

B.P.S. – Bachelor of Paralegal Studies

Minimum Total Hours for Degree: 120

Description: The paralegal studies program is designed for the student who wishes to pursue a career as a paralegal or legal assistant.

Degree Requirements: The degree consists of 34-35 hours of general education courses, 18 hours of additional support courses for Paralegal Studies, 42 hours of professional Paralegal core courses, and 18-21 hours in a selected minor, and general electives to bring the total minimum number of hours to 120.

General Education Requirements: The general education courses that the School of Applied Sciences requires for all degree programs are listed below.

Course Area	Hours	To be selected from:	Hours:34-35
First Year Composition	6	Either Writ 100, 101 or Hon 101 and either Writ 102, Hon 102, or Liba 102	
English Literature Survey	3	Eng 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, OR 226	
Fine Art	3	Chosen from: Art History 101, 102, 201, or 202; Liba 130; Music 101, 102, 103, 104, or 105; Dance 200 or Theatre 201 or 202	
Additional Fine Art or Humanities	3	Chosen from: African American studies (AAS); Classics (CLC) ; Gender Studies (G St); History (HIS); Philosophy (PHIL); Religion (REL); Southern Studies (SST); Literature	
Introduction to Sociology	3	Soc 101	
Introduction to Psychology	3	Psy 201	
Mathematics	3	Math 120 or more advanced	
Statistics	3	Math 115, Econ 230, Bus 230, Psy 202 or CSD 202	
Human Biology w/ Lab	4	Bisc 102/103, 160/161, 206, or 207	
Additional Science w/ Lab	3-4	Courses may be chosen from: Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Physics, Astronomy 103 or 104, or Liba 150 or 151.	

Additional Support Courses:

Course	Hours	Course Title	Hours: 18
History	3	Any history course	
Pol 101	3	Introduction to American Politics	
Phil 103	3	Logic: Critical Thinking	
Modern or Ancient Language	6	Must be the same language.	
Spch 102 or 105	3	Spch 102: Fundamentals of Public Speaking OR Spch 105: Business and Professional Speech	

Course Requirements for Major: A major in Paralegal Studies for the B.P.S. degree consists of 42 hours in the professional core. (A student is required to maintain a 2.50 GPA average when combining core courses and emphasis courses)

Course	Hours	Course Title	Hours: 18
LA 201	3	Introduction to Law	
LA 204	3	Legal Research/Writing I	
LA 205	3	Legal Research/Writing II	
LA 303	3	Civil Litigation I	
LA 304	3	Civil Litigation II	
LA 305	3	Criminal Law and Procedures	

Emphasis Requirement: Paralegal Studies majors must choose one of the following emphasis areas.

Paralegal Emphasis:

Course	Hours	Course Title	Hours: 21
LA 440	3	Issues in Access to Justice	
LA 490	3	Advanced Seminar in Legal Studies	
LA Electives	15	Choose from LA courses. LA 495 is strongly recommended.	

3+3 Emphasis:

Course	Hours	Course Title	Hours: 41
LA 490	3	Advanced Studies Seminar	
LA 491	3	Advanced Studies in Law	
LA Elective	3	Choose from LA courses.	
LAW 501	3	Contracts	
LAW 502	4	Torts	
LAW 503	3	Civil Procedures	
LAW 504	4	Property	
LAW 507	3	Constitutional Law I	
LAW 514	3	Legal Research & Writing I	
LAW 515	3	Legal Research & Writing II	
LAW 568	3	Criminal Law	
LAW 590	3	Contract Negotiation & Drafting	
LAW Elective	3	Choose from LAW courses.	

Minor Requirements: All Paralegal Emphasis majors must complete a minor or a second major. The Legal Studies minor is not available to Paralegal Studies students. The 3+3 Emphasis does not require a minor if admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Law. If not admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Law, a student will need to switch to the Paralegal emphasis which requires a minor. Therefore, students will be encouraged to develop a minor-like concentration so they do not get caught short in the event they have to switch to the other emphasis which requires a minor.

College Requirements: At least 120 semester hours with passing grades must be completed for any School of Applied Sciences degree. At least one-third of the hours (40 hours) applied toward a degree must be at or above the 300-level. Each senior must apply for a degree by returning a completed Letter of Intent to Graduate Form to the dean's office by the appropriate deadline. Refer to School of Applied Sciences **BPS Degree Requirements** section in this catalog for all School rules associated with the B.P.S. degree.

University Graduation Requirements: An overall 2.0 GPA is required on all work attempted at UM, all college work attempted at any institution of higher learning (UM and transfer work), and all coursework submitted toward the degree. In addition, a major GPA of 2.50 or higher is required. At least 25% of the hours required for an undergraduate degree must be taken in residence, with at least 15 of the last 21 credit hours completed at UM. In addition, at least 30 semester hours of residence credit must be taken in the school or college recommending the degree. The limit on the acceptance of credit from a junior or community college is one-half the total requirements for graduation in a given curriculum. Refer to the **Undergraduate Academic Regulations** section in this catalog for all university rules associated with degree requirements.

The University of Mississippi is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, masters, certificates, specialists, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, call 404-679-4500, or online at www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation.