

## Pre-Law

<b>Courses required for the first year:</b> None
<b>Courses recommended for the first year:</b> PHIL 100, COMM 101
<b>Contact:</b> David Dehnel (Political Science); daviddehnel@augustana.edu

### Recommended Courses

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
PHIL 100	Critical Reasoning				4
COMM 101	Public Speaking				4
ENGL 200	The Writing Process				4
POLS 260	The Legal System	PS		SP	4
POLS 361	Constitutional Law I	PS	260 or Jr standing	F	4
POLS 362	Constitutional Law II	PP, D		F	4
PHIL 324	Philosophy of Law	PS			4

### Pre-Law Overview

There are more lawyers per capita in the United States than in any comparable nation. Contrary to myth, this is not because Americans are prone to sue each other. It is because the legal profession provides so many different services to business, government and private individuals.

A law degree opens the way to a great diversity of professional possibilities. Accordingly, the key to preparing for law school is a broad and demanding liberal arts education. Such an education develops the skills that will be needed in law school: the ability to think critically, to read and comprehend difficult material, to write and speak with clarity and effectiveness, to do research, and to develop and defend an argument. Augustana's rigorous general education requirements and stimulating majors provide the essential core of a pre-law education.

Law schools do not specify a preference for any particular undergraduate major; they suggest that pre-law students major in the subject that most interests them. Therefore, Augustana does not offer a pre-law major as such. Instead, we offer a series of relevant courses which, together with advising and other support services, students in any major field can take advantage of. All students interested in a career in law are encouraged to consult the pre-law advisor, Dr. Dehnel in the Political Science Department, Old Main 312.

\*Fall, J term, Spring, Summer; see [Academic Calendar](#) for specific dates  
Updated December 2023