounting systems, marketing, legal computer applications, ethical obligations of the paralegal in a law office, and career opportunities for paralegals. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and PLGL 223 or concurrent enrollment or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 311 - Constitutional Law for Paralegals

Hours: 3

This course is designed as an introduction to U.S. constitutional law for the paralegal student. Topics include federal governmental powers and the limitation of those powers, federalism, due process, Bill of Rights, and individual rights under the Constitution. Attention is given to the connection between everyday paralegal experiences and constitutional law. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and PLGL 223 with a minimum grade of C.

PLGL 312 - Bankruptcy For Paralegals

Hours: 3

This course introduces the student to bankruptcy law with emphasis on the paralegal's role. Topics include individuals and business liquidation and reorganization, debtor's and creditor's rights, litigation proceedings in bankruptcy court, legal concepts and terminology relating to bankruptcy law, ethical considerations for paralegals working in this area, and current computer applications utilized in bankruptcy practice. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 321 - Probate

Hours: 3

This course provides the student with a basic understanding of Texas Probate code and forms of administration of decedents' estates and guardianship. Topics include preparation of probate and litigation documents, inventories, claims against estates, annual and final accountings, introduction to will contest proceedings, county and district court filings, and ethical obligations and professional responsibilities of the paralegal working in this area. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 322 - Civil Procedure

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure while also giving students experience in the aspects of civil litigation in which a paralegal would be involved before trial. The student is introduced to rules regarding commencement of suits, citation, and pre-trial proceedings. The course also has a practical element requiring students to draft a petition, draft all types of discovery, and summarize a deposition. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 323 - Business Law for Paralegals

Hours: 3

This course provides the paralegal student with a basic and thorough understanding of laws governing the creation and operation of businesses. Topics covered include the formation of business entities (including sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, and other business structures), corporate filings, minute book preparation, ethical obligations of the paralegal working in this field, and computer applications being utilized in corporate law practice. Practical skills are emphasized through assigned drafting and formation projects. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 324 - Criminal Law & Procedure

Hours: 3

Criminal Law and Procedure. Three semester hours. This course presents the Texas Penal Code and Texas Rules of Criminal procedure. Topics include review of the criminal justice system, stages in criminal prosecution, investigation procedures, legal rights of the accused; documents preparation, ethical obligations of the paralegal working in criminal law practice, and the application of computer applications in criminal proceedings. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 325 - Family Law

Hours: 3

This course is structured around the study of the Texas Family Code, including the principles of divorce, annulment, and suit to declare marriages void, with an overview of child custody and property division. Students are exposed through practical assignments to the legal aspects of marriage/other relationships, duties and liabilities of husband/wife/children, child custody and support, adoption, guardianship, public records research, and the paralegal's role in alternative dispute resolution/mediation processes. Additional topics covered include ethical obligations, family law terminology, and application of electronic resources in family law practice. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 328 - Real Estate Law for Paralegals

Hours: 3

This course focuses on legal principles governing real estate transactions, with particular attention to sales contracts, deeds, mortgages, title insurance, and Texas community property and homestead laws. Emphasis is on the practical skills needed by paralegals to perform all types of real estate transactions, ethical considerations for a paralegal working in this area, and emerging computer applications and resources in real estate practice. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 426 - Paralegal Internship

Hours: 3

Basic internship for paralegals who lack experience in the legal field. Course integrates practical experience with the student's academic program through supervised work in an appropriate legal environment. Requires a minimum of 160 working hours. Prerequisites: Completion of at least 18 hours of paralegal specialty courses, not including PLGL 311, and consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 427 - Torts and Personal Injury Law

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the fundamental common law and statutory concepts of tort law, with emphasis on the paralegal's role. Topics include intentional torts, negligence, strict liability, products liability, medical malpractice, special tort actions, including mass torts, immunities, and commonly employed defenses, and paralegal ethics. The course has a practical element requiring students to draft documents, such as a petition and motion for summary judgment, in addition to briefing cases. Students will become familiar with computer applications used in a torts practice. Prerequisites: PLGL 222 and 223 with a minimum grade of C, or consent of the program coordinator.

PLGL 497 - Special Topic

Hours: 3

Organized class. May be repeated when topics vary.

PSCI 2301 - Princ of US and Tex Gov

Hours: 3

Principles of United States and Texas Government. Three semester hours A survey of the underlying ideas, principles, and participatory practices of constitutional government in the United States and Texas. Topics considered include civil liberties and civil rights, constitutionalism, federalism, ideology, pluralism, political culture and socialization, political parties and interest groups, public opinion, republicanism, and voting and electoral politics.

PSCI 2305 - United States Government and Politics

Hours: 3

Designed to introduce the students to the principles and function of the government of the United States, this course examines the principles underlying the development of the U.S. Constitution, the operations of the U.S. government under the Constitution, and the opportunities and constraints imposed by and on the political system in the U.S. Topics to be covered include the philosophical preconditions of the American experiment in self-government with justice, the documentary history of American government, the actual function and practice of government under the Constitution, and the actors engaged in the American political system.

PSCI 2306 - Texas Government and Politics

Hours: 3

This course is a survey of the principles and practice of the political system in Texas. In addition to examining the state constitution and the institutions that it empowers, a wider look is taken to consider local governments, the political system, and the actors in the political system.

PSCI 205 - Applied Professional Ethics

Hours: 3

This course is designed to provide the student with the basic understanding of ethics across a variety of contexts using a multidisciplinary approach. Topics will include ethical theories, professional codes of ethics, and applications of ethics in a variety of professions.

PSCI 213 - Introduction to Political Philosophy

Hours: 3

Ultimately, political philosophy is an exploration of human nature and the way in which certain understandings about human nature inform the search for the political and social order best suited to maximize human potential. As the oldest of the social sciences, political philosophy is ultimately concerned with the issue of human happiness--how should one live in order to achieve it; and what social and political order is most conducive to individual and community happiness. Topics may include discussions of human nature, justice, conceptions of community, types of regimes, human rights, ethics, morality and moral order, and the way understandings of human nature inform the conceptions of the origins and shape of political and social order, etc.

PSCI 249 - Politics and Sports

Hours: 3

This course will analyze political, social, historical and cultural issues that are bound to sports, sporting events and athletes within and among various nation-states. Topics are organized thematically and chronologically, providing an overview of the numerous connections between politics and sports. The course analyzes specific political issues such as race, ethnicity, religion, economics, gender and masculinity that have emerged in sports such as soccer, baseball, American football, boxing and international events including the Olympic Games and the FIFA World Cup. Prerequisites: None.

PSCI 313 - Intro to Comp Politics

Hours: 3

Introduction and survey of the structures and processes of political institutions in major types of political systems in the world. These include parliamentary systems, monarchies, Islamic systems, countries of the former Soviet Bloc system, and systems in developing countries.

PSCI 331 - European Political System

Hours: 3

European Political Systems. Three semester hours. An introduction to the comparative study of the political systems of Great Britain and selected European countries, representing different cultural, social, and political environments.

PSCI 332 - Democ & Democratization

Hours: 3

A study of major theories concerning cultural, social economic, and political conditions that are favorable to the development of democracy. May be repeated when the focus varies.

PSCI 333 - Non-European Polit Systm

Hours: 3

A comparative study of selected political systems in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. May be repeated when the regional emphasis varies.

PSCI 335 - Political Economy

Hours: 3

Political Economy. Three semester hours. An introduction to the institutions and processes that shape U.S. domestic political economy including its increasing relationship to the global political economy. Emphasis will be placed on major political actors including Congress, the President, and the Federal Reserve Board and how decisions affect everyday citizens. These topics will be linked to the U.S.'s expanding influence in global institutions such as the WTO. Because this courses provides a foundation for other upper-level political science courses (except paralegal courses), it should be taken by political science majors and minors, and composite social studies majors and middle school social studies majors at the earliest possible opportunity in their program in the department.

PSCI 336 - American State and Local Government

Hours: 3

This course introduces students to how sub-national governmental entities operate in the United States and the impact that these political systems and processes have on representation and public policy creation. Students will focus on the government institutions and political behavior in the states and their localities. The study of state and local politics is inherently comparative in nature. This course takes advantage of the variation among and within states and localities.

PSCI 341 - American Presidency

Hours: 3

The American Presidency. Three semester hours. The evaluation of the institution of the American Presidency within the framework of the U.S. Constitution, the American democratic and partisan political processes, and the processes by which the national government's public administrators administer and develop public policy.

PSCI 342 - Intro to Global Pub Pol

Hours: 3

An introductory survey of the field dealing with the evolution, scope and nature of public administration in the United States and including such topics as organization, management, personnel, budgeting, decision making and public policy.

PSCI 344 - Amer Pol Par/Electoral Po

Hours: 3

American Political Parties and Electoral Politics. Three semester hours. A study of party and electoral politics, including campaigning and voting behavior.

PSCI 345 - Public Opinion

Hours: 3

Public Opinion. Three semester hours. (2) A study of public opinion in the United States including the sources and characteristics of political opinions, the role of the media in shaping opinion, and the impact of opinion on elections and public policy. Methods used in conducting polls are examined and applied.

PSCI 346 - Intro to Public Policy

Hours: 3

Introduction to Public Policy. Three semester hours. (1) A course designed to familiarize the student with the problem solving activities of government in such areas as pollution, poverty, unemployment, taxation, education, health care, and technology.

PSCI 347 - Intro to Research Methods

Hours: 3

Introduction to Research Methods in Political Science - Three semester hours This course focuses on the important empirical research methodology employed in Political Science. Topics covered include the scientific method, research design, sampling, probability, as well as descriptive and inferential statistics.

PSCI 348 - Applied Data Analysis

Hours: 3

Students will be introduced to introductory empirical and statistical methods in political science. Students will focus on applied methods of sampling, probability, descriptive and inferential statistics, and hypothesis testing for application to political science and social science research. Prerequisites: PSCI 347.

PSCI 367 - Middle East Politics

Hours: 3

This course offers students an overview of contemporary Middle East politics and covers the period from the late 19th to early 21st century. The course explores the social, political and economic roots of contemporary events in the region by focusing on the processes of colonialism, state building and struggles for self-determination. Course material covers the following topics: the emergence of the modern state system in the Middle East; the rise of Arab nationalism; the military in state and politics; party systems; and tUS foreign policy in the Middle East.

PSCI 410 - Order, Justice, and Community

Hours: 3

The 20th century political philosopher Eric Voegelin once noted that "the order of history is the history of order." This course examines conceptions of political order and disorder from the earliest human communities through the Middle Ages. Topics to be covered may include: the nature of human being, the relationship of the person to the community, communities relations with one another, conceptions of justice, the journey of the soul, and civic obligation and moral order.

PSCI 411 - Liberty, the State, and the Person

Hours: 3

Beginning with the Renaissance and historically through the late 18th century, this course is a survey of the changes in conceptions of political order brought about by the rise of national-states and changing ideas about the proper role of government and its relationship to communities and individuals within them. Topics may include: civil and human rights, the rights of kings, the role of faith, the balance between order and freedom, the emergence of "the middle class" and its effect on conceptions of social order, the "social contract," and the right of resistance.

PSCI 412 - The Age of Ideology

Hours: 3

With the French Revolution a new era of political thinking began. No longer moored to the idea that political order rested upon a proper conception of human being in itself, political speculation moved toward notions of world immanent order imposed through ideological systems. Eric Voegelin wrote that the "death of the spirit is the price of progress." In the context of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries this has manifested itself in warfare, genocide, and disorder. This course is an examination of the origins of ideological thinking, its effects, and the proper role of resistance as "(n)o one is obliged to take part in the spiritual crises of society.

PSCI 414 - Amer Political Thought

Hours: 3

An examination of the development of the American liberal-democratic political tradition from the colonial era to the present and the influence of dissent upon that tradition.

PSCI 421 - Real Estate Law Legal Ast

Hours: 3

PSCI 423 - Fundamental of Bankruptcy

Hours: 3

PSCI 430 - Rev & Revolutionary Movmt

Hours: 3

Revolutions and Revolutionary Movements. Three semester hours. A study of major theories of revolutions- their causes, processes and consequences- including close examination of selected cases. May be repeated when the focus varies.

PSCI 437 - Foreign Policy

Hours: 3

A study of the multiple determinants that shape foreign policy including the individual, national, regional, and international levels of analysis. Particular attention will be given to the formation and substance of foreign policy in the post-Cold War era. Focus may vary from the U.S., Latin America, Europe, Middle East and North Africa, and the former Soviet Union and successor states. May be repeated when the focus varies.

PSCI 438 - International Relations

Hours: 3

A study of the complex nature of both conflict-driven and cooperative interactions among nation-states and non-state actors that function in the international system. Focus may be on a particular region, law and diplomacy, and international organizations including NGOs and IGOs. May be repeated when the focus varies.

PSCI 441 - Congressional Politics

Hours: 3

Congressional Politics. Three semester hours. A study of politics and policy-making in the U.S. Congress. Topics include congressional elections, party and committee politics, constituent service, and legislative executive relations.

PSCI 442 - Constitutional Law

Hours: 3

This course is an introduction to constitutional law in the United States. Attention is given to important constitutional and legal doctrines by examining major decisions of the US Supreme Court. Topics include the powers of the federal government, federal interbranch conflict, federalism and nation-state relations, and state regulatory power. Prerequisites: A grade of C or higher in PSCI 2301 or PSCI 2305.

PSCI 443 - Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Hours: 3

This course focuses on American constitutional law as it relates to the procedural and substantive rights of individuals by examining major decisions of the US Supreme Court. Topics include the Bill of Rights and the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments.

PSCI 444 - Law, Politics, and the Judicial Process

Hours: 3

This course examines the historical, institutional, and political nature of the American judiciary. Students will study the important historical, political and procedural components of the judiciary at both the federal and state levels. Students will also study the important topics of judicial decision making, the political impact of court decisions, and the role of lawyers and judges within the judicial process.

PSCI 465 - American Political Behavior

Hours: 3

The study of political behavior focuses on the actions of—as opposed to the institutional constraints on—non-elite political actors (i.e., political citizens) as they interact with the political world through activities such as voting, joining parties and interest groups, protesting government actions, and consuming mass media. The course evaluates behavior from a variety of perspectives such as psychological, economic, sociological, and political. Prerequisites: PSCI 2305 and PSCI 2306.

PSCI 476 - Internship Gov/Politics

Hours: 3

Internship in Government and Politics. Three semester hours. Internship for students who have the opportunity to gain practical experience working for some level of government or in political campaigns. Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

PSCI 488 - Contemporary Ideas

Hours: 3

(Same as Eng, Hist, and Phil 488) (Capstone) The course studies contemporary writing, mostly non-fiction, that is characterized by originality of topic, breadth of subject matter, clarity of expression and audacity. In reading logs, students make observations, take notes, and explore questions. In finished writings, they work out connections among ideas from various fields, moving from analysis to synthesis and fresh insights. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

PSCI 489 - Independent Study

Hours: 3

Independent Study. One to four semester hours. Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated when the topic varies. Prerequisite: consent of department head.

PSCI 490 - H Honors Thesis

Hours: 3

Honors Thesis.

PSCI 491 - H Ind Honors Readings

Hours: 3

Honors Reading.

PSCI 497 - Special Topic

Hours: 1-4

Special Topics. One to four semester hours. (1, 2, 3, 4) Organized class. May be repeated when topics vary.

SOC 1301 - Introduction to Sociology

Hours: 3

This course is designed to help students better understand the social world in which they live as well as provide a foundation for other in sociology. It provides an overview of major concepts and principles of sociology, including globalization, diversity, socialization, social control, social order, social stratification, ethnicity, social deviance, and social change. This course emphasizes global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems) from a sociological perspective, and helps students view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

SOC 1306 - Contemporary Ideas

Hours: 3

A critical discussion of the sociological perspective on studying descriptions, causes, and prevention of social problems such as crime, mental illness, drug abuse, environmental degradation, poverty, terrorism, and declining quality of life in today's world.

SOC 310 - Psy & Soci Diverse Popula

Hours: 3

Psychology and Sociology of Diverse Populations. Three semester hours. (Same as PSY 310; equivalent to PSY 311) This course will examine the variables which affect the perceptions, beliefs, and behaviors of various microcultures which comprise our population. The course will include, but will not be limited to, culture as a function of socioeconomic status, religion, sex and gender, language, age, exceptionality, geographical origins and ethnicity. Included in the course will be an analysis of issues related to race, age, sex, and handicap. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

SOC 311 - Social Class, Wealth/Power

Hours: 3

Social Class, Wealth, and Power. Three semester hours. The relations among social classes are examined as systems of privilege with inequalities of wealth, power, and prestige among individuals and groups. Forces giving rise to social classes, how one's position in a class system affects behavior and personality, class conflict, and the impact of other social institutions, especially the economic and political, are studied.

SOC 312 - Sociology of Gender

Hours: 3

This course will explore the social and cultural construction of gender differences, focusing on contemporary issues both in the United States and internationally. This course will provide an in-depth focus on sexuality, intersexuality, and transgendered people. The course provides a description of the sociological approach to the study of gender and explores how it differs from other perspectives. This course will examine the ways that boys/men and girls/women are socialized differently and will provide an in depth examination in gender differences in social institution including the family, mass media, education system, government and the workplace.

SOC 316 - Marriage and Family

Hours: 3

Marriage and Family - Three semester hours This course is a general introduction to marriage and family relationships in the United States, along with comparative examples of other cultures for critical thinking. Topics covered include an overview of the institution of marriage and family, theoretical perspectives on the institution, research approaches in studying the institution, gendered identities, love and intimacy, human sexuality, dating and courtship, the single life, kinship responsibilities, cohabitation, communication, dual career marriages, conflict and divorce, aging process, and marital adjustment and enrichment.

SOC 318 - Urban Sociology & Anthro

Hours: 3

Urban Sociology and Anthropology. Three semester hours. This course examines the city and urban life in international perspective. Sociological and anthropological studies will be used to examine the development and growth of cities. The course examines concepts such as urbanism, over-urbanization, and urban primacy as well as social problems characteristic of contemporary urban life.

SOC 320 - Deviant Behavior

Hours: 3

Deviant Behavior. Three semester hours. An introduction to the general phenomenon of social deviance. The course focuses on criminal as well as non-criminal deviance such as mental disorders, drug use, and prostitution. Theoretical approaches which seek to explain deviance will be critically explained.

SOC 323 - Sociology of Health and Illness

Hours: 3

This course examines the social contexts of health, illness, and medical care. It gives prominence to the debates and contrasting theoretical perspectives which provide insight into the political, economic and cultural factors which affect the recognition, distribution and response to illness and disease. Topics include the social construction of health and illness; the global nature of the AIDS epidemic; the patient's perspective on illness; the development of the health professions and the health work force; alternative systems of healing; ethical issues in medicine as they relate to medical technology; and comparative health care reform.

SOC 331 - Intro to Social Research

Hours: 3

Introduction to Social Research. Three semester hours. An introduction to the process, logic, and skills of social science research inquiry. The range of research designs, their strengths and weaknesses, the specific research tools needed for the collection of sociological data, and introductory analytical techniques are examined. Required of all majors and a prerequisite for Sociology 332.

SOC 332 - Mthds of Stat Analys

Hours: 4

Mthds of Stat Analys. Four semester hours. (3 lecture, 1 lab) This course provides an in-depth introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics that are especially appropriate in quantitative analysis used in the social sciences (including t tests, z scores, regression, measures of central tendency, etc.). Setting up data files, manipulating variables and running statistical programs using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) are integral components of the course. Prerequisites: Sociology 1301, and 331 or SWK 350, and MATH 1314 or 1324 or 179.

SOC 333 - Social Psychology

Hours: 3

Social Psychology. Three semester hours. The study of the importance of others' influence on one's attitudes, perceptions, motivations, and behavior, the dynamic fragility and power of group participation, and the extent to which human potential is enhanced or severely limited in the context of group life.

SOC 335 - Global Social Issues

Hours: 3

This course examines a variety of social issues from a global perspective. In today's world nations are linked by vast networks of trade, communication, and travel. As a result, social issues once thought of as "local" are rapidly becoming globalized. Issues associated with these increasing linkages are the focus of this class. They include human rights issues, the implications of global media, the transnationalization of crime and terrorism, global environmental issues, international migration, urbanization, and global social and economic inequalities.

SOC 336 - Sociology of Internet

Hours: 3

This course explores the social implications of the Internet by introducing the history of the Internet; the culture of the Internet; and looking over all the Internet-related social activities. The course will combine online lectures, readings, virtual discussions, and presentations. Student will be asked to become an active rather than a passive learner. Students will analyze the impact on individual behaviors and society at large; the effect of e-business, e-commerce, e-education, and e-government; the digital divide in the nation and worldwide; and Globalization and the Internet.

SOC 337 - Sociology of Sexualities

Hours: 3

This course is designed to introduce students to the sociological study of sexuality. We will seek to understand how sex and sexuality have influenced individuals and social domains. By examining past perceptions of, reactions to, and issues surrounding sexuality, we can explore what has been accepted, rejected, and why. The course will primarily draw from a sociological perspective, it will also be somewhat inter-disciplinary in nature. This course is a seminar-style examination of human sexuality from a sociological perspective. While often thought of as a "biological function," this course draws upon a diverse literature to frame the theoretical and empirical understanding of human sexuality as a socially constructed product. This class theoretically examines and compares biological, psychological, and sociological explanations of human sexual activity as a historically and culturally contingent phenomena. Prerequisites: Junior Status (classification of student).

SOC 341 - Soc of Complex Organizations

Hours: 3

Sociology of Complex Organizations. Three semester hours. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the nature of contemporary complex organizations and leadership from a critical perspective. An array of concepts, perspectives and theories, corresponding to the three major sociological approaches, will be presented. These approaches are Rational, Natural, and Open Systems. Different aspects of complex organizations will be analyzed through the use of scholarly journal articles from recognized publications in the United States and overseas. The course will examine the topic of complex organizations on a global scale so international corporations can also be studied. This course contributes three credit hours toward students' fulfillment of degree requirements. The target students are sociology, criminal justice, social work, business and education administration.

SOC 350 - Drugs & Society

Hours: 3

Drugs and Society. Three semester hours. This course examines the major categories of drugs- stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, and narcotics. It also investigates other drug related topics and events such as the use of steroids and inhalants; the abuse of over-the-counter drugs; dependency and addiction; and intervention topics. As a capstone this course includes critical thinking about the drug culture, and emphasis is placed on a cross-culture perspective. Integrating the viewpoints of other disciplines and professions about the drug culture is also a goal of this course. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

SOC 370 - Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Hours: 3

A general survey of race, ethnic, and minority relations in the United States. Emphasis is placed on theories of prejudice/discrimination and institutional racism in education, politics, and economics.

SOC 416 - Conflicts in Society

Hours: 3

Conflicts in society are studied as ongoing realities of everyday life. The course will focus on a few conflicts in society, exploring each in considerable depth. Critical, as opposed to descriptive, thinking will be emphasized. The course will be geared not only toward helping students realize the difference between the two perspectives but to appreciate and apply critical thinking to the social conflicts being examined. Prerequisites: SOC 1301.

SOC 436 - Sociological Theory

Hours: 3

Sociological Theory. Three semester hours. This course examines the nature of theory and reviews major sociological theories, especially structural-functionalism, conflict theory, exchange theory, and interactionism. Special attention is given to leading figures representative of the above schools of thought. Prerequisite: Sociology 1301 or its equivalent

SOC 485 - Senior Seminar in Sociology

Hours: 3

Senior Seminar in Sociology. Three semester hours. (1) The course examines ways sociology majors can synthesize sociology curriculum and apply the sociological perspective to the real world, along with their knowledge and skills outside the academic world in real work settings. In addition, this course will guide students in the process of resume preparation, interviewing skills, graduate program, and career opportunities available with a sociology major. Special attention will be given to leadership skills needed in the world of work. Pre-requisites: Soc 111, 331, 332, 436, and a senior status.

SOC 486 - Sociology Internship

Hours: 3

A sociology internship offers hands-on experience, permitting the student to apply their coursework to real-life situations. Students gain professional experience by spending 150 hours (over 16 week course, about 9 to 10 hours per week) with a social service, community outreach, nonprofit organization; or a local, state, federal agency. The professor and student work together to assure that the student has a successful field experience while also exposed to classroom information associated with the overall idea of gaining employment opportunities. Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing, a sociology major or minor having achieved at least a C grade (2.0) in Introduction to Sociology and all other major sociology courses.

SOC 489 - Independent Study

Hours: 3

Independent Study. One to four semester hours. Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated when the topic varies. Prerequisite: Consent of department head.

SOC 490 - H Honors Thesis

Hours: 3

PSY 490 - H Honors Thesis - Hours: 3 Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite Consent of head. Note May be repeated when the topic varies.

SOC 491 - H Independent Honors Rdgs

Hours: 3

SOC 497 - Special Topics

Hours: 1-4

Organized class. May be repeated when topics vary.