Pre-Law
Associate in Arts & Sciences – Direct Transfer (DTA)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lawyers act as advocates, advisors, and negotiators for clients. As advocates, they represent their clients in civil or criminal trials by presenting evidence and arguing in court to support their client. As advisors, they counsel their clients concerning their legal rights and obligations and suggest a course of action. As negotiators, they facilitate their clients’ interests through compromise and conciliation.

Most four-year colleges and universities do not prescribe a specific major for pre-law education. What law schools seek in their entering students is not mere memorization, but accomplishment in understanding, the ability to think critically, and the ability to express thoughts with clarity and force. (Goals of the Association of American Law Schools and Pre-Legal Education.)

For pre-law students, a well-balanced education is more valuable than a narrow focus on the law. According to the Official Guide to U.S. Law Schools, 1999, (page 6), “Law schools prefer that you reserve your legal study for law school and fill your undergraduate curriculum with broad, diverse, and challenging courses.”

At EvCC, students interested in pre-law are encouraged to pursue the Associate in Arts and Sciences - DTA. This degree meets statewide guidelines for smooth transfer to most of Washington's colleges and universities, and several in Oregon. With this degree, you will have completed most or all of the lower division, general education requirements typically required within a bachelor's degree. The complete description of this degree program, with a checklist, is provided in the Associate in Arts and Sciences Direct Transfer Agreement (“DTA”) Guide. You can also use the checklist on the reverse side to plan your studies.

CAREER OPTIONS

Lawyers tend to specialize in a certain aspect of the law. Some become criminal lawyers. Others become corporate, securities, tax, intellectual property, family, international, or environmental lawyers. With additional training and experience, some go on to become judges. While some work in individual practice, others seek employment as corporate lawyers or with public or nonprofit organizations. Check with the Educational Planning Center, Third Floor, Parks, for additional information on career options and considerations.

SUGGESTED PREPARATION

The best preparation for law school is a well-balanced education. Students interested in legal study should get the most from their undergraduate education. A college education should stand on its own merits as preparation for a lifetime of active involvement in a diverse and changing society.

Law School admission committees are usually impressed by applicants who can convincingly demonstrate that they’ve challenged their thinking and reasoning skills in a diverse program of undergraduate study. Law schools prefer students who can think, read, and write well, and who have some understanding of what shapes human experience. Because a lawyer’s work involves most aspects of our complex society, a broad liberal arts curriculum is the preferred preparation for law school (Ibid).

RECOMMENDED COURSES

As stated earlier, there is no specific major required in preparation for law school. Nonetheless, you should identify the major course of studies that you will pursue at a baccalaureate institution. This may be in the Social Sciences, Humanities, Business or other fields. Since every college or university may have different requirements for entering and completing the major you identify, you should be in direct contact with advisors at EvCC and at your intended university.

The University Center, on EvCC’s campus, offers several bachelor’s degree programs that provide preparation for law school. For example:
- Central Washington University – B.S. Interdisciplinary Studies/Social Science
- Western Washington University – B.A. Environmental Policy and Planning
- The Evergreen State College – B.A. Liberal Arts (at Tulalip)

GETTING STARTED AT EVCC

Our Enrollment Services Office provides information about application, placement testing, orientation, and registration for new and continuing students. All new students must complete entry advising with the Advising Center prior to first quarter registration. Contact:

Enrollment Services, 425-388-9219 admissions@everettcc.edu
Advising Center, Rainier 108, 425-388-9339

PROGRAM ADVISOR

Students interested in Pre-Law should contact:

Steve Horn, Gray Wolf 221, 425-388-9394 shorn@everettcc.edu

or contact the Division Office at: 425-388-9387.

Associate in Arts and Sciences - DTA

This checklist is targeted at transfer students with an interest transferring to a four-year institution to complete a bachelor’s degree and then continuing on for a graduate school degree in law. It should be maintained by the student while at Everett Community College, in consultation with a faculty advisor. The quarter before expected completion, this checklist should be submitted by the student, with a diploma application, to the Enrollment Services Office. This checklist refers to requirements listed in the curriculum guide titled “Associate in Arts and Sciences – DTA”, which lists all the courses which are approved for the various categories of requirements. Note: Though courses in a foreign language are not required in the DTA degree, some universities may require two or three quarters of foreign language for admission or for graduation.

Courses listed with an ampersand in the course number (e.g. ENGL&101) reflect the Common Course Numbering System.

For more information, go to www.everettcc.edu/ccn

Student Name: _______________________________________   Advisor Signature: _____________________________ Date: ______________

☐ COMPLETION of College Success Course

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<th>Where completed/Course Title</th>
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Course Number | Course Title | Credits | Quarter Completed | Grade |

BASIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS (10 credits, selected from the list of approved Communications courses on the AAS-DTA list, including at least 6 credits in composition.)

ENGL& 101 English Composition I 5
ENGL& 102 Composition II 5

BASIC QUANTITATIVE SKILLS (5 credits from the list of approved courses in Quantitative Skills on the AAS-DTA list.)

MATH 138 (Recommended)

HUMANITIES (15 credits from the DTA approved Humanities List. See Note 1.)

SOCIAL SCIENCE (15 credits from the DTA approved Social Science List. See Note 1.)

POLS& 200 Introduction to Law 5

NATURAL SCIENCE (15 credits from the DTA approved Natural Science List, including at least one lab science. See Note 1.)

SUGGESTED ELECTIVES – (A maximum of 30 credits may be completed in electives, selected from the A and B lists on the DTA checklist; a maximum of 15 credits from the B list may be used.

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<th>List A</th>
<th>List B (maximum 15 credits)</th>
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<td>Course</td>
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Total: minimum 90 credits required, minimum 2.0 GPA

Note 1: Courses must be from three different disciplines. No more than 10 credits in any one discipline may be used in Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Science.