**PRE-LAW (NON-DEGREE)**

**Description**

Pre-law is an advising category designed to provide students who have an interest in attending law school with the guidance and career development they need in their preparation to enter law school. Pre-law is a non-degree granting program focused on helping students build the academic and interpersonal skills and characteristics desired in the law profession. Skills identified as important for a successful career in law include: analytical reasoning, problem solving, critical reading, writing, oral communication, listening, research, organization, public service, collaborative relationship building, and negotiation skills. By working with a pre-law advisor, pre-law students can identify the curricular and extracurricular activities that will help them develop these desired skills.

**Advising**

The Explore Center serves as UNL’s advising resource for pre-law students. Pre-law advisors work one-on-one with students to provide specialized pre-law advising, which supplements advising in the academic major. In addition to meeting with an advisor for their academic major (if declared), all pre-law students should meet once per semester with a pre-law Explore Center advisor for help in planning the necessary pre-law experiences required to apply to law school. Pre-law advisors help students create short- and long-range plans so that they can be in the best possible position to gain admittance to law school. The Explore Center also provides a number of pre-law advising resources, workshops, and events to help students develop and move forward in their career plans in the field of law. See https://explorecenter.unl.edu/pre-law for resources.

Professional academic advisors in the Explore Center are available for individual student meetings on a walk-in or appointment basis weekdays in 127 Love Library South. Pre-law students who have not yet chosen a major have an assigned Explore Center academic advisor but are welcome to meet with any advisor in the Explore Center. Students can find their assigned advisor through “My Success Network” in MyPLAN or in MyRED. For complete and current information on Explore Center academic advising visit https://explorecenter.unl.edu/about/appointment or contact the Explore Center by visiting 127 Love Library South or by calling 402-472-3605.

**Major Declaration**

Most law schools require that students complete a bachelor’s degree in order to be admitted to law school. Pre-law students are encouraged to explore and declare a major that will help them to develop key pre-law skills and provide them with a rigorous academic background in preparation for further studies in law school. Any Nebraska undergraduate degree is acceptable for admission to law school. Because there are no specific undergraduate prerequisite courses required by law schools, the bulk of course work pre-law students will take at Nebraska will be in their major field of study. Students who have not yet decided which UNL major they would like to declare may temporarily select a major of “Pre-Law” in the Explore Center. Regardless of whether an academic major has been declared or not, pre-law students may receive pre-law information and advising from the Explore Center by indicating their pre-law interest with their college advising office and filling out a pre-professional status form.

### 13 HR TERM 1

**Intro to Law And Legal Prof**

*complete CASC 140*
**15 HR TERM 2**

Major Exploration

complete Any Course

6hr

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Consult with your Explore Center academic advisor.

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**15 HR TERM 3**

Major Exploration

complete Any Course

6hr

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ACE 7 Arts

complete 1 from ACE7

6hr

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ACE 6 Social Sciences

complete 1 from ACE6

3hr

Consult with your Explore Center academic advisor.

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ACE 5 Humanities

complete 1 from ACE5

3hr

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ACE 4 Sciences

complete 1 from ACE4

3hr

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ACE 3 Math/Statistics

complete 1 from ACE3

3hr

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ACE 2 Communication Skill

complete 1 from ACE2

3hr

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ACE 1 Written Texts

complete 1 from ACE1

3hr

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Major Exploration

complete Any Course

1hr

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Consult with your Explore Center academic advisor.
Pre-Law (Non-Degree)

ACE 8 Ethical Principles

complete 1 from ACE8

Consider a course to build your academic skills for law school. Consult with your Explore Center academic advisor.

Electives

complete Any Course

Consider a course to build your academic skills for law school. Consult with your Explore Center academic advisor.

Major Exploration

complete Any Course

Consult with your Explore Center academic advisor.

ACE 9 Global/Human Divers

complete 1 from ACE9

Milestones

1. Pre-Law students must declare a major within three terms (excluding summer) of reaching sophomore standing. Students transferring into the Explore Center at sophomore standing or above must declare a major within three terms (excluding summer).

Graduation Requirements

1. Pre-Law is an advising category and not a degree-granting major.
2. Maintaining a competitive GPA for law school is very important for pre-law students. It is important to meet with an Explore Center advisor each semester.