Minor in Law Program

Why a minor in law?

By blending the strengths of Wayne State University's Law School, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Mike Ilitch School of Business, and School of Social Work, the interdisciplinary minor in law program will provide you the knowledge required to analyze and understand how law and your educational discipline intersect.

In addition to taking law courses taught by Law School faculty, you will develop skills traditionally associated with “thinking like a lawyer,” including logical and critical thinking, oral and written communication, and reading comprehension and analysis.

You will cultivate a skills toolkit that will provide added value to any employer and give you a distinct edge when you enter the job market.

Undergraduate students who wish to take any of the three core courses in law without doing the minor are welcome to do so.

Required law courses

LEX 5000: Law in Social Context - Presents law as an evolving social institution, introducing basic concepts of law along with the fundamentals of legal analysis. Covers several substantive areas, with a particular focus on property in both its traditional common-law form and in its newer statutory contexts (e.g., intellectual property). What does it mean to own something? What makes someone a legal owner of something? What kinds of things can be owned, what things can’t, and why?

LEX 5010: Law and Harm - Presents the basic concepts of law and the fundamentals of legal analysis, giving in-depth attention to the fields of tort and criminal law and using them to examine how law conceives of, regulates, and adjudicates questions of harm. When can you sue a person or a group for harming you? On the street or in a business, what makes something a crime, and why do we prosecute and punish crimes the way we do?

LEX 5020: Legal Procedure - Examines the life cycle of a case in court. It discusses how a lawsuit begins with the filing of a complaint and how it ends in a judicial order, and it covers everything else that happens along the way—with special attention paid to things like negotiation and settlement. Introduces legal concepts like “due process of law,” and explores the procedural similarities and differences between civil cases, criminal cases, and administrative proceedings.
In addition to the required law courses, each minor in law program has additional course requirements.

**College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts**

- Choose three from:
  - COM 2110: Argumentation and Debate
  - COM 2160: Campaigns and Social Movements
  - COM 2170: Persuasive Speaking
  - COM 4110: Studies of Legal Argument
  - COM 4150: Communication and Conflict
  - COM 5710: Law and Ethics in Journalism and Mass Media

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

- PS 3100: American Legal Systems and Processes
- Choose one from:
  - PHI 2330: Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy
  - PHI 2390: Philosophy of Human Rights
  - PHI 3270: Foundations of Law
- Approved College of Liberal Arts and Sciences elective

**Mike Ilitch School of Business**

- Business Majors
  - BLW 2510: Business Law and Ethics
  - BLW 5190: Business Law II
  - Approved Business electives (2)

- Non-Business Majors
  - BLW 2510: Business Law and Ethics
  - Approved Business Electives (2)

Undergraduate students in any major who have a minimum 2.5 GPA are eligible to apply for a law minor. A minimum grade of C is required in all of the law minor courses.

**School of Social Work**

- SW 6500: Social Work and Law
- SW 4710: Social Welfare in the United States – Current Programs
- Approved Social Work elective

*Admission to the Wayne State University School of Social Work is required. Must maintain a cumulative 3.5 GPA.*

Questions? Want more information? Ready to declare?

If you have questions or would like more information about the Minor in Law Program, please contact:

Nikki Taylor-Vargo, Program Director
Wayne State University Law School
nikkitv@wayne.edu | 313.577.2733

To add a law minor to your degree program, complete the following steps:

1. Meet with your academic advisor to discuss your desire to pursue a law minor and to review the requirements.
2. Declare your minor in law.
3. Enroll in courses!