LAW AND SOCIETY
(BACHELORS OF ARTS)

The Law and Society major offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of law and legal institutions, their impact on society, and society’s impact on them. The major is organized around the central theme of understanding law as an instrument of political and social change and examines questions concerning how law matters in people’s lives; how law and law-like systems of rules empower and constrain individuals, groups, organizations and communities; and how the structures and values in social institutions shape and are shaped by law.

Credits required. 36

Prerequisites. POL 101 and SOC 101. Students are strongly urged to complete these two courses during their first year in the College. These courses will fulfill the College’s general education require-
ment in the social sciences. Additional prerequisites for individual courses include ANT 315 which requires at least one course in either Anthropology or Law, and ECO 215 which requires ECO 101.

Coordinator: Professor James Cauthen, Department of Political Science (212.237.8193, jcauthen@jjay.cuny.edu)

PART ONE: INTRODUCTORY COURSE

Required
LWS 200 Introduction to Law and Society

Credits
Subtotal: 3

PART TWO: SKILLS

Required
SSC 325 Research Methods in the Behavioral Sciences

Credits
Subtotal: 3

PART THREE: FOUNDATIONS

(Two courses in this area must be at the 300-level or above)

Category A: American Legal Foundations
Select two (one course must be at 300-level or above)
HIS 277 American Legal History
LAW 206 The American Judiciary
POL 301 Constitutional Powers
POL 308 State Courts and State Constitutional Law

Category B: International Legal Foundations
Select one
ANT 315 Systems of Law
POL 250 International Law and Justice
POL 320 International Human Rights

Category C: Sociological Foundations
Select one
SOC 206 The Sociology of Conflict and Dispute Resolution
SOC 232 Social Stratification
SOC 302 Social Problems

Credits
Subtotal: 12

PART FOUR: PHILOSOPHY/JURISPRUDENCE/ETHICS

Select one
POL 270 Political Philosophy
POL 371 American Political Philosophy
POL 375 Law, Order, Justice and Society
LAW 301 Jurisprudence
LAW 310/PHI 310 Ethics and Law
PHI 302 Philosophical Issues of Rights

Credits
Subtotal: 3

PART FIVE: SOCIETAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE

Select four courses or two courses plus an internship; all students must take at least one of the courses marked with an asterisk (*) on race, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity

*LLS 322 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties in the Urban Latina/o Communities
*POL 313/LAW 313 The Law and Politics of Race Relations
*POL 318 The Law and Politics of Sexual Orientation
*POL 319 Gender and the Law
ANT 330 American Cultural Pluralism and the Law
ECO 215 Economics of Regulation and the Law
POL 305 Constitutional Rights and Liberties
POL 316 The Politics of Rights
POL 435 Seminar in Judicial Processes and Politics
SOC 305 The Sociology of Law

Internship Options (each internship is at least 6 credits & requires permission of the instructor)

POL 406 Seminar and Internship in NYC Government and Politics
POL 407 New York State Assembly/Senate Session Program
POL 408 CUNY Washington, D.C. Summer Internship Program

Credits
Subtotal: 12

PART SIX: SENIOR CAPSTONE

Required
LWS 425 Colloquium for Research in Law and Society

Credits
Subtotal: 3

Total: 36