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## Pre-Law

### COORDINATOR: TODD LOCHNER

A law degree equips one for a wide variety of careers in law, business, government, and politics. The practice of law itself encompasses a multitude of variations from megafirms to solo practice, from in-house counsel to prosecutor, from policy advocate to public defender. Therefore, law schools do not require, and Lewis & Clark does not prescribe, a single course of study as pre-law preparation. Faculty advisors usually recommend courses that cultivate analytical and writing skills as excellent preparation for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and for subsequent work in law school.

Recent graduates of Lewis & Clark's College of Arts and Sciences have pursued legal education at Duke, the University of California at Berkeley, Boston College, Emory, Cornell, Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, Tulane, Lewis & Clark Law School, and many other fine schools throughout the country. Some graduates elect to go directly into the study of law after graduation; others wait a year or two before applying to law school.

Students have gone to law school after majoring in almost every field at Lewis & Clark. The majority are from the social sciences and the humanities. Recently, more science majors have been entering the legal profession as well. Several Lewis & Clark undergraduate courses involve meetings with federal and state judges, visiting large and small law firms, guest appearances by practicing lawyers, and sharing events at the law school.

Informal pre-law advisors advise students and maintain information regarding law schools, the application process, and the legal profession. Information about law school and legal careers is also available from Lewis & Clark Law School. Undergraduate students are encouraged to participate in the many public events sponsored by the law school.

Positions held by graduates include law school professor, U.S. representative, lobbyist, director of city planning, manager of a billion-dollar light rail construction project, U.S. ambassador, trial and appellate court judges, and congressional committee staffers.

## Pre-Medicine/Pre-Health

Graduates of Lewis & Clark have entered the fields of medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, osteopathic medicine, medical technology, physical therapy, and nursing after postgraduate study at professional schools such as those at Oregon Health & Science University, the University of Washington, Vanderbilt University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, and Wake Forest University. Advisors at Lewis & Clark guide students in selection of appropriate courses through individual counseling, group information sessions, literature, and the Internet. Other resources available include internships and a network of Lewis & Clark alumni working in the health professions who are willing to assist students in making career decisions.

Many courses required for admission to health professional schools are sequential, so careful planning is essential. Students should consult as soon as possible with their academic advisor and Adonica De Vault in the Center for Career and Community Engagement. Students who plan to pursue postgraduate work in the health professions must take basic courses in biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, and psychology at Lewis & Clark. Many health professions schools require advanced coursework in some of these areas as well. They also strongly encourage students to develop a breadth of academic and cocurricular interests. Although many pre-med/pre-health students major in biology, biochemistry, or chemistry, students can enter graduate programs in the health

professions with any undergraduate major, provided they have taken the courses required by the professional schools.

## Psychology

### **CHAIR: YUEPING ZHANG**

Psychology is the science of behavior and mental processes. The department's goals are to give students both a strong, scientifically rigorous base in the major subdisciplines of psychology and an exposure to applications of psychology. The curriculum and related activities acquaint students with the conceptual issues, theoretical models, empirical observations, and ethical decisions that form the basis of psychological knowledge. The department strives to develop students' competencies in conducting and evaluating psychological research, and many students have had the opportunity to publish papers and give presentations in conjunction with faculty. In addition, students can gain experience in applied psychology through the internship program.

### **THE MAJOR PROGRAM**

The major begins with the foundation courses: Introduction to Psychology, Statistics I, and Psychology Methodology. Seven other courses, chosen in conference with the major advisor, fulfill the major requirements. Of these seven courses, two are at the intermediate (200) level, one must be an advanced (300-level) psychology lab, and one must be a capstone (400-level) course. The remaining three courses are electives, two of which must be at the advanced or capstone level. Students may arrange to take independent study courses in consultation with the supervising faculty member.

Capstone courses are challenging seminars that offer majors an integrative experience toward the end of their college careers. A capstone course may involve any of the following: integration of various subareas within psychology, integration of psychology and other disciplines, or application of psychological principles and methods to real-world problems and/or basic scientific questions. Capstone courses typically include a major project and in-class presentation.

Transfer students must consult the department chair to determine what courses they need to take to fulfill the major requirements.

### **MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

A minimum of 40 semester credits (10 courses) in psychology, distributed as follows:

- Program core courses: 100, 200, and 300.
- One course in development, abnormal psychology, or social psychology: 230, 240, or 260.
- One course in cognition or the brain and behavior: 220 or 280.
- One advanced lab: 310, 350, or 355.
- One capstone course: 400, 410, 425, 440, 445, 460, 465, or 490.
- Three elective courses, two of which must be at the 300 level or higher, including a maximum of 4 semester credits for 299 and 499.

### **INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

The department's active internship program provides supervised experience and training in psychological activities at a variety of social service agencies in Portland and abroad. This field experience provides an important supplement to the student's academic program.

### **HONORS**

At the end of the second semester of the junior year, students may apply to participate in the psychology honors program. Selection is based on an evaluation of academic performance (a GPA of 3.500 in the major and overall) and the