

# SENATE POLICY 23-09

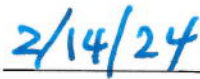
Motion: to establish the Pre-Law Minor

Passed at the February 13, 2024, meeting of the University Academic Senate

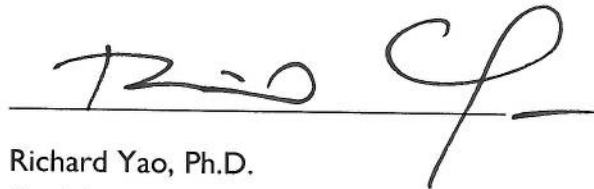
Approvals:



Jason E. Miller, Ph.D.  
Chair, Academic Senate



Date



Richard Yao, Ph.D.  
President



Date

## Pre-Law, Minor

### E. 2021-2022 New Minor Proposal Form: 2023-2024 Catalog

#### General Catalog Information

- \*  Program
  - Shared Core
  
- \* Behavioral & Social Sciences Local Curriculum Committee
  
- \*
  - Political Science
  
- \* Pre-Law, Minor
  
- \*  Active-Visible
  
- \*
  - Minor
  
- \*
  - Minor(s)
  
- Minor
  
- \*
  - Fully Face-to-Face
  - Hybrid
  - Fully Online

- \* ✓ State-Support  
Self-Support/Extended Education

\* The Pre-Law Minor helps prepare students for law school and for careers in legal services. The minor in Pre-Law is open to all majors.

\* One of the main goals of CI is to enable social and economic mobility for its diverse student population. The pre-law minor supports these goals because students will not only be prepared to pursue a legal education, but we will encourage students to aim high, and prepare them to pursue post-graduate education at ABA accredited law schools.

One, they will come out of this minor with an understanding of what to expect going into law school so that they are both well informed and successful once they get there. The goal of this minor is to not only get students into the top ranked law school possible, but it is also to make sure graduates are successful and can complete the program once they get there.

The reading and workload of this minor is meant to function in a law school course format. This will help boost confidence and assist students with having less difficulty with the transition from undergrad to law school.

Two, students will develop strategies to read case law and have excellent familiarity with fundamental legal principles which will put them at an advantage as they enter law school. Students will already be familiar with the language of the law.

This minor also contributes to the mission of educational excellence. Courses will be interdisciplinary and this minor will be open to all students interested in attending law school regardless of major.

This will lead both to an environment where students from different disciplines interact and work with one another and they will all learn about different topics all connected to one common theme: law as society.

\* The pre-law minor serves to engage students with law as society. The minor includes a focus on critical thinking, terminology, and skills helpful for law school, legal professions, and civic engagement more generally. The reading and workload of this minor is meant to function in a law school course format. This will help boost confidence and assist students with having less difficulty with the transition from undergrad to law school.

\*

## Lower Division Required Courses - 6 units

<b>COMM 101 Public Speaking</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 150 American Political Institutions</b>	<b>3</b>

## Upper Division Required Courses - 13-15 units

<b>POLS 306 The Politics of Race and Ethnicity</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 317 Judicial Power and Process</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 401 Constitutional Law</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 402 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 493 Internship in Political Science</b>	<b>3</b>

19-21

\*

Students completing the requirements for a Pre Law Minor will be able to:

\*

- Demonstrate broad knowledge of the law and the legal system of the United States.
- Understand the interaction between law and public policy.
- Learn different ways of evaluating, interpreting, and discussing the law.
- Understand the importance of pro bono and other forms of law-related public service.
- Learn about different professions in the legal field.
- Develop an understanding of the law and how it interacts with history and politics on both a national and global scale.
- Demonstrate critical thinking, including the ability to form an argument, detect fallacies, and marshal evidence, about key issues in law and society.

\* **Lower Division Required Courses - 6 units**

Communications 101: Public Speaking

Political Science 150: American Political Institutions

**Upper Division Required Courses - 13-15 units**

Political Science 306: Politics of Race and Ethnicity

Political Science 317: Judicial Power and Process

Political Science 401: Constitutional Law

Political Science 402: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Political Science 493: Political Science Internship (1-3 units)

Pre-law is located in the Programs of Political Science and Global Studies. The person responsible for program management and oversight is the program chair, in partnership with any faculty assigned pre-law advising responsibilities and staff assigned to work

\* with the programs of Political Science and Global Studies.

\* 5

\* 10

\* 20

This minor exclusively includes courses already offered as part of existing majors at CSUCI. This reduces specificity of calculations of work assignment as faculty would be teaching courses anyway. High demand for the minor could result in a need for additional sections, however such sections would not be separately serving the minor.

- \* All Political Science and Global Studies faculty are qualified to teach Political Science 150 and most members of the Communications Faculty are qualified to teach Comm 101. Multiple sections of both courses are offered each semester and are part of regular teaching loads. These courses serve as excellent recruiting grounds for the pre-law minor.

**Qualified faculty for the remaining courses include:**

**POLS 306 Politics of Race and Ethnicity:** Samantha Acuña; Dana Lee Baker and Sheen Rajmaira. Course has been most recently taught by Samantha Acuña.

**Political Science 317: Judicial Power and Process:** Samantha Acuña and Tim Allison.

**Political Science 401: Constitutional Law:** Samantha Acuña and Tim Allison.

**Political Science 402: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties:** Samantha Acuña and Tim Allison.

**Political Science 493: Political Science Internship (1-3 units)** All Political Science faculty are qualified to teach this course. It makes most sense for this to be led by those most actively involved in the pre-law minor (Samantha Acuña and Tim Allison).

None

\*

Samantha Acuña; Dana Lee Baker; Tim Allison (if service time is provided)

Standard classrooms; Broome Library

\*

None

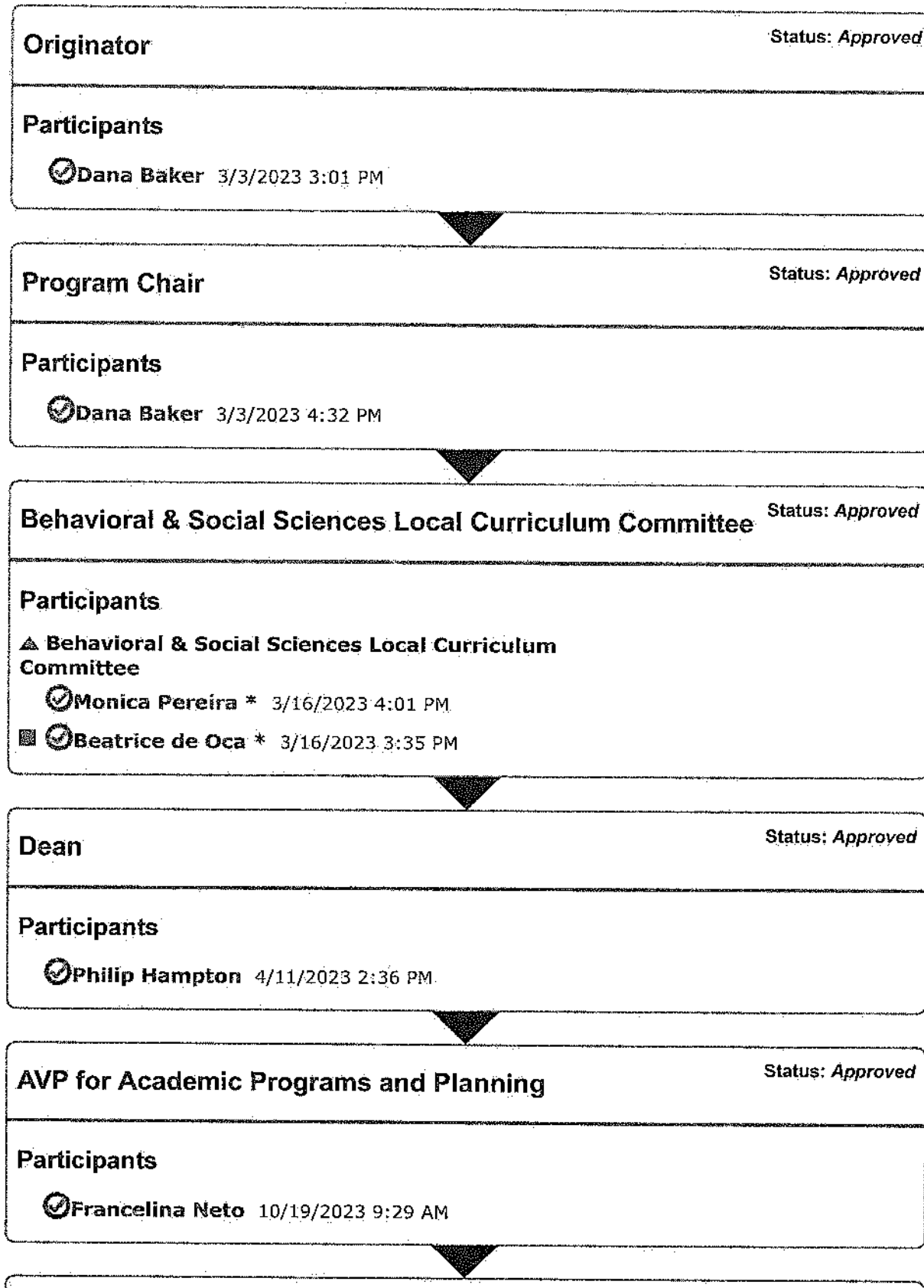
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None

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\* 2023-2024 Academic Year

## Steps for Pre-Law, Minor





<b>Senate</b>	<b>Status: <i>Working</i></b>
<b>Participants</b> ○ Jason Miller	

<b>Provost</b>	<b>Status: <i>Incomplete</i></b>
<b>Participants</b> Mitch Avila	

<b>President</b>	<b>Status: <i>Incomplete</i></b>
<b>Participants</b> Richard Yao	

<b>Articulation &amp; Curriculum</b>	<b>Status: <i>Incomplete</i></b>
<b>Participants</b> Kristen Dobson	

## Attachments for Pre-Law, Minor

**This proposal does not have any attachments.**

## Signatures for Pre-Law, Minor

<b>Program Chair</b>	Status: <i>Approved</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dana Baker	03/03/2023
<b>Dean</b>	Status: <i>Approved</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Philip Hampton	04/11/2023
<b>AVP for Academic Programs and Planning</b>	Status: <i>Approved</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Francelina Neto	10/19/2023
<b>Senate</b>	Status: <i>Incomplete</i>
<b>Provost</b>	Status: <i>Incomplete</i>
<b>President</b>	Status: <i>Incomplete</i>

## Crosslistings for Pre-Law, Minor

**Pre-Law, Minor (parent proposal)**

**This proposal does not have any active crosslisted proposals.**

## Decision Summary for Pre-Law, Minor

<b>Senate</b>		<b>Status:</b> <i>Working</i>
<b>Step Summary</b>		
This step requires 100% approval from all participants to move forward.		
<b>Participants</b>		<b>Totals</b>
<input type="radio"/> Jason Miller		<b>Users Approved:</b> 0
		<b>Users Rejected:</b> 0