

Interdisciplinary Programs of Study

The College offers a variety of programs of study that are informed by more than one disciplinary field. They include the college's Honors Program, the major in Latin American and Latino Studies, and several minors, including Community Service Learning (CSL); Core Texts and Enduring Questions (CTEQ); Law, Ethics, and Constitutional Studies (LEX); Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MEMS); and Women's Studies (WMS).

MINOR IN LAW, ETHICS, AND CONSTITUTIONAL STUDIES (LEX)

The minor in Law, Ethics, and Constitutional Studies (LEX) helps students appreciate the nation's constitutional order and its roots in the Western political and philosophical traditions. Jointly sponsored by the Political Science and Philosophy Departments, LEX engages constitutionalism, ethics, and the law through thinkers ranging from Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Immanuel Kant to James Madison and John Marshall. In coursework based upon *The American Founding*, *Constitutional Law, Logic, and the Philosophy of Law*, students become familiar with political and philosophical texts like the *Federalist Papers* and *The Treatise on Law*, as well as landmark legal documents like the Mayflower Compact, the Constitution of the United States, and *Marbury v. Madison*. Students will approach these not merely as technical works but as political and philosophical texts that reflect ethical judgments, texts that must continue to be interpreted through the deliberate reflection of a political community.

The reasoning, rhetorical, and writing capacities students develop in the Law, Ethics, and Constitutional Studies minor are ideally suited to graduate school, law school, and employment in a variety of fields, such as government, teaching, journalism, law, and business. Not a pre-professional program, LEX helps students, whatever their future careers, to develop into citizens ready to take their place in the philosophical and constitutional tradition of America and the West. Drawing on the unique strengths of Assumption College as a Catholic liberal arts institution, the LEX Minor in Law, Ethics, and Constitutional Studies is designed for those who want to acquire the liberal arts skills essential to professional and personal excellence, as well as to all those who aspire to thoughtful citizenship.

The Law, Ethics, and Constitutional Studies Minor consists of seven courses: four specified courses, two courses selected from Electives List A, and one course selected from Electives List B.

Required Courses: (4)

- PHI 199 Logic
- PHI 314 Philosophy of Law
- POL 312 The American Founding
- POL 316 Constitutional Law

Electives List A: (2)

- PHI 318 Individual and Community
- PHI 321 Biomedical Ethics
- PHI 322 Advanced Topics in Ethics
- POL 311 American Political Thought
- POL 315 The Judiciary
- POL 318 Problems in Civil Liberties
- POL 345 Political Mass Murder
- POL 373 International Law
- POL 376 Terrorism in the Modern World
- POL 377 Politics of Just Wars

Electives List B: (1)

- BUS 215 Business Law I
- ECO 230 Law and Economics
- ENG 201 Argument and Persuasion

ENG 211 Speech
HIS 202 Ancient Rome, 509 B.C. - A.D. 565
HIS 259 Revolutionary America
HIS 267 United States Foreign Relations Since 1776
LAT 101-202 Latin I-IV
PHI 202 Ethics
POL 110 Political Issues: The Quest for Justice
POL 201 American Government
SOC 242 Criminology
THE 343 Social Teachings of the Church

Other courses in political science and philosophy may count as electives in the minor, depending upon approval of the Law, Ethics, and Constitutional Studies Director. For further information, contact the LEX Director Prof. Greg Weiner at 508-767-7564 or by e-mail at gs.weiner@assumption.edu.