

**The Ohio State University  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Political Science  
Legal Foundations of Society (LEGFNTN-MN)**

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The multidisciplinary minor in Legal Foundations of Society provides students with exposure to the legal underpinnings of society from a liberal arts perspective. It is intended for students interested in the intersection of legal and social issues. It is not intended as a “pre-law” program, but rather, as a means of providing a foundational understanding of the ways society constructs and uses its legal systems.

The Legal Foundations of Society minor requires the completion of five courses for at least 15 credit hours. Students must take courses from at least three departments. Only one course may be from the student’s major department. At least two (2) courses for at least six (6) hours must be taken at the 3000-level or higher.

**Required Foundations Courses (2 courses; 6 CH)**

1. Sociology **2309** – Introduction to Law and Society (3)

**AND**

2. Philosophy **2400** – Political and Social Philosophy (3)

-or-

Political Science **2400** – Introduction to Political Theory (3)

**Electives Course (3 courses; 9 CH)**

Select three courses from the following list. Please note that some courses below may have prerequisites; please consult the course catalog prior to enrollment.

AEDECON 3170 - Agribusiness Law (3)  
AFAMAST 4326 – Topics in African Americans & Public Policy (3)  
AFAMAST 4610 – African Americans and the Law (3)  
COMM 3404 – Media Law and Ethics (3)  
ECON 4700 – Government and Business (3)  
HISTORY 2015 – The History of American Criminal Justice (3)  
HISTORY 3005 – U.S. Constitution & American Society to 1877 (3)  
HISTORY 3006 – U.S. Constitution & American Society since 1877 (3)  
PHILOS 2400 – Political and Social Philosophy (3) (if not used above)  
PHILOS 3410 – Philosophical Problems in the Law (3)  
POLITSCI 2400 – Intro to Political Theory (3) (if not used above)  
POLITSCI 3440 – Political Theories of Justice (3)  
POLITSCI 4130 – Law and Politics (3)  
POLITSCI 4132H – Supreme Court Decision Making (3)  
POLITSCI 4135(E) – American Constitutional Law (3)  
POLITSCI 4136 – Civil Liberties (3)  
POLITSCI 4137 – The Politics of Legal Decision Making (3)  
POLITSCI 4138 – Women and the Law (3)  
PSYCH 4485 – Psychology and the Law (3)  
SOCIOLOG 2209 – Introduction to Criminal Justice (3)  
SOCIOLOG 4507 – The Criminal Justice System (3)  
SOCIOLOG 4509 – Sociology of Law (3)  
SOCIOLOG 4510 – Gender, Crime & the Criminal Justice System (3)  
SOCIOLOG 4511 – Juvenile Delinquency (3)  
SOCIOLOG 4609 – Neighborhoods and Crime (3)

SOCIOLOG 4611 – Prisons, Jails, and Community Corrections (3)  
SOCIOLOG 4615 – Control & Prevention of Crime & Delinquency (3)  
WGSST 3200 – Gender & Law (3)

**Legal Foundations of Society Minor Program Guidelines**

Credit hours required A minimum of 15 credit hrs. 1000 level courses shall not be counted in the minor. At least 6 credits must be upper-division courses (3000-level or above) as defined by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Transfer and EM credit hours allowed

A student is permitted to count up to 6 total hours of transfer credit and/or credit by examination.

Overlap with the GE

A student is permitted to overlap up to 6 credit hours between the GE and the minor.

Overlap with the major and additional minor(s)

- The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
- The minor must contain a minimum of 12 hours distinct from the major and/or additional minor(s).

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor.
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA for all minor course work.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count on the minor.
- No more than 3 credit hours of coursework graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory may count toward the minor.

X193 credits No more than 3 credit hours.

Declaring the minor

Students should see their assigned academic advisor to declare the minor prior to the filing of the graduation application. Students do not need the approval of the Department of Political Science or the minor advisor to declare the minor.

Approval of Coursework

*Initial approval of the minor coursework:*

Students who complete the minor following the guidelines on this sheet need only verify with their academic advisor that the minor appears complete on the degree auditing system. No approval from the Department of Political Science or the minor advisor is required.

*Approval for courses not listed on this form to apply to the minor program:*  
Students must obtain the approval of the minor advisor to apply courses not listed on this form toward the Legal Foundations of Society minor. Please email freeman.259@osu.edu to request approval.

College of Arts and Sciences  
Curriculum and Assessment Services  
306 Dulles Hall, 230 Annie & John Glenn Ave  
<http://artsandsciences.osu.edu>

Updated 7-29-22 RLS  
Updated 11-14-2024 RLS  
Updated 02-17-2026 RLS