LEGAL STUDIES (BS): students are no longer permitted to register for this major*

http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/648.php

“The major in Legal Studies is designed to provide students with knowledge of legal processes and the administration of law. It offers preparation for careers in a wide variety of fields: criminal justice, governmental service, journalism and politics. It is also an appropriate field of study for application to graduate or professional schools.”

Skills, Abilities and Objectives for Legal Studies Majors:
- Apply theoretical approaches to problem solving
- Strong organizational skills
- Research and project management
- Develop strong written and oral communication skills
- Develop critical evaluation and application
- Develop critical thinking and analytical
- Develop and apply hypotheses
- Develop and execute projects
- Edit effectively
- Influence and persuade others

Transferring Skills to Careers:
The skills above prepare Legal Studies majors for a range of professional degrees and career options. The list below does not include all possible professional paths available to students who major in Legal Studies but gives a sample of careers graduates have chosen to pursue. The writing and persuasive skills developed by Legal Studies majors are applicable to positions such as:

- Legal Assistant
- Client Relationship Associate
- Paralegal
- External Affairs Coordinator
- Public Relations Assistant
- Program Analyst

- Business Development Manager
- Legal Associate
- Associate Counsel
- Federal Agent
- Business Analyst
- Legal Consultant

Strategies for Professional Development:
- Explore minors such as: Africana Studies, Human Services, Corrections, Dispute Resolution, Economics, History, Humanities and Justice, Human Rights, Philosophy, Psychology, Political Science, and Sociology.

- Look for internship/volunteer experiences with various social and government agencies.

- Develop and emphasize your transferrable skills such as:
  - Communication
  - Leadership/Team work
  - Research
  - Strategic Thinking

- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in fields of interests.

- Get involved in student organizations such as the John Jay Debate Society, Pre Law Society and the United Nations Student Association.

- Create a LinkedIn account to connect with individuals and organizations in fields of interests.

- Consider pursuing a master’s degree in a related career field.

Professional Associations/Organizations:
A professional association is an organization formed to promote and support the development, growth and work efforts of individuals in a particular career field. Membership benefits include networking, continuing education, mentoring programs, meetings/conferences and exclusive access to information regarding career opportunities.

There is often a fee for joining professional organizations; however, most associations offer discounts to students, including graduate school students, recent graduates, and young professionals. All or a portion of associations’ fees are tax deductible. To learn more about professional associations, see the National Trade and Professional Associations Directory, the American Society of Association Executives or the Encyclopedia of Associations: Volume I - National Organizations of the U.S. The latter publication is available in the Reference section of John Jay College's Lloyd Sealy Library.

- Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity & Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity
  http://www.pad.org

- International Legal Fraternity of Phi Delta Phi
  http://www.phideltaphi.org

- American Bar Association
  http://www.americanbar.org/aba.html

Additional Resources:
- Occupational Outlook Handbook- Legal Assistant and Paralegals
  http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Legal/Paralegals-and-legal-assistants.htm

- Occupational Outlook Handbook- Lawyers
  http://www.bls.gov/ooh/legal/lawyers.htm

- National Law Journal
  http://www.law.com/jsp/nlj/index.jsp

For more information on this major please visit:
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