

# Associate in Arts in Paralegal

## Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this degree, students will have experienced a well-rounded general education, including a concentration in paralegal coursework that will prepare them well for advanced studies.

## Employment Opportunities or Additional Educational Options

With this degree, students can prepare for transfer to four-year institutions to continue their studies in paralegal or law disciplines.

## To Learn More About This Program

Contact Leon Letter at 269-782-1215 or [lletter@swmich.edu](mailto:lletter@swmich.edu).

## Degree Requirements

To earn this degree, students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, complete a minimum of 60 credit hours, and fulfill the course requirements of the program listed below. Students, working closely with their advisor, are permitted to substitute the courses in the General Education and MTA Courses section below according to the guidelines on page 33 of this catalog. Each general education course, prerequisite course, internship/practicum, and capstone course must be completed with a final grade of "C" or better.

## General Education and MTA Courses

### COMMUNICATIONS

Course ID	Course	Credits
ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W	Freshman English 2 (or with workshop)	3 to 4 credits
SPEE 102	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3 credits

### MATHEMATICS

Course ID	Course	Credits
MATH 150	Statistics	4 credits

### NATURAL SCIENCE

Course ID	Course	Credits
BIOL 110	Human Biology	4 credits
GEOG 110	Physical Geography	4 credits

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

Course ID	Course	Credits
POSC 201	American Government	3 credits
ECON 202	Microeconomics	3 credits

### HUMANITIES

Course ID	Course	Credits
ENGL 265	Creative Nonfiction Writing	3 credits
PHIL 210	Introduction to Ethics	4 credits

### Major-specific Required Courses

Course ID	Course	Credits
EDUC 120	Educational Exploration and Planning	1 credit
BUSI 207	Business Law 1	3 credits
BUSI 208	Business Law 2	3 credits
ISYS 110	Introduction to Computer Technology	3 credits
LEGA 102	Law in the United States	3 credits
LEGA 203	Legal Research and Writing 1	3 credits
LEGA 204	Legal Research and Writing 2	3 credits
LEGA 205 or LEGA 240	Criminal Litigation or Bankruptcy	3 credits
LEGA 206	Civil Litigation	3 credits
LEGA 220	Torts	3 credits
LEGA 230	Wills, Trusts, and Probate	3 credits

**Total Program Credits: 62**

## Additional Notes About the A.A. in Paralegal Program

- A prerequisite course may be needed prior to enrollment in some courses within this program. Specific prerequisite requirements are listed in the Course Description section in the Course Catalog. A summary of the prerequisites are listed below in the Example Course Sequence.
- This program as outlined meets MTA requirements.
- Courses taken out of sequence may delay a student's ability to complete the program in a timely manner. Please consult your advisor regularly.
- Each student should submit a graduation application at least one full semester before he/she plans to graduate.
- This program is subject to change. Students should consult with their advisor for program updates.

## Example Course Sequence

The following is a sample of a semester-by-semester approach to completing this program.

### FIRST SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of "C" Required)
EDUC 120 Educational Exploration and Planning	1 credit	ENGL 115 or test score (concurrent enrollment allowed)
ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W Freshman English 2 (or with workshop)	3 to 4 credits	ENGL 115 or test score (concurrent enrollment allowed)
ISYS 110 Introduction to Computer Technology	3 credits	None
LEGA 102 Law in the United States	3 credits	ENGL 115 or test score (concurrent enrollment allowed)
LEGA 203 Legal Research & Writing 1	3 credits	LEGA 102 (concurrent enrollment allowed); ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W (concurrent enrollment allowed)
SPEE 102 Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3 credits	None

### SECOND SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of "C" Required)
BIOL 110 Human Biology	4 credits	ENGL 115 or test score (concurrent enrollment allowed)
LEGA 204 Legal Research & Writing 2	3 credits	LEGA 203
MATH 150 Statistics	4 credits	MATH 101, MATH 102, or test score
ENGL 265 Creative Nonfiction Writing or PHIL 210 Introduction to Ethics	3 to 4 credits	ENGL 265: None PHIL 210: ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W

### THIRD SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of "C" Required)
BUSI 207 Business Law 1	3 credits	None. BUSI 200 recommended
ECON 202 Microeconomics	3 credits	MATH 101, MATH 102, or test score
GEOG 110 Physical Geography	4 credits	None
LEGA 220 Torts	3 credits	LEGA 102; LEGA 203
POSC 201 American Government	3 credits	ENGL 115 or test score (concurrent enrollment allowed)

### FOURTH SEMESTER

Courses	Credits	Prerequisites (Minimum Grade of "C" Required)
BUSI 208 Business Law 2	3 credits	None. BUSI 200 and BUSI 207 recommended
ENGL 265 Creative Nonfiction Writing or PHIL 210 Introduction to Ethics	3 to 4 credits	ENGL 265: None PHIL 210: ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W
LEGA 206 Civil Litigation	3 credits	LEGA 102; LEGA 203
LEGA 230 Wills, Trusts, and Probate	3 credits	LEGA 102; LEGA 203
LEGA 205 Criminal Litigation or LEGA 240 Bankruptcy	3 credits	LEGA 102; LEGA 203