

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – CARBONDALE (SIUC) Transfer Planning Guide – Paralegal Studies (Capstone Option)

SIUC Paralegal Studies Graduation Requirements:

The 34 credits of required SIUC Paralegal Studies Core Legal Specialty courses include the following:

SIUC Core Paralegal Studies courses:

PARL 305	Introduction to Law
PARL 300A	Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing I
PARL 300B	Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing II
PARL 310	Civil Procedure
PARL 320	Estates and Trusts
PARL 330	Business Entities
PARL 350	Family Law
PARL 360	Torts
PARL 370	Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights
PARL 380	Technologies in Law
PARL 405	Advanced Internship

CLC Course Equivalent:

PLS 110 – Introduction to Paralegal Studies
PLS 112 - Legal Research and Writing
PLS 232 – Probate Law
PLS 230 – Family Law
PLS 210 – Tort Law
PLS 218 – Bankruptcy Law
PLS 235 – Law Office Technology

At least 9 (and up to 21) of these 34 credit hours will be taken at CLC as required courses to earn the A.A.S. degree. However, it is important to note that in order to graduate from the SIUC Paralegal Studies program, students transferring from CLC must complete at least 15 credit hours of the required 34 credit hours at SIUC. So it is prudent for CLC students to take no more than 19 credit hours of courses at CLC that transfer in as SIUC Paralegal Core Legal Specialty course equivalents. It is recommended that students intending to continue their educations at SIUC consider, with their CLC advisors, the SIUC Paralegal Studies Core courses when selecting their CLC Paralegal Studies courses.

SIUC Capstone Option:

The SIUC Capstone Option makes it possible for students who have earned or will soon earn an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree to earn a bachelor's degree by completing a total 120 hours with at least 42 300-400-level hours earned at a four-year institution (e.g. SIUC). The Capstone Option advantage allows students to complete an abbreviated University Core Curriculum (UCC) requirement of 30 hours rather than 41 hours. The College of Lake County AAS in Paralegal Studies and the SIUC BS in Paralegal Studies enables such an option.

Application Process:

To apply for the Capstone Option, complete the [SIUC undergraduate admission application](#). On the application, answer "yes" to the question, "Do you have, or will you earn, an AAS degree or certificate?" All transcripts and other documents (test reports, military credit, work experience, or additional documentation needed to determine Capstone eligibility) must be submitted by the end of the student's first semester at SIUC. The final CLC transcript must be submitted by the end of the second semester at SIUC. The A.A.S. degree in Paralegal Studies from CLC must be posted before the student earns more than 12 credit hours in their Paralegal Studies major at SIUC. [See <http://corecurriculum.siu.edu/ways-to-satisfy-core-curriculum/capstone-option/>]

SIUC Contact Information: Daniel A. Silver, J.D., Interim Director, Paralegal Studies Program

Phone 618-453-1234; Email dsilver@siu.edu; SIUC Paralegal Studies Website: <http://cola.siu.edu/paralegal/>

CLC Students interested in the SIUC Paralegal Studies Capstone option should complete the AAS in Paralegal Studies as outlined in the tables on the following pages:

√ = Completed

P = In Progress

N = Still Needed

First Semester					
√	P	N	Course	Description	Credits
			CIT 119	Introduction to Office Software	3
			ENG 121	English Composition I	3
			Choose one: → _____	PHI 122 Logic <u>OR</u> PHI 125 Introduction to Ethics	3
			PLS 110*	Introduction to Paralegal Studies	3
			PSC 121	American National Politics	3
Total					15
Second Semester					
√	P	N	Course	Description	Credits
			CMM 128	Interviewing Practices	3
			Choose one: → _____	ENG 126 Advanced Composition <u>OR</u> ENG 266 Professional Communication	3
			PLS 112*	Legal Research and Writing	3
			PLS 210*	Tort Law	3
Total					12
Third Semester					
√	P	N	Course	Description	Credits
			PLS 114	Litigation	3
			PLS 116	Contract Law	3
				PLS Elective (See options in Electives table found on next page)	3
			Choose one: → _____	PSY 121 Introduction to Psychology <u>OR</u> SOC 121 Introduction to Sociology	3
Total					12
Fourth Semester					
√	P	N	Course	Description	Credits
			Choose one: → _____	MTH 114 <u>OR</u> one of the following transferable MTH courses: MTH 118, 121, 122, 123, 127, 140, 141, 144, 145, 146, 221, 222, 224, 225, 227, 244, or 246 (Note: Students must take a Math course at SIUC if they do not take a transferable math course while at CLC.)	3
			PLS 118	Real Property Law	3
			PLS 211	Drafting Legal Documents	3
				PLS Electives (See options in Electives table found below)	3
Total					12
Fifth Semester					
√	P	N	Course	Description	Credits
			PLS 251	Paralegal Studies Capstone	3
				PLS Electives (See options in Electives table found below)**	9
Total					12
Total Hours for the AAS Degree in Paralegal Studies					63
Other Requirements for the CLC AAS Degree:					
CLC requires a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0, HOWEVER, SIUC requires a minimum GPA of 2.25 in order to be considered for admission to the Capstone program					
Completion of at least 15 credit hours of program specific coursework at CLC					
Completed Petition to Graduate (available in Admissions and Records)					

Paralegal Studies Electives					
√	P	N	Course	Description	Credits
				Select a maximum of 3 credit hours of the following 4 courses:	9
				PLS 218* Bankruptcy Law	
				PLS 230* Family Law	
				PLS 232* Probate Law	
				PLS 235* Law Office Technology	
				Select the remaining 6 elective credit hours from the following:	6
				BUS 221 Business Law I	
				PLS 212 Business Law II/Corporate & Securities Law	
				PLS 213 Employment and Labor Law**	
				PLS 214 Administrative Agency Law	
				PLS 215 Immigration Law	
				PLS 216 Intellectual Property Law	
				PLS 231 Health Care Law	
				PLS 233 Criminal Litigation**	
				PLS 234 Elder Law	
				PLS 250 Internship in Paralegal Studies	
				PLS 299 Topics in Paralegal Studies	
				Total	15

* The starred (*) courses in the tables above transfer to SIUC as part of the required Paralegal Studies Core Legal Specialty courses. The following CLC courses may transfer in as SIUC Paralegal Studies Core Legal Specialty Courses: PLS 110, PLS 112, PLS 210, PLS 218, PLS 230, PLS 232, and PLS 235. CLC students who end up taking more than six of the courses at CLC that transfer in to SIUC Carbondale’s Paralegal Studies core legal specialty courses will end up repeating courses. Students need a minimum of 15 Paralegal Studies core legal specialty credit hours (5 courses) from SIUC.

Additional Information Regarding the Paralegal Studies Capstone Program at SIUC

SIUC Paralegal Studies Tracks:

SIUC’s Paralegal Studies program has two possible tracks, a General track and a Pre-Law Specialization track. The General track requires students to complete at least 12 credit hours of select business/computer courses. The Pre-Law specialization track requires students to complete 12 credit hours of 300-400-level Liberal Arts courses, at least 3 credit hours of which are from a specific list available from the Paralegal Studies Academic Advisor. The following CLC courses may transfer in to satisfy up two 12 credit hours towards satisfying the pre-law specialization: PLS 116, 118, 213, and 233. Examples of these courses are designated with ** in the tables above.

Additional graduation requirements to be completed at SIUC:

While students can choose to complete some of the following SIUC graduation requirements while at CLC, carefully consider that transfer students must complete at least 42 hours of 300-400 level courses that must be taken at a four-year institution. To clarify, 100-200-level courses taken at CLC that transfer in as 300-level courses at SIUC do not count towards the 42 required hours of 300-400-level courses that must be completed at a four-year institution.

Paralegal Studies at SIUC is within the College of Liberal Arts, which has a graduation requirement of one year (2 semesters) of any one foreign language. American Sign Language I and II (CLC equivalent course – SGN121 and SGN122) or Beginning Conversational Spanish I and II (CLC equivalent course – SPA121 and SPA122) meet this requirement, and SIUC offers additional foreign language options.

The College of Liberal Arts also requires six credit hours of designated Global Studies/International courses for graduation. Refer to: <http://tss.siu.edu/PROD/campus/articulation/articulation/> (Integrative Studies category) and follow the links for course options specific to CLC. Capstone Students will also have to meet missing SIUC general education graduation requirements, specifically 6 hours in Science and 3 hours in Fine Arts. Students are advised to retain, if only electronically, all completed assignments to be later used within student portfolios as a part of SIUC’s Advanced Internship course.