

Is God calling you to become involved in legal and political issues?
 Are you interested in understanding the Biblical foundations of the American legal culture?
 Do you want to gain practical legal skills that will help in your business, your family, or your ministry?
 Do you want to earn credit towards preparing to be a certified legal assistant?

Consider the
Legal Studies Program!

A flexible course of study in law, legal thinking, and practical legal skills.

Who can enroll?

Enrollment is open to students 14 and older with proficient skills in reading and writing and a desire to learn more about law.

What does it offer?

- *Fundamental Understanding of Law:* Everyone can benefit from a fundamental understanding of law, legal systems, and legal documents. Whether you are in business, ministry, or intend to pursue a calling to assist lawyers, judges, or legislators, a solid grasp of basic legal concepts, principles, and procedures is necessary today.
- *Practical Skills:* From buying a car to filing an income tax return, law affects many areas of our lives. The Legal Studies Program teaches the theory and practical skills involved in many areas of law, including Contracts, Real Estate Transactions, Constitutional Law, and Civil Litigation.
- *Flexibility:* The Legal Studies Program can be tailored to the needs of the individual student. A student can enroll in one course, a series of related courses (a “track”), or the entire program. If a student completes any or all of the courses in the Legal Studies Program they will be eligible to transfer to the Paralegal/Legal Assistant program, finish any courses they did not complete in the Legal studies program, take the Certified Legal Assistant exam, and after passing, become a Certified Paralegal/Legal Assistant. Transfer credits are only granted for courses completed with a passing grade and the required minimum of 22 study hours per credit for each course (i.e. if a course is 3 credits then you must complete 66 study hours for that course).

How does it work?

Students receive a syllabus for each course and, for most courses, either audio or video lectures. For each course, students are given a list of required texts, which are procured separately. For each lesson, the syllabus provides an overview of the subject matter, assigned reading, and written assignments. Students are required to submit periodic assignments, which are reviewed by the instructor. The final course grade is based on a proctored final exam, however, for some courses it is strictly based on assignments. Students are free to contact the instructor if they have questions or experience difficulty in their coursework.

How much does it cost?

<i>Track:</i> \$835 per track* (only available starting each August)	<i>Individual Course:</i> \$225 per course (available each quarter)	<i>Additional Fees:</i> Media Fee: \$75 Technology Fee: \$80 Registration Fee: \$75 Books: varies
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*Track 3 is the only track that is \$625, unless Advanced Legal Research is taken, then it is \$835.

*Payment is due in full at time of enrollment.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Track 1	Common Law Jurisprudence	Legal Philosophy and Reasoning	Legal Research & Writing	Constitutional Law
Track 2	Torts	Criminal Law and Procedure	Wills and Trusts	Civil Litigation
Track 3	Contracts	Real Estate Transactions	Business Organizations	Advanced Legal Research*
Track 4	Family Law	Basic Principles of Counseling	Christian Conciliation	Ethics

Tracks Offered:

- Track 1: Legal Philosophy and Reasoning
- Track 2: Civil and Criminal Litigation
- Track 3: Business Law
- Track 4: Family Law and Conciliation

*Successful completion of the third quarter Legal Writing course is a prerequisite for taking Advanced Legal Research.

Legal Studies Program

Course Description Guide

Legal Philosophy and Reasoning Track

- **P315 Common Law Jurisprudence:** Dive into our legal history to learn the Biblical foundations to our common law legal system in America. Students will be challenged to apply Biblical principles to resolve current legal and political issues.
- **P310 Legal Philosophy and Reasoning:** As Christians we need to have renewed minds about the law. We need to understand the false legal philosophies that exist and that have influenced our legal culture. Clear and logical thinking based upon true premises are necessary to be effective in the realm of law and government policy.
- **P383 Legal Research & Writing:** This course will build upon a general understanding of good writing and composition. Students will be introduced to internal research memoranda, points, authorities, and the Uniform System of Citation. Students will also be required to develop and demonstrate legal research skills and will become familiar with both law library research and electronic research tools. These skills will be further added upon and utilized in Advanced Legal Research & Writing.
- **P331 Constitutional Law:** Overview of state and federal constitutional structures of government, the unalienable rights and liberties of each person, and the fundamental requirements of due process of law and equal protection under the law.

Civil and Criminal Litigation Track

- **P343 Torts:** Study the personal injury and property damage claims litigated in America's courtrooms, including an evaluation of the rights of the injured, and the various defenses available to defendants. Biblical and common law principles of "fault" will be prioritized.
- **P371 Criminal Law and Procedure:** An overview of the major crimes and the criminal justice system, including considerations relating to searches and seizures, confessions, and right to counsel.
- **P381 Wills and Trusts:** An overview of the probate process and an introduction to the basic rules relating to estate planning, including laws of succession, trusts, and wills. Learn the Biblical perspective on dominion and estate transfer from one generation to the next.
- **P345 Civil Litigation:** This course covers the basic process of civil litigation, including instruction in civil procedure and an introduction to the rules of evidence. Learn the practical skills involved in civil litigation.

How do I enroll?

1. Review track descriptions and determine which courses and/or tracks you desire to take.
2. Complete and submit Application, along with the \$25* application fee to:
Oak Brook College of Law
P. O. Box 26870
Fresno, CA 93729
3. The application should be postmarked approximately five weeks prior to the start of the class. See application for actual dates.

*The \$25 application fee is due each time you enroll if you do not enroll in all desired courses at the time of initial application.

Business Law Track

- **P363 Contracts:** An overview of the common law of Contracts, Uniform Commercial Code and contract drafting.
- **P351 Real Estate Transactions:** This course explores a wide variety of land transactions including the sale and lease of both commercial and residential real estate, and exposure to the key players in a property transaction, including mortgage companies and escrow officers. Learn about the language, the documents, and the procedures involved.
- **P393 Business Organizations:** Provides a basic understanding of the characteristics of corporations, partnerships, and agency relationships, as well as an introduction to the procedures and advantages of incorporation.
- **P386 Advanced Legal Research & Writing:** This course builds upon the basic skills acquired in the third-quarter's Legal Research & Writing course. Students will apply their skills to two large, multi-week research and writing assignments focusing on business law related matters. The completion of this course will prepare students for completing a variety of common law office research and writing projects.

Family Law and Conciliation Track

- **P382 Family Law:** An introduction to the concepts of adoption, marital jurisdiction, grounds for separation and divorce, child custody and visitation, marital counseling and reconciliation, all from a uniquely Biblical perspective.
- **P320 Basic Principles of Counseling:** A legal application of the seven basic principles of life (design, authority, responsibility, suffering, ownership, freedom, and success) will be introduced and applied to common fact patterns that arise in legal counseling.
- **P325 Christian Conciliation:** Based upon the principles of Matthew 18 and I Corinthians 6, you will learn the steps to bring about reconciliation that can restore parties in conflict.
- **P324 Ethics:** Students will learn about the duties and responsibilities of attorneys and paralegals in the workplace. Common areas of "conflict of interest" will be covered, such as competing interests between clients and financial dealings with clients. Students will learn the full spectrum of the attorney's duty to competently represent clients and protect client's confidential information.