

RECOMMENDED PRELAW CLASSES

There is no prelaw major at BYU and no required courses for law school application. The courses that are offered below are mainly to help students decide if going to law school and becoming an attorney is right for them and to help them know how to prepare for law school. Some students choose to take every prelaw course offered, while others choose not to take any.

STDEV 168R: Law Lecture Series Exploring Legal Professions (1.0 c)

This low-workload lecture series has different attorneys each week that talk about their current legal practice and law school experience. This is beneficial for anyone who wants to find out more about law school and life as a lawyer.

STDEV 260: Constitutional Research (1.0 c)

This class is devoted to studying the Constitution. Class periods are spent analyzing recent Supreme Court decisions against portions of the Constitution.

STDEV 261: The Law in Literature (2.0 c)

This course uses legal literature (both fiction and nonfiction) to discuss pertinent legal issues. The purpose of this course is to introduce the issues and writings discussed and created in law school and as a lawyer.

STDEV 268R: Prewlaw Leadership (1.0 c)

This class gives credit to PLSA (prelaw club) board members only. Students must apply for a board member position.

STDEV 359: Conflict Resolution (3.0 c)

This course teaches different dispute resolution methods and conflict styles most commonly practiced in society and their advantages and disadvantages.

STDEV 364: Mediation Techniques and Practices (3.0 c)

This course teaches basic mediation skills and gives students the opportunity to observe actual teen-parent mediations.

STDEV 365: Legal Education and Practice (2.0 c)

This course simulates the first year of law school. In this course you will learn how to brief a case, conduct legal research, take a law school exam, and draft a legal memo.

STDEV 368R: Prewlaw Review Journal Writing (2.0 c)

This class is for the authors and editors of the Prewlaw Review. Students must apply for these staff positions at the end of Winter semester (applications are announced via the prelaw newsletter). Students with writing and researching experience are preferred. This class requires a two-semester commitment—you may not sign up for the class halfway through the academic year.

STDEV 496R: Advanced Legal Internship (1.0-3.0 c)

Students individually seek out legal internships. Once securing the position a student will submit an application through the internship office, once accepted, students may register for the course. Students must complete 3–5 hours of work per week a semester. This course is offered during all semesters and terms for these self-initiated internships. See Prewlaw Legal Internships handout for more info.

PHIL 205: Deductive Logic (3.0c)

This philosophy course helps students learn deductive logic and thinking.

Reading | Research | Writing Courses: Any major, any time, any place

Don't forget that although law schools will accept any major, in law school and legal practice you will do a lot of reading, writing, and research. Take advantage of the intensive writing and research courses in your major and make sure you are constantly improving your reading skills by reading at least 30 minutes a day.