

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 service 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 110	Expository Writing	3.0
MAT 100.....	Introductory College Mathematics	3.0
LEG 8500.....	Introduction to the Legal System.....	3.0
ADM 2522	Law & Social Change.....	3.0

Introduction to Legal Specialty (choose one):	
ADM 2525	Immigration Law3.0
OR	
124	
ADM 2526	Family Law.....3.0
OR	
ADM 2527	Public & Employee Benefit Law.....3.0
Subtotal	15.0
Second Semester Credits	
ENG 111	Literature & Composition.....3.0
LEG 8510.....	Law Office Systems.....3.0
Elective	Behavioral & Social Sciences.....3.0
OT 101	Computer Applications.....3.0
Advanced Legal Specialty (choose one):	
LEG 8525.....	Advanced Immigration Law.....3.0
OR	
LEG 8526.....	Advanced Family Law.....3.0
OR	
LEG 8527.....	Advanced Public & Employee Benefit Law...3.0
Subtotal	15.0
Second Year	
Third Semester Credits	
LEG 8540.....	Practicum I.....3.0
LEG 8530.....	Legal Research & Writing I.....3.0
Elective	Humanities.....3.0
Elective	Behavioral & Social Sciences.....3.0
Elective	Natural Sciences4.0
Subtotal	16.0
Fourth Semester Credits	
LEG 8550.....	Hearing & Trial Advocacy3.0
LEG 8543.....	Legal Practicum II3.0
LEG 8532.....	Legal Research & Writing II3.0
Elective	Behavioral & Social Sciences.....3.0
Elective	Course.....2.0
Subtotal	14.0
Total Credits for Degree.....	60.0