

UNIVERSITY STUDIES - BA, SOCIETY, ETHICS AND LAW CONCENTRATION

Society, Ethics, and Law (S.E.A.L.) is a university degree that has been designed for students who are interested in pursuing law school, or developing a highly transferable skill set that is useful to non-profits and businesses alike. To this end, S.E.A.L.'s curriculum is primarily guided by the published recommendations of the *American Bar Association* (A.B.A.). While the A.B.A. does not recommend nor require any particular major, it does encourage prospective law students to i) pursue opportunities (courses and experiences) that cultivate a specific set of skills; ii) obtain experiences that "can help [them] hit the ground running when [they] become a lawyer; and iii) develop "a broad understanding of history, including the various factors (social, political, economic, and cultural) that have influenced the development of our society in the United States."¹

The requirements for this University Studies degree reflect the A.B.A.'s recommendation. Under the broad themes of Society, Ethics and Law, the degree requires classes that contribute to a broad understanding of philosophy, politics, economics and history. Specifically, S.E.A.L. requires that students complete major requirements, a minor in Philosophy, and a second minor outside of the Liberal Arts. In addition to obtaining a broad understanding of society, ethics and law, the degree requires that students pursue experiences and opportunities that typically cultivate the A.B.A.'s recommended skill set:

1. Problem Solving involves "courses and other experiences that will engage [students] in critical thinking about important issues, challenge ... beliefs and improve ... tolerance for uncertainty and criticism."¹
2. Critical Reading involves "close reading and critical analysis of complex textual material."¹
3. Writing and Editing involves "preparing original pieces of substantial length and revising written work in response to constructive criticism. [...] Language is the most important tool of a lawyer, and lawyers must learn how to express themselves clearly and concisely."¹
4. Oral Communication and Listening involves "the ability to speak clearly and persuasively... and excellent listening skills."¹
5. Research involves "undertaking a project that requires significant library research and the analysis of large amounts of information obtained from that research."¹

The study of philosophy lends itself to the development of the five recommended skills. To this end, the required minor in Philosophy provides an opportunity to cultivate these skills.

Students are strongly advised to take philosophy courses over and above the minimum requirements for a minor, including independent studies and honors research courses.

¹ http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/pre_law.html (http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/pre_law.html)

Program Requirements

First Year		Semester	Credit Hours
Fall			
ENGL 103	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition		3
or ENGL 104	or Composition and Rhetoric		
Foreign language ¹			4
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)			3
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics)			3
Philosophy minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/philosophy-humanities/minor/)			3
Semester Credit Hours			16
Spring			
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic		3
Select one of the following:			3
COMM 203	Public Speaking		
COMM 243	Argumentation and Debate		
ENGL 210	Technical and Professional Writing		
Foreign language ¹			4
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)			3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)			3
Semester Credit Hours			16
Second Year			
Fall			
Foreign language ¹			3
Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)			3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)			3
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences)			3
Minor ²			3
General elective ³			1
Semester Credit Hours			16
Spring			
Foreign language ¹			3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)			3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)			3
Minor ²			3

General elective ³	3	COMM 324, COMM 325, COMM 420/WGST 420, FREN 300, FREN 301, FREN 306, FREN 311, FREN 321, FREN 322, FREN 336, FREN 375, FREN 418, GERM 310, GERM 311, GERM 315, GERM 316, GERM 321, GERM 322, GERM 331, GERM 332, GERM 333, GERM 336, GERM 362, GERM 410, GERM 411, ITAL 303, JAPN 301, JAPN 302, JAPN 401, JAPN 402, PHIL 300-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/phil/), RUSS 301, RUSS 302, RUSS 322, RUSS 410, SPAN 301, SPAN 302, SPAN 303, SPAN 304, SPAN 306, SPAN 307, SPAN 311, SPAN 318, SPAN 331, SPAN 332, SPAN 341, SPAN 342, SPAN 403, SPAN 445, SPAN 483, WGST 403, and any course from the other focus areas lists.
Semester Credit Hours	15	
Third Year		
Fall		
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)	3	
Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts)	3	
Minor ²	3	⁶ Select from AFST 201, AFST 252/PHIL 252, AFST 300/HIST 300, AFST 301/HIST 301, AFST 317/SOCI 317, AFST 338/COMM 338, AFST 352/PHIL 352, AFST 353/PHIL 353, AFST 401, AFST 425/COMM 425, ANTH 205, ANTH 210, ANTH 370, ANTH 404/WGST 404, ANTH 409, COMM 265, COMM 307/JOUR 301, COMM 335, COMM 343, COMM 354, COMM 431, COMM 438, COMM 440, COMM 446, COMM 460, ECON 202, ECON 318/WGST 318, ECON 323, GLST 311/ENGL 309, HIST 258, HIST 303, HIST 305, HIST 307, HIST 316, HIST 319, HIST 349/ASIA 349, HIST 359, HIST 366/RELS 366, HIST 401, HIST 447, HIST 448, HIST 450, HIST 451, HIST 455, HIST 459, HIST 460, HIST 461/WGST 461, HIST 468/LMAS 468, HIST 469, HIST 470, HIST 473/WGST 473, HUMA 304/RELS 304, HUMA 321, INTA 301, LMAS 201, PBSI 206/AFST 206, PBSI 208, PBSI 209/AFST 209, PBSI 210/WGST 210, PHIL 205, PHIL 283, PHIL 331/RELS 331, PHIL 332, PHIL 409, POLS 203, POLS 302, POLS 304, POLS 306, POLS 312, POLS 313, POLS 314, POLS 315, POLS 316, POLS 320, POLS 350, POLS 359, POLS 369, POLS 413; RELS 202, RELS 321, SOCI 205, SOCI 207/WGST 207, SOCI 211, SOCI 214, SOCI 304, SOCI 311, SOCI 312, SOCI 315/WGST 315, SOCI 316/WGST 316, SOCI 319/SPMT 319, SOCI 326/RELS 326, SOCI 328, SOCI 335, SOCI 337, SOCI 403, SOCI 404/RPTS 404, SOCI 408, SOCI 411, SOCI 412, SOCI 413, SOCI 415, SOCI 419, SOCI 421/WGST 421, SOCI 422, SOCI 425, SPAN 312, SPAN 411, SPAN 461, WGST 200.
Philosophy minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/philosophy-humanities/minor/)	3	
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/)	3	
Semester Credit Hours	15	
Spring		
Experiential component and supplemental studies ^{4,5}	3	
Minor ²	3	
Philosophy minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/philosophy-humanities/minor/)	3	
Society focus ^{4,6}	3	
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/)	3	
Semester Credit Hours	15	
Fourth Year		
Fall		
Ethics focus ^{4,7}	3	
Law, regulation and policy focus ^{4,8}	3	
Minor ²	3	
Philosophy minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/philosophy-humanities/minor/)	3	
Society focus ^{4,5}	3	⁷ Select from PHIL 111, PHIL 205, PHIL 282, PHIL 314, PHIL 315, PHIL 353/AFST 353, PHIL 381, PHIL 465/RELS 465, PHIL 470, PHIL 480, PHIL 482, PHIL 485, PHIL 489.
Semester Credit Hours	15	⁸ Select from COMM 307/JOUR 301, COMM 317/JOUR 317, CSCE 402, ECON 312, ECON 328, ECON 412, ECON 414, ECON 418, ECON 436, ECON 420, ECON 425, ECON 426, EHRD 210, JOUR 450, HIST 360, HIST 447, HIST 448, MGMT 209, PBSI 354, PBSI 371, PHIL 334, PHIL 336, PHIL 470, POLS 232, POLS 233, POLS 313, POLS 314, POLS 315, POLS 316, POLS 317, POLS 320, POLS 327, POLS 340/PSAA 340, POLS 342, POLS 347, POLS 353, POLS 355, POLS 357, POLS 358, POLS 461, POLS 462/WGST 462, POLS 475, PSAA 440, SOCI 338, SOCI 410/WGST 410, SOCI 445, WGST 462/POLS 462.
Semester Credit Hours	12	
Total Semester Credit Hours	120	

¹ Complete 14 hours of a foreign language (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/>) through the intermediate level. If you choose to enroll in a language you have studied previously without receiving college credit, you must first take a placement test. See academic advisor.

² This minor must be chosen from outside of the College of Arts and Sciences.

³ Any 100-499 course not used elsewhere.

⁴ Must make a grade of C or better.

⁵ Students must take PHIL 484 (0-3 hours) and then choose the remainder of the required 6 hours from: ARAB 301, ARAB 302, ARAB 321, ARAB 322, CHIN 301, CHIN 302, CLAS 313, CLAS 320, CLAS 321, CLAS 322, COMM 240, COMM 245, COMM 265, COMM 301,

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. The required 6 hours may be met by courses satisfying other areas of a degree program. See your academic advisor for further information.