

HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MAJORS

PUBLIC INTEREST PARALEGAL

The Public Interest Paralegal Program offers an A.A.S. degree in paralegal studies with an emphasis on training students for public service legal work. Students will be trained in the skills necessary to provide paralegal services in legal service and legal aid offices, community and religious organizations, social services agencies, the courts, unions, and other public service institutions.

The curriculum provides specialty training in the areas of Family Law, Employee and Public Benefit Law, and Immigration Law integrated with a general program of paralegal studies including legal writing and research as well as Hearing and Trial Advocacy.

To insure access to the program for Spanish-dominant students, introductory law courses from the Public Administration Program that are required as part of the Paralegal Program are offered in Spanish as well as English.

Students in the program will concentrate their studies in one of the three specialty areas: Immigration Law, Family Law, and Public & Employee Benefit Law. Each concentration includes an introductory course and an advanced course emphasizing practical implementation of legal services in the student's concentration area. Two, three-credit semester courses in a field placement office that offers services in the student's legal concentration are also required. Thus, upon graduation, the student will have completed twelve (12) credit hours of study in an area of legal concentration.

The following represents the requirements for the A.A.S. degree in Paralegal Studies:

Liberal Arts & Sciences	Credits
English	6.0
Mathematics	3.0
Behavioral & Social Sciences	9.0
Natural Sciences	4.0
Humanities	3.0
Computer Application	3.0
Elective	2.0
Subtotal	30.0
Paralegal Studies	30.0
Total Credits for Degree	60.0

Suggested Program of Study A.A.S. Degree - Paralegal Studies

First Year

First Semester	Credits
ENG 110Expository Writing	3.0
MAT 100Introductory College Mathematics	3.0
LEG 8500Introduction to the Legal System	3.0
ADM 2522Law & Social Change	3.0
Introduction to Legal Specialty (choose one):	

ADM 2525Immigration Law	3.0
OR	
ADM 2526Family Law	3.0
OR	
ADM 2527Public & Employee Benefit Law	3.0
Subtotal	15.0

Second Semester

Credits

ENG 111Literature & Composition	3.0
LEG 8510Law Office Systems	3.0
Elective	3.0
OT 101Computer Applications	3.0

Advanced Legal Specialty (choose one):

LEG 8525Advanced Immigration Law	3.0
OR	
LEG 8526Advanced Family Law	3.0
OR	
LEG 8527Advanced Public & Employee Benefit Law	3.0

Subtotal	15.0
-----------------------	-------------

Second Year

Third Semester

Credits

LEG 8540Practicum I	3.0
LEG 8530Legal Research & Writing I	3.0
Elective	3.0
Elective	3.0
Elective	4.0

Subtotal	16.0
-----------------------	-------------

Fourth Semester

Credits

LEG 8550Hearing & Trial Advocacy	3.0
LEG 8543Legal Practicum II	3.0
LEG 8532Legal Research & Writing II	3.0
Elective	3.0
ElectiveCourse	2.0

Subtotal	14.0
-----------------------	-------------

Total Credits for Degree	60.0
---------------------------------------	-------------