Legal Studies Minor

I. Mission: The Legal Studies Minor is an interdisciplinary academic pathway focusing on how law functions within society, going beyond traditional public law studies of legal institutions to reflect the current scholarly understanding of law as a multifaceted form of power operating throughout society. This minor serves to provide structure for students preparing for law school and/or pursuing a legal career.

II. Program of Study: The program of study consists of three components: three required courses, three electives, and an internship. The coursework must total a minimum of 18 credits, and one course must be taken at the 300-level. No more than two courses or eight credits may be double-counted toward a student’s major or an alternative minor.

A) Three Required Courses:
1) POSC101: US Government and Politics
2) Either POSC230: Courts and Judicial Process, or CRMJ 245: Introduction to the Law
3) Either POSC270: Constitutional Law and Government Power or POSC280: Constitutional Law and Civil Rights

B) Three Elective Courses:¹ ² ³
ANTH 223: Cultural Anthropology
CRMJ 360: White Collar Crime
ENGL 368: Bleak House/Dombey and Son
ENGL 470: Decoding Difficult Texts
POSC 210: State and Local Politics
POSC 220: Congress & the Presidency
POSC 232: Mock Trial
POSC 240: Gender and Politics
POSC 290: Environment Politics and Policy
POSC 292: Public Policy
POSC 310: Parties and Elections
POSC 320: Public Administration
POSC 330: The Politics of Race and Ethnicity
POSC 335: International Law
POSC 340: Media and Politics
POSC 350: Peacekeeping and Security
POSC 370: Environmental Law
POSC 377/PHIL377: Philosophy of Law
POSC 380: Energy Policy
RELS/POSC243: Religion and Politics
BUSA 310: Business Law I

¹ Updated May 26, 2020
² POSC 230, CRMJ 245, POSC 270, and POSC 280 may also count as electives if not counted as requirements.
³ Students may petition the Legal Studies Coordinator to count courses not on this list toward the legal studies minor.
C) Internship Requirement: All students are required to complete at least one internship credit in a law or policy related setting such as the courts, a law office, a government agency, or non-profit office. The internship option can be fulfilled during either semester, January, or the summer months.