Why Philosophy Students Do Well in Law School

“While no single curricular path is the ideal preparation for law school, you should choose courses that sharpen analytical reasoning and writing skills. Law schools prefer students who can think, read, and write well, and who have some understanding of what shapes human experience.” - Law School Admission Council

Philosophy majors score highest on the LSAT

“Classes that stress research & writing are excellent preparation for law school, as are courses that teach reasoning and analytical skills. Classes that help you understand the complex relationships that motivate legal decision-making can be both fascinating and useful... Law schools particularly value courses...in which you produce lengthy and well-researched papers.” - American Bar Association
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Philosophy & Ethics
Pre-Law Concentration

To earn a major in Pre-Law, students must complete 12 Philosophy courses (36 credit hours)

Required Courses
4 courses / 12 credit hours
  PHIL 110 Introduction to Logic
  PHIL 130 Introduction to Political Philosophy
  PHIL 371 Philosophy of Law
  PHIL 480 Public Philosophy

Social-Political Philosophy & Ethics
6 courses / 18 credit hours
  PHIL 120 Introduction to Ethics
  PHIL 312 American Philosophy
  PHIL 315 Philosophy of Race & Postcolonialism
  PHIL 331 Contemporary European Philosophy
  PHIL 342 Advanced Ethics
  PHIL 350 Philosophy of Technology
  PHIL 355 Social and Political Philosophy
  PHIL 360 Feminist Philosophy
  PHIL 450 Philosophy, Economics, and Politics
  PHIL 451 Current Topics in Political Philosophy

Electives
2 courses / 6 credit hours
  6 credit hours in any Philosophy (PHIL) course

3 + 3 (Accelerated) BA and JD Program

Year 1 – 3 B.A. Year 1 – 3
12 courses / 36 credit hours
Students enrolled in the accelerated program will complete 12 Philosophy courses (36 credit hours) to fulfill major requirements for the BA Philosophy Pre-Law Concentration.

Year 3 B.A. Year 3
Students in the accelerated program should take the LSAT either in the summer after their Sophomore year or in the fall semester of their Junior year.

After completing the LSAT, students in the accelerated program should apply to UND Law School (no later than Spring semester of their Junior year).*

Year 4 B.A. Year 4 / J.D. Year 1
First Semester
  Contracts I 2 credit hrs
  Property 4 credit hrs
  Torts I 3 credit hrs
  Civil Procedure 4 credit hrs
  Lawyering Skills I 3 credit hrs
Second Semester
  Contracts II 2 credit hrs
  Torts II 2 credit hrs
  Prof. Foundations 2 credit hrs
  Constitutional Law I 3 credit hrs
  Criminal Law 3 credit hrs
  Lawyering Skills II 2 credit hrs

Graduate with B.A. Degree!
Students apply for graduation for the BA degree at the start of their second semester.

Year 5 – 6 J.D. Year 2 – 3
Complete the remaining requirements for the JD degree.

Graduate with J.D.!

Acceptance to the UND Law School is NOT guaranteed and is based on UND Law School admission criteria. Students may still complete the major and earn the BA under regular 4-year plan if they do not gain admission to the Law School.