

# Pre-Law

UW-Eau Claire's pre-professional study programs prepare you to transfer to another institution for the completion of a professional degree or prepare you for graduate study after obtaining a bachelor's degree. Pre-law is not a major; you will need to declare a major at UW-Eau Claire. Because the specific requirements of professional schools vary considerably, you should obtain current catalogues from the schools in which you are interested. A pre-professional adviser at UW-Eau Claire will then help you plan an appropriate curriculum.

The UW-Eau Claire pre-law program is not a major; instead it includes a selection of courses that will satisfy the general education requirements at UW-Eau Claire and prepare you for the law school admissions test and law school. A career in law requires a bachelor's degree in a major of your choice, followed by a three-year program in law school. Students declare the pre-law designation with the political science department chair so that they can be assigned to a pre-law adviser.

## Where you'll find our grads

UW-Eau Claire graduates fare very well in seeking admission into law school. Each year UW-Eau Claire places several students into law school at UW-Madison. In addition, graduates regularly attend the University of Minnesota, Hamline University, William Mitchell and Marquette. Other recent graduates have attended Indiana University, Boston University, Chicago- Kent, Drake, Northwestern, Northern Illinois and Southern Illinois.

## Prepared for Success

Each pre-law student is assigned a faculty adviser from the political science department. Advisers provide individualized attention to students and are available to answer questions about law programs, courses and other concerns. They also have up-to-date information on the admission requirements of regional law schools. Pre-law is NOT a major. Pre-law advisers are here to assist you with all of these steps and ensure you are on the right track for success in law school. Students can major in anything and also do pre-law. To get into law school, students will need to take the LSAT, have good GPA, and also get letters of recommendation.

## Why UW-Eau Claire

### Rankings / Reputation / Well-funded programs

The high quality of the UW-Eau Claire's liberal arts education provides students with a cultural awareness and breadth of knowledge that graduate and professional schools find desirable. In addition, all of our classes are taught by faculty, not TA's (graduate students) and you'll find personal attention from faculty is simply part of your degree.

### Scholarships

The *Karl Andresen Scholarship* is given to a senior planning to attend graduate school or law school. Students that meet the initial criteria for the award will be invited to submit a written statement in January and the award is given out at the Honors banquet in spring semester. The amount of the award varies from year to year, but recent awards have been around \$2,500.

### Get Involved / Student Orgs

There are several student organizations for students interested in prelaw, such as Pi Sigma Alpha, Model United Nations Club, Pre-Law Club, The Society of Politics, etc. Membership will help educate you on aspects of the legal profession, introduce you to other students who share your interest in law, and make regional and national political and legal connections.

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# Pre-Law (continued)

## First-Year Suggested Curriculum

Students who plan to pursue a degree in law should take additional courses to improve writing skills, reading comprehension and analytical reasoning. These skills are most important for success in the pre-law program.

- University writing requirement—depending on placement exam.
- Principles of Microeconomics
- American National Politics
- Math competency course
- Advanced College Writing
- Principles of Macroeconomics
- Natural science general education elective
- Logic I
- United States History to 1877

## Program Options

You should choose a major and minor of interest to you and also keep an alternative career plan in mind. You may wish to consider the comprehensive political science major with legal studies emphasis or the topical pre-law minor. Your pre-law adviser will help you choose an appropriate major and minor once you have sampled a variety of courses from different departments.