

AS: Paralegal

2021-2022

This program prepares students to assist lawyers and administrators of law-related occupations in providing efficient legal services to the public. The program of study includes general education courses, law-related courses, and legal specialty courses. The paralegal courses are offered primarily in the evening program of the College. Courses prepare students for entry into a paralegal career and provide presently employed paralegals an opportunity to enhance their legal knowledge and skills. The Paralegal Program does not train graduates to provide legal services directly to the public. Any person who attempts to provide legal services directly to the public, but is not licensed to practice law, engages in the illegal and unauthorized practice of law. The Paralegal Program is approved by the American Bar Association.

Students must take at least ten semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through traditional classroom instruction as required by the American Bar Association

Students wishing to enroll in the Paralegal Program, must complete an Admission Request. Students must make an appointment to meet with an advisor to present the Admission Request for processing. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Counseling and Advising at 763-424-0703.

The Associate of Science in Paralegal is designed to articulate to:

- Concordia University B.A. in Organizational Management and Leadership degree
- Concordia University B.A. in Business degree
- Concordia University B.A. in Public Policy degree
- Concordia University B.A. in Criminal Justice degree
- Hamline University B.A. in Legal Studies degree
- Metropolitan State University B.A. Individualized Studies degree

Program Courses

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
PLEG1111	Introduction to Law and Paralegal Studies	3
PLEG1210	Computer Applications in the Legal Profession	2
PLEG1411	Litigation I	3
PLEG1412	Litigation II	3
PLEG2211	Legal Research and Writing I	3
PLEG2212	Legal Research and Writing II	3
PLEG2930	Legal Studies Seminar and Internship	3

Program Electives

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
Program Electives - 10 credits:		
PLEG1330	Family Law <i>or</i>	3
PLEG1430	Alternative Dispute Resolution <i>or</i>	1
PLEG1510	Intellectual Property <i>or</i>	2
PLEG1610	Immigration Law <i>or</i>	3
PLEG1990	Topic: <i>or</i>	3
PLEG2310	Criminal Law and Procedure <i>or</i>	3
PLEG2430	Torts & Personal Injury Law <i>or</i>	3
PLEG2510	Contracts and Business Organizations <i>or</i>	3
PLEG2620	Property <i>or</i>	3
PLEG2710	Wills, Trusts and Estate Administration <i>or</i>	3
PLEG2810	Employment Search for Paralegals	1

**PLEG 1990 is a Topics course and will range from 1-4 credits.

General Education Courses

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
COMM1010	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
ENGL2320	Writing: From Structure to Style	3
POLS1100	American Government and Politics	3
PSYC1150	General Psychology	3
College Writing I: (minimum grade 1.67)		

ENGL1200	Gateway College Writing (minimum grade 1.67) <i>or</i>	4
ENGL1201	College Writing I (minimum grade 1.67)	4
PHIL1110 or PHIL1050 - 1 course:		
PHIL1050	Introduction to Logic <i>or</i>	3
PHIL1110	Informal Reasoning for Problem Solving	3

MnTC Electives

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
Natural Sciences or Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (Goal Area 3 or 4) - 3 credits		
The Humanities and Fine Arts (Goal Area 6) - 3 credits		
MnTC Electives - 5 credits		

NHCC Residency and GPA

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
15 Credits must be earned at NHCC:		
2.00 overall GPA for NHCC courses		

Total Credit Required 60

Degree Requirements

2.00 overall GPA for NHCC courses

Gainful Employment Program Information

[Paralegal](#)

Criminal Offense Notice

If you have been arrested, charged, or convicted of any criminal offense, you should investigate the impact that the arrest, charge or conviction may have on your chances of employment in the field you intend to study or your chances to obtain federal, state, and other higher education financial aid.

Program Outcomes

Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the sources of law, legal procedure, and operation of legal systems within state and federal government and apply that knowledge to the work of paralegals.

Intellectual and Practical Skills:

- Demonstrate written, verbal, and interpersonal skills appropriate to various legal and business settings. Think critically and creatively analyze, synthesize, and organize information.
- Demonstrate ability to use word processing, spreadsheets, data base and case management software as they are used in the legal profession.

Personal and Social Responsibility:

- Understand and apply the Rules of Professional Conduct as they relate to the practice of law and demonstrate ethical behaviors in all settings.

Integrative Learning:

- Conduct legal research using print and electronic resources, apply results to fact situations, and report findings in an appropriate format.
- Successfully complete projects performed by paralegals in the various substantive areas of law.

This program prepares students to perform paralegal work in private law firms, government agencies or large corporations or transfer to a four-year institution in this discipline.

Degree Information

The Associate of Science (A.S.) degree is intended for students whose primary goal is to complete the credentials for a specific career and/or prepare for transfer to complete a bachelor's degree at a college or university with whom North Hennepin Community College has an articulation agreement. The A.S. degree provides a balance of general education courses and the required scientific, professional or technical courses in the degree program.

A student shall:

Earn a minimum of 60 semester credits as required in the program, with a grade point average of 2.00 (C) or above in courses taken at North Hennepin Community College. Specific programs may have additional requirements or a higher minimum grade point average.

Earn a minimum of 15 semester credits at North Hennepin Community College. A student must complete at least 50% of career specific courses at North Hennepin Community College.

Earn 30 credits in at least 6 Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal areas. Earn 30 professional/technical credits.

Have four years to complete the graduation requirements as published in the catalog in effect at the time of their initial enrollment. Students taking more than four years to complete their graduation requirements may follow any catalog published during the four-year period preceding their graduation.

Completion of an A.S. degree fulfills the Goal Area 2 requirement of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC).

Developmental Courses

Some students may need preparatory course(s) in Math and/or English. Courses numbered below 1000 will not apply toward a degree.

Equal Opportunity Employer and Disability Access Information

North Hennepin Community College is a member of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and an equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 763-493-0555 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529.

Transfer Information

If you are planning on transferring to another institution, follow the guidelines available on our transfer resources web page to help you plan the process: [Transfer Information](#)

Career Opportunities

Information on careers, including salary and employment outlook data, is available on the iseek and Bureau of Labor Statistics websites: www.iseek.org and www.bls.gov.

Accreditation

North Hennepin Community College is accredited by the: Higher Learning Commission 30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2400 Chicago, IL 60602-2504 1-800-621-7440

