Paralegal Studies

Program Overview
The Paralegal Studies major is designed for those persons who wish to pursue a career as a paralegal/legal assistant. This baccalaureate program provides a unique academic curriculum, composed of legal and professional education built on a liberal arts foundation. It is the mission of this program to develop graduates who are competent to perform substantive legal work that requires knowledge of legal concepts, as well as skills for critical thinking, organization, legal research, legal writing, interviewing and investigation, technology, and oral communication.

Career Fields
While some paralegals train on the job, employers increasingly prefer graduates of postsecondary paralegal education programs.

Paralegals are projected to grow faster than average, as law offices try to reduce costs by assigning them tasks formerly carried out by lawyers.

Paralegals are employed by law firms, corporate legal departments, and various government offices and they may specialize in many different areas of the law.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook 04-05

Required Courses
1. Paralegal Studies Courses
   PLS 121 Legal Writing and Drafting
   PLS 205 The American Legal System
   PLS 221 Introduction to Legal Research
   PLS 233 Litigation, Pleadings, and Arbitration
   PLS 307 Family Law
   PLS 315 Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning
   PLS 330 Criminal Law
   PLS 345 Real Property
   PLS 354 Torts
   PLS 412 Legal Research and Writing
   PLS 425 Ethics and the Paralegal Profession
   PLS 496 Senior Seminar in Paralegal Studies

2. Cognate Courses
   BUS 250 Legal Environment of Business
   BUS 331 Personnel Law
   BUS 345 Business, Professional, and Consumer Negotiations
   BUS 350 Commercial Law
   BUS 410 Regulatory Compliance
   CMS 105 Fundamentals of Communication
   CMS 334 Interviewing and Investigation
   PHI 114 Informal Logic

3. Students must demonstrate competency or complete the following:
   CSA 101 Introduction to Word Processing
   CSA 102 Introduction to Spreadsheets
   CSA 103 Introduction to Database Software

About the Grand Island / Lincoln / Omaha Campuses
At Doane College, you will join an institution where exceptional faculty, staff, students and alumni challenge themselves to achieve success and provide the best education for all students. The Doane College Grand Island, Lincoln, and Omaha campuses are geared toward working adults, focusing on applied learning and practical experience that you can utilize in your work setting.

Contact Us
If you are up for the challenge and would like to learn more, contact us at any location.

Grand Island, NE
(308) 398-0800 or (877) 443-6263; DoaneGI@doane.edu or Doane.edu/gps
3180 W US Hwy 34, Grand Island, NE 68801

Lincoln, NE
(402) 466-4774 or (888) 803-6263; DoaneLincoln@doane.edu or Doane.edu/gps
303 North 52nd St., Lincoln, NE 68504

Omaha, NE
(402) 891-6600 or (855) 513-0248; Omahacampus@doane.edu or Doane.edu/gps
4020 South 147th St., Omaha, NE 68137

A Student Perspective
“I came to Doane because of the convenience of evening courses so that I can complete my bachelors degree and find a better paying job.”

Michael Yeates