Completing LSJ Major Requirements

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Major Requirements

The requirements for a major in Law, Societies, and Justice can be completed in about 55 credits, to include:

- All four LSJ Core Courses (20 credits)
- Three additional courses (not including the Core Courses) from one of the two designated subfields of study (Comparative Legal Institutions; and Rights) (usually 15 credits)
- Two courses from the other of these two subfields (usually 10 credits)
- One LSJ Departmental Seminar course (5 credits)
- LSJ 401 Internship (5 credits. For further information see the Internship Requirements page of this website.)

In addition to the 55 credits needed to finish major requirements, all LSJ majors also have to complete the University and College of Arts & Sciences General Education requirements, including:

- 5 credits of English Composition (with a grade of 2.00 or higher)
- 10 credits of Additional Writing
- 5 credits of Quantitative Symbolic Reasoning
- 3 credits of Diversity
- the College of Arts & Sciences Foreign Language Requirement
- 20 credits of Visual, Literary and Performing Arts
- 20 credits of Individuals & Society
- 20 credits of Natural World
- 15 credits of Additional Areas of Knowledge classes

The exact path of each student through these General Education requirements can and should be discussed with the LSJ adviser in detail. A further description of these requirements can be found on the UW Undergraduate Advising webpage under the Degree Planning tab.
LSJ Core Courses

There are four different categories that make up the LSJ Core Course list. Students need to take one class from each of these categories in order to finish major requirements, a total of four courses (20 credits).

- LSJ 320/POL S 368 The Politics and Law of International Human Rights, LSJ 321/ANTH 323 Human Rights Law in Culture and Practice, or LSJ 322/JSIS A 324 Human Rights in Latin America
- LSJ 200 Introduction to Law, Societies, and Justice, or LSJ/POL S 363 Law in Society
- LSJ/JSIS B 366 Comparative Law and Legal Cultures, or LSJ/POL S 367 Comparative Law and Courts
- LSJ 375/SOC 372 Crime, Politics, and Justice (this is the only core course in this category and is thus required for all majors)

Students do not need to take the LSJ Core Courses in a particular order, but students are strongly encouraged to make Core Classes a priority over LSJ Subfield courses, because the Core Classes provide the underpinnings and structure of the major.

LSJ Subfields

Subfield Courses for the LSJ major: students must take three courses in one Subfield, and two courses in the other Subfield. The required Core Courses may not be used to satisfy both the Core and the Subfields requirement.

Subfield 1: Comparative Legal Institutions

- PHIL 114 Philosophical Issues in the Law (5)
- SOC 271 Introduction to Sociology of Deviance and Social Control (5) or SOC 371 Criminology (5) or SOC 472 Juvenile Delinquency (5) [only one of these three classes can count towards completion of LSJ major or minor requirements]
- GWSS 310 Women and the Law (5)
- PHIL 314 Philosophy of Crime and Punishment (5)
- POL S 320/JSIS B 310 State-Society Relations in Third World Countries (5)
- AIS 335 American Indians and the Law (5)
- LSJ/POL S 347 Politics of International Law (5)
- LSJ/POL S 360 Introduction to United States Constitutional Law (5)
- LSJ/POL S 361 United States Courts and Civil Liberty (5)
- LSJ/SOC 376 Drugs and Society (5)
- LSJ 377 Punishment: Theory and Practice (5)
- LSJ 380 Contemporary Issues in Comparative Legal Institutions (5, max. 10) *
- PHIL 414 Philosophy of Law (5)
- JSIS B 424 International Law and Arms Control (5)
- COM 440/POL S 461 Mass Media Law (5)
- LSJ 444 Ethics in Law and Justice (5)
- POL S 462 The Supreme Court in American Politics (5)
- POL S 464 The Politics of American Criminal Justice (5)
- LSJ/GEOG 467 Law, Justice, and the Environment (5)#
- POL S 467 Comparative Law in Society (5)
- LSJ/GEOG 474 Geography and the Law (5)#
- LSJ/SOC 476 Miscarriages of Justice (5)#
- LSJ 490 Special Topics in Comparative Legal Institutions (5, max. 15) **

Subfield 2: Rights
• DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 230 Introduction to Disability Studies (5)
• LSJ/POL S 327 Women’s Rights as Human Rights (5)
• LSJ 329 Immigration, Citizenship, and Rights (5)
• LSJ 331/POL S 317 Politics of Race and Ethnicity in the US (5)
• DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 332 Disability and Society (5)
• PHIL 338 Philosophy of Human Rights (5)
• LSJ/JSIS B/DIS ST 346 Disability in Global & Comparative Perspective (5)
• GWSS/CHID 350 Women in Law and Literature (5)
• LSJ 381 Issues in Rights (5, max 10) *
• LSJ 421/ANTH 498 Women’s Rights and Politics in Islamic Society (5)#
• LSJ 422 Immigrants, Labor, and Legality (5)#
• LSJ 426 Reconciliation: The Politics of Forgiveness in a Global Age (5)#
• LSJ 428/POL S 415 Women’s Rights in an Integrated Europe (5)
• DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 430 Topics in Disability Studies (5, max. 15)*
• POL S 430 Civil-Military Relations in Democracies (5)
• DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 433 Disability Law, Policy, & Community (5)#
• DIS ST/LSJ/CHID 434 Civil and Human Rights Law for Disabled People (5)#
• LSJ/DIS ST/CHID 437 Crime, Law, & Mental Illness (5)#
• AFRAM 437 Blacks in American Law (5)
• LSJ 438 Human Rights & International Development (5)#
• B H 456 Social Justice and Health (5)
• LSJ 491 Special Topics in Rights (5, max 15) *#

*LSJ 380, 381, 430, 490, and 491 are variable-topic courses. The topic for a specific offering will be listed on the Time Schedule and also on the Quarterly Course Offerings handouts (available outside the LSJ advising office).
#These courses are eligible to satisfy the LSJ Departmental Seminar Requirement. Students must email the LSJ Adviser to indicate they would like to use one of these courses to fulfill the seminar requirement.

LSJ Departmental Seminar

Each year several courses listed as LSJ Departmental Seminars will be featured. While the number of qualifying seminars will vary, no less than four will be offered every year and a minimum of one each quarter, excluding summer. An effort will be made to offer a range of diverse substantive specializations in these seminars matching the two program subfields and the diverse interests of student majors. Completion of one such course is required for graduation.

An LSJ Departmental Seminar course is a small, discussion-driven course on a focused topic, taught by LSJ faculty. Students can expect plenty of reading, writing, discussion and active participation in the topic. These same courses can alternatively be used for completion of the LSJ Subfield requirements, but the student will need to choose whether to use it as a Subfield or as a Seminar. They cannot work towards two requirements simultaneously.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of these remarkable courses by taking more than one of them in their time as a student.

*Students are responsible for arranging with the LSJ adviser which course they will use for completion of their Departmental Seminar requirement. This can be done by an email to the LSJ adviser once the student has registered for the course. The
adviser can then make the appropriate change in the student’s academic record.

LSJ 401, Internship Class
In order to finish the LSJ major, all students must finish LSJ 401. This is a class built around a 100 hour internship or volunteer experience related to materials covered in LSJ. Only LSJ majors can register for this class. See the Internship Requirement (LSJ 401) tab in this website for more information.

Because students will need to find an experience on their own, it is highly recommended that they plan ahead, starting the search up to two quarters prior to the quarter in which they intend to register for the course.

Petition to Have Outside Course Count Toward Major
LSJ Majors may petition to have a maximum of 5 credits of outside coursework count toward the LSJ major. It is best to petition your course PRIOR to taking it as petitions are rarely granted. Needing to graduate on time is not a suitable justification for petitioning a course.

LSJ Major Petition Form

Earn Credit for Study Abroad
Similar to petitioning outside courses, it is strongly advised to petition your study abroad course PRIOR to going on the trip. Needing to graduate on time is not a suitable justification for petitioning a course.

LSJ Study Abroad Petition From

If you are participating in an LSJ sponsored Study Abroad Program (LSJ Rome, Amsterdam, Cape Town, Jamaica), your credits will count for either the LSJ seminar requirement or one of the LSJ Subfields. You do not need to petition these courses. Please schedule a meeting with the LSJ Adviser to adjust your degree audit once your credits have been posted to your transcript.

A maximum of 5 study abroad credits outside of LSJ affiliated programs may be counted toward the LSJ major.

Students may not petition study abroad credits to count toward the minor.

Independent Study
Student may earn credit for independent study work through either LSJ 301 or LSJ 499. Credits earned through these courses count toward total credit, but will not fulfill LSJ major requirements.

LSJ 301: Independent Internship
Students may earn credit for additional internship hours beyond the 100 hours required for LSJ 401. Students may earn 1 credit per 30 hours of internship.

301 Application

LSJ 499: Independent study
Students may earn credit for independent study with an LSJ faculty member.