



University of New Haven

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

LEGAL STUDIES



Career Growth

According to Encoura, the leading research and advisory firm focused exclusively on higher education, some of the most popular legal studies careers are going to see significant growth in the 10 years leading up to 2027.

PARALEGALS & LEGAL ASSISTANTS

↑ 9%

LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGERS

↑ 11%

Program Description

Law governs our society, from the soaring principles in the U.S. Constitution to the regulations that govern the food we eat. But with laws come disputes.

Today, there are forms of dispute resolution that didn't exist a few years ago. Add another layer of legal complexity: globalization, which can blur the lines between national and international law. The goal of our B.S. in Legal Studies is for students to acquire a thorough understanding of the American legal system and become skilled in the use of legal reasoning – a critical necessity when opposing parties in a case each believe the law should decide in their favor.

Your coursework will cover governmental structure, the court system, alternative methods of dispute resolution, and the application of basic legal principles to real situations. As you progress through the program, you will develop the ability to read cases with understanding and apply case law to legal problems.

A choice of three concentrations enables you to focus your studies on your area of interest – public affairs, dispute resolution, or paralegal studies. But no matter which concentration you choose, our flexible and interdisciplinary program will open up many opportunities for you to combine legal studies with programs in other areas. Criminal justice, business, accounting, political science, or psychology, are just a few of the programs that dovetail beautifully with legal studies.



The University of New Haven has been recognized as one of **The 387 Best Colleges** in the country by *The Princeton Review*.

Sample Careers & Salaries

A B.S. in Legal Studies is versatile. Here are just three job titles to think about, along with their national median salary.

CONTRACT MANAGER: \$90,050

ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST: \$78,120

COMMERCIAL PARALEGAL: \$49,500

Which Career Path Will You Take?

Pre-Law or Graduate School

Choose the concentration in Public Affairs or Dispute Resolution.

Conflict Resolution or Mediation

Choose the concentration in Dispute Resolution.

Paralegal

Choose the concentration in Paralegal Studies, an Associate Degree in Legal Studies, or a Paralegal Certificate Program. All are approved by the American Bar Association.

Sample Courses

- Legal Research and Writing
- Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility
- Legal Investigation
- Administrative Law and Regulation
- State and Local Government
- Constitutional Law
- Victim Law and Service Administration
- Restorative Justice
- Mock Trial
- Mediation
- Family Law
- Cyberlaw

Internships

Students can obtain a wealth of knowledge from books, lectures, and guest speakers, but a more complete knowledge can be acquired by having students entering the workforce and assuming responsibilities.

The University of New Haven considers internships to be a critical component of the educational process. We strive to successfully match an intern with the most appropriate work environment, with the understanding that all three parties in the internship relationship – the University of New Haven, the student, and the internship location – need to devote significant time to make it work. This balancing act, when achieved, results in a quality internship that can develop a strong future employee.

Legal Studies students have interned at:

- The Connecticut Judicial Branch, as victims' services advocates
- The Connecticut Housing Court, as mediators in landlord/tenant cases
- The Connecticut Public Defenders Office, conducting client interviews, investigations, and legal research and drafting court documents
- Prosecutor's office and the U.S. Attorney's office, interviewing witnesses and conducting community outreach
- Private and corporate law offices, assisting attorneys
- State and federal legislators' offices, conducting research for proposed legislation



“Our program gives students the opportunity to be critical thinkers and develop legal research and legal reasoning skills. Our goal is for students to become citizens whose ethical conduct contributes to the well-being of many communities, whether through local public or private sector work or even in the international arena, but always with respect for others and the rule of law.”

VICTOR R. RODRIGUEZ, J.D.

Director, Legal Studies Program

J.D. • Columbia Law School

B.A. in Political Science • Yale University

27 years of private law practice



About Us

The University of New Haven, founded on the Yale campus in 1920, is a private, coeducational university situated on the coast of southern New England. It's a diverse and vibrant community of more than 7,000 students with campuses across the country and around the world.

Within our colleges and schools, students immerse themselves in a transformative, career-focused education across the liberal arts and sciences, fine arts, business, healthcare and health sciences, engineering, public safety, and public service. More than 100 academic programs are offered, all grounded in a long-standing commitment to collaborative, interdisciplinary, project-based learning.

At the University of New Haven, the experience of learning is both personal and pragmatic, guided by a distinguished faculty who care deeply about individual student success. As leaders in their fields, faculty provide the inspiration and recognition needed for students to fulfill their potential and succeed at whatever they choose to do.

6 Reasons to Choose the University of New Haven for Legal Studies

- 1** The program offers concentrations for three career paths: public affairs, dispute resolution, and paralegal studies.
- 2** The program is flexible and interdisciplinary, allowing you to combine legal studies with programs in other areas, such as criminal justice, business, accounting, political science, or psychology.
- 3** The class sizes are small so your instructors know you by name and give you the individual attention that leads to a more in-depth and enjoyable learning experience.
- 4** You will have a two-semester internship in your final year, which opens up more employment doors for you and gives you professional polish even before your first full-time job.
- 5** The robust study abroad program will coax you out of your comfort zone and into semester-long or short-term sojourns in the region of your choice. Also, a Legal Studies international track allows you to study at another university abroad and focus on international law and culture.
- 6** The paralegal concentration is American Bar Association-approved. Your training will include conducting factual investigations, accessing documentary information and materials, and interviewing clients and witnesses. You will become skilled in case management, client relations, and working with attorney supervisors.



Your Success Starts Here

**For more information,
or to arrange a visit, contact**

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