



ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF CONTINUING STUDIES

PARALEGAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

THE PROGRAM

The Paralegal Studies program is a practice-oriented course of study designed to prepare students as paralegals to undertake highly responsible positions in the United States legal system. Students receive education in many different facets of law, including the use of computers and legal database, and alternative dispute resolution. In 1998, the Paralegal program was approved by the American Bar Association (ABA). Some courses are available via distance education, but in accordance with ABA requirements, a minimum of 10 semester credits of legal specialty courses must be taken in a traditional classroom setting (face-to-face).

Paralegals are prohibited from the practice of law except when allowed by law or court rule

Upon completion of the program, graduates possess the integral skills needed to work effectively in a modern legal environment. The objective of the program is to develop the following skills:

- the ability to interview clients and witnesses
- the ability to prepare legal pleadings, including discovery motions
- the ability to conduct detailed legal research and write legal memoranda
- the ability to prepare probate forms, including Federal and State Estate Tax Forms
- the ability to assist or participate in administrative hearing where permitted by law
- the ability to conduct real estate title examinations
- proficiency in basic law office procedures.

THE CURRICULUM

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Science degree in paralegal studies must satisfy University Core Curriculum requirements, 13 required major courses, 3 additional paralegal studies electives, 1 required course from another department, and a sufficient number of electives to total 121 credits. Students are encouraged to apply electives toward a minor or second major.

REQUIREMENTS IN THE MAJOR

- PLS 100 Introduction to Law*
- PLS 101 Criminal Law for the Paralegal*
- PLS 110 Emerging Technologies and the Legal Env.*
- PLS 120 Law in Contemporary Society
- PLS 210 Legal Research and Writing I*
- PLS 211 Legal Research and Writing II
- PLS 221 Law of Contracts*
- PLS 222 Law of Business Organizations*
- PLS 310 Litigation I
- PLS 311 Litigation II
- PLS 400 Legal Ethics (1 credit)*
- PLS 401 Internship
- PLS 420 Legal Capstone Course

Elective Requirements

Any three Paralegal Studies course electives listed below:

- PLS 235 Torts
- PLS 236 Medical and Legal Malpractice
- PLS 240 Domestic Relations
- PLS 250 Worker's Compensation
- PLS 260 Bankruptcy Law
- PLS 320 Administrative Law
- PLS 340 Uniform Commercial Code
- PLS 345 Estates and Trusts
- PLS 360 Real Estate Conveyancing / Title Search
- PLS 370 Immigration Law
- PLS 371 Elder Law
- PLS 372 Intellectual Property
- PLS 373 International Law for Paralegals
- PLS 374 Employment Law

Students pursuing the *Associate of Science* degree in Paralegal Studies must satisfy the University Core Curriculum requirements, 7 major courses (see courses with an * to the right), 1 additional paralegal studies elective and sufficient number of electives to total 61/62 credits. One half of the major requirements are to be taken at RWU (for Associate, Bachelor, and Certificate programs).

COURSES OFFERED IN-CLASS & ONLINE!



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

COURSE FORMATS

RWU offers two course formats to fit your individual learning needs:

1. Traditional classroom courses
2. Online courses*

**minimum of 10 semester credits of legal specialty courses must be taken in traditional classroom setting (face to face).*

CONTINUOUS ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

At Roger Williams, we feel that the best academic experience comes from a support system that you can always count on. This is why we offer each student a personal advisor who will help you with scheduling, enrollment and any issues that may arise throughout your time at RWU.

ACCELERATED DEGREE COMPLETION

In order to move your career forward as quickly as possible, RWU may accept up to 90 credits from:

- Prior college coursework
- CLEP and/or DANTES examinations
- ACE-evaluated military training
- Other professional experience

FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS

Students in the School of Graduate & Continuing Studies are eligible for all of the traditional forms of financial aid that are normally associated with adult and continuing education students. In addition, our Advisory Board for Continuing Education makes several scholarships available each academic year to eligible students enrolled in the School of Graduate & Continuing Studies, based on a combination of financial need, academic promise, prior academic experience and/or community service. Applications for these scholarships may be obtained through the School of Graduate & Continuing Studies main office.

ENROLLMENT

In order to enroll in the School of Graduate & Continuing Studies, you must complete the following steps:

1. Complete an Application for Admission
2. Submit Application for Admission to the School of Graduate & Continuing Studies with a \$50 application fee
3. Submit an official high school transcript or grade results of G. E. D.
4. Submit official transcripts of prior college attendance (if applicable)
5. Submit official documentation of military training and experience (if applicable)
6. Submit official documentation of CLEP and/or DANTES exam results (if applicable)

GO FURTHER.

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