COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

LEGAL STUDIES PROGRAMS

Programs in:
- AAS in Legal Support and Services
- BS in Legal Support and Services
- MS in Legal Studies
- Legal Secretary Certificate
- Pathway to Paralegal Postbaccalaureate Certificate
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MEET THE DEAN

To those considering enrolling in one of our programs, we thank you for your interest and inquiry. I’m proud to say that our programs are designed to prepare students to become active professionals and leaders in careers that are cornerstones to developing and sustaining communities, ensuring proper oversight, and advocating for general and need-based populations. Needless to say, our students tend to have a heightened drive to pursue their goals and a passion for their personal aspirations.

We recognize and respect that talent and tenacious commitment by offering degrees and concentrations built on principles of communication, social awareness, critical thinking, and ethical decision-making to address the complex, evolving, and at times unique challenges our students will face in their careers. Purdue University Global’s interactive platform provides students with the opportunity to exchange ideas with like-minded classmates and faculty in an environment that encourages individuals to become change agents.

Every day, I see determined individuals driven to acquire the skills, knowledge, and presence of mind they need to “advance confidently in the direction of their dreams,” to quote philosopher Henry David Thoreau.

Over the past 15 years, I’ve been fortunate to learn how many of our students have done just that, making a difference and fulfilling their personal and professional dreams.

I take pride in knowing that Purdue Global helped our graduates take the next step in their careers and in their lives. It’s a thrilling, rewarding, and, more than anything, inspiring experience. I hope you will consider becoming a part of our exciting online academic community.

Sara Sander, PhD
PhD in Education, Emphasis in Adult Education, Capella University
MA and BA in Communications, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AT PURDUE GLOBAL

Online Platform for the Working Professional

Earning your degree online with Purdue Global means you can pursue your educational goals without putting your life on hold. Classes fit into your schedule and give you the flexibility you require.

ONLINE CAMPUS

The "hub" of student life is your online campus, Purdue Global Campus. Here, you will find all of your courses, your degree plan, contact information for support services, and tools and resources to help you succeed.

YOUR CLASSROOM

Courses are dynamic, interactive, and engaging. We use advanced technology and enhanced delivery methods to make classes accessible and easy to use. You can navigate lessons and explore web field trips with the click of a mouse, and communicate with fellow students and faculty via email and discussion boards. Our user-friendly online classroom environment makes learning interactive and enjoyable.

INTERACTION WITH FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Opportunities to network, communicate, and interact with faculty and other students include:

- Live seminars
- Roundtable discussions
- Speaker series webinars that connect students, alumni, subject-matter experts, and industry leaders
- Discussion boards to foster lively academic discussions
- Social media tools including school-specific Facebook pages and community interaction
- Special career-specific activities, events, and clubs that give you the opportunity to meet and network with people in your field

RECOGNIZING YOUR DRIVE, TIME, AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT

Purdue Global understands that earning your degree is a significant investment. To help you succeed, we offer several opportunities to help you save both time and money as you earn your degree.

- We assess your prior college education and work/life experiences to determine if they qualify for academic credit toward your degree.¹
- We offer accelerated bachelor’s-to-master’s degree options that could help eligible students save money as they further their education.
- We offer reduced tuition rates to servicemembers, including Guard and Reserve, military veterans, and their spouses.
- New terms begin every month so there’s no waiting; each academic term is 10 weeks.

Academic Quality

Purdue Global is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC). This accreditation covers all academic programs, all regional locations, and all programs provided via distance education. For more information, please visit the HLC website at HLCommission.org or call 800-621-7440.

Our programs are career-outcomes based and many are focused on areas within the marketplace that are projected to grow. Faculty and industry advisory boards continually review and improve our programs and courses to help ensure they meet our learning outcomes and student expectations, and remain relevant to current industry trends.

Professors at Purdue Global are experienced practitioners as well as instructors so you can benefit from their firsthand knowledge and subject-matter proficiency. As working professionals with academic expertise, they can also deliver an engaging learning experience. They focus on imparting relevant skills and information that you can actually apply on the job—immediately. They are committed to their areas of expertise, committed to teaching, and committed to you. Nearly all of Purdue Global’s more than 1,500 faculty members (98%) have an advanced academic degree; 48% hold a doctorate.²

¹ Purdue Global uses the Community College of Philadelphia's ECE Credits program as a model program.
² Updated as of September 2022.
**Personalized Path to Your Aspirations**

Whether you aspire to or currently work in a field associated with one of our programs, Purdue Global can provide you with a curriculum plan designed to increase your effectiveness and help you gain a competitive edge. You will have the opportunity to personalize your degree by selecting from concentrations or open electives to create a plan of study that can be a direct and relevant path to your career goals.

In addition, you will learn from experienced faculty members who know the industry—not just from reading about it, but from working within it. We believe that with your talent, drive, and new degree, you can prepare to improve your marketability and advance in your career.³

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**The Ultimate Balance—Gaining a Competitive Edge While Becoming Part of the Network of Good**

The growing focus on communities and the services aimed at supporting their general and need-based populations, sustaining their infrastructure, and promoting and maintaining environmental and social consciousness is expected to increase the need for professionals who can work in these dynamic areas. Whether your passion resides in applying and interpreting laws and regulations, improving community governance, or making a difference in an individual’s life, Purdue Global has online programs to help you achieve that goal.

When you graduate from Purdue Global, you’ll be prepared to pursue careers that help, educate, protect, and improve people’s lives and communities within your scope of responsibility and advocacy—a network of good, as we refer to it. Our programs are designed to help you gain the right skills and experience to grow or advance in your chosen field of service and bring about change.

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**Try our classes before you owe any tuition**

**WE STAND BEHIND OUR ACADEMIC QUALITY**

Purdue Global wants you to make an educated decision about your education. As a new undergraduate student, the Purdue Global Commitment gives you a chance to experience real classes before deciding if you will stay and pursue your studies. If you withdraw during the introductory period, you will have no financial obligation beyond the application fee.⁴
DEGREES AND PROGRAMS

Purdue Global’s College of Social and Behavioral Sciences offers a wide breadth of academic programs that develop professionals, leaders, and change agents in fields that make a difference in response to human and societal causes, issues, and needs. Whether you are planning to start or advance your career, or are pursuing a career change, our programs can help you meet your goals.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Purdue Global’s Office of Student Life offers programs and services aimed at helping students engage in their program of study outside the classroom and providing both personal and professional growth opportunities. Student organizations include:

- Ambassadors and Leaders Group
- Autism Speaks U
- Educators Association
- Human Services Club
- Law Society
- Student Military Association
- Opportunities With Life Studies (OWLS)
- Psychology Club

HONOR SOCIETIES

Your academic achievement deserves recognition. University chapters include:

- Alpha Beta Kappa Honor Society
- Golden Key International Honour Society
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Psi Chi (International Honor Society in Psychology)
- The Society for Collegiate Leadership and Achievement
- Tau Upsilon Alpha Honor Society (National Honor Society in Human Services)
LEGAL STUDIES

Whether you aspire to or currently work in a regulated field or within the legal framework or process, gaining advanced insights into the law could help you increase your effectiveness and career opportunities. Legal knowledge is no longer solely in demand in legal departments and offices; insight and expertise in this area could provide a marketable edge.

In addition to the master’s and bachelor’s degrees in legal studies, Purdue Global offers a Legal Studies Certificate, and a Pathway to Paralegal Postbaccalaureate Certificate.

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN LEGAL SUPPORT AND SERVICES

The Associate of Applied Science in Legal Support and Services program is designed to offer you a comprehensive study in areas such as legal research and writing, civil litigation, legal ethics, torts, and various legal disciplines to prepare you for diverse opportunities in the legal field. You will gain foundational knowledge of the law and legal administrative skills.

The program prepares you to provide legal services and support not only in law firms but also in corporations, health care institutions, and more. Graduates can pursue career paths in environments that include contract-driven industries such as real estate and licensing, corporate legal departments, the court and judicial system, legal firms, insurance companies, and consulting firms.

PREPARE FOR THE CERTIFIED PARALEGAL EXAMINATION

The National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) recognizes the Associate of Applied Science in Legal Support and Services as meeting the coursework criteria for eligibility to sit for the Certified Paralegal Examination.

GET A HEAD START ON YOUR NEXT DEGREE

By completing the associate’s degree in legal support and services you can transfer your degree into a Purdue Global bachelor’s degree in legal support and services, covering half of the program’s requirements.
**Bachelor of Science in Legal Support and Services**

The Bachelor of Science in Legal Support and Services degree program provides a solid foundation in legal theory and practice, offering you broad-based knowledge of the law as well as practical areas of study required by many professions both inside and outside the legal field. The program could also prepare you for or enhance your skills within the paralegal field.

The legal education and training provided in the Bachelor of Science in Legal Support and Services program may prove useful if you are interested in pursuing occupations in the legal, business, government, health care, banking, real estate, or service industry, including: title examiner, paralegal, legal assistant, and legal secretary.

Our program offers a practical curriculum and specialized elective options that allow you to customize your education, including a concentration in paralegal studies. The paralegal concentration includes courses in litigation, criminal law, and administrative law.

**FAST TRACK TO A MASTER’S DEGREE**

Our flexible degree pathways allow you to work toward a Purdue Global master’s degree in public administration, human services, legal studies, or psychology while you earn your bachelor’s degree. Complete both your bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in less time and at a lower cost than completing both programs separately.

**HIGHLIGHTED COURSES**

- Introduction to the Law and Legal Profession (LS100)
- Introduction to American Jurisprudence (LS185)
- Legal Research and Writing (LS204)
- Advanced Legal Research and Writing (LS244)
- Legal Ethics (PA253)
- Law and Society (LS308)
- Business Law (LS311)
- Ethics and the Legal Environment (LS312)
- Legal Philosophy (LS490)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (PA412)
- Bachelor of Science in Legal Support and Services Capstone (LS495)

**Paralegal Concentration**

- Civil Litigation (PA110)
- Criminal Law (PA260)
- Administrative Law (PA301)
- Law Office Management (PA305)

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**Master of Science in Legal Studies**

The Master of Science in Legal Studies program is designed to provide a solid foundation in legal doctrine and concepts while developing and refining your ability to identify and analyze legal issues. If you are not interested in practicing law, but want to develop a better understanding of the law as it affects your career or other areas of interest, this may be the program for you. The program in legal studies does not prepare you for the practice of law, and you are not eligible to sit for any state’s bar examination based solely on your completion of this program.

Upon graduation, you could pursue career opportunities in law and law-related fields, which you can find in government, nonprofit, or business organizations, or you may prepare for further graduate study to advance your career goals.

**HIGHLIGHTED COURSES**

- Legal Methods and Process (LS500)
- Ethics and the Professional (LS501)
- Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing (LS502)
- Jurisprudence and Legal History (LS503)
- Applied Research in Legal Studies (LS504)
- Understanding Civil Responsibility (LS506)
- Understanding Criminal Responsibility (LS507)
- Family and the Legal System (LS508)
- Contracts as Private Law (LS509)
- Academic and Professional Writing for Graduate Students (LS526)
ADMISSIONS

Purdue Global is committed to admitting individuals who are academically prepared to succeed in our programs. We are also committed to making the process as easy and straightforward as possible. Your Admissions Advisor will walk you through the entire process and is there to answer your questions.

Admissions Overview
Specific admissions requirements vary by program, and details can be found in the University Catalog (Catalog.PurdueGlobal.edu). No matter what educational or career path you choose, you can expect to do the following:

• Complete an interview with your Admissions Advisor in which you identify your educational and professional goals, ask questions, and explore whether Purdue Global is right for you.
• Take a virtual tour to see what our online classrooms are really like.
• Submit any required documents (e.g., unofficial transcripts).
• Complete and sign your Enrollment Agreement.

Basic Requirements

UNDERGRADUATE APPLICANTS
You must have completed high school or received a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or other approved equivalent.

GRADUATE APPLICANTS
You must have completed a bachelor’s degree program at an accredited college or university with a 2.5 cumulative grade point average (CGPA) or higher.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS
You will need to provide evidence of English language proficiency.

Transcripts from foreign institutions must meet the same requirements as domestic institutions and must be translated and evaluated by an approved foreign credential evaluator prior to enrollment.

Speak to your Admissions Advisor for information related to international availability. Not all programs are available for enrollment.

Online Library
Access books and other resources without having to leave your desk.

Through the Purdue Global Library’s website, you will have access to thousands of e-books and periodicals, including professional, scholarly, and trade journals, and other monographs. Because library skills are an integral part of your academic achievement, guidance on the use of our research tools and resources is available to you through interactions with library staff, video demonstrations, and other instructional aids. Professional librarians and trained support personnel are available to assist you by email, live chat, and telephone.
PAYING FOR SCHOOL

Explore Your Financial Options Before You Make Any Decisions

FINANCIAL AID
Our Financial Aid Office works with you from enrollment to graduation to ensure you understand your financial options and to help you plan the most efficient use of financial resources. We will help you craft a personalized financial plan that meets your particular needs.

Prior to enrolling at Purdue Global, you are encouraged to explore all available financial options, including employer tuition benefits, military tuition assistance, and tuition reductions.

Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Financial aid awards vary depending on individual student eligibility and need.

LOANS (SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS)
- Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan (Undergraduate Only)
- Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan
- Federal PLUS Loan and Graduate Federal PLUS Loans
- Alternative Loans

OTHER AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
- Promise Jobs
- Veterans Administration Benefits
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)

EDUCATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS
We partner with a variety of organizations and provide their employees with several benefits, including:
- Tuition reduction on undergraduate and graduate programs
- Textbooks included for undergraduate programs
- Additional savings for Indiana resident employees

Speak with your human resources department to see if your employer has a relationship with us.

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

The knowledge and skills you already have could help you save time and money on your degree. Purdue Global offers several pathways to help you earn credit for your prior learning:
- Transfer of eligible credits earned at an accredited institution
- College credit opportunities for work and life experiences
- Competency assessments to earn course credit
- Credit for eligible professional certifications
- PME2Degree® program that awards college credit for military training

To apply for credit, you must first submit official transcripts, course descriptions, and supporting documentation to the Office of the Registrar. Visit Catalog.PurdueGlobal.edu for the Prior Learning Assessment policy.

Note: Unless by specific arrangement, graduate students are not eligible for experiential credit or credit by examination.
Purdue Global students receive personal academic support from day one to graduation. From a highly engaged faculty to technical support, you have access to the assistance to help you achieve your academic goals.

Student Support
Student support staff provide the following types of individualized support:

- Access to resources and academic tools
- Degree planning
- Answers to questions about your program
- Motivation to stay on track to graduation
- Course selection and registration
- Helping you handle issues before they become problems

Tutoring Services and Academic Support Centers
Purdue Global offers rich academic support through a suite of tutoring services. Our Writing Center, Math Center, Technology Center, Science Center, and Business Center provide subject-specific assistance. Depending on the center, services include:

- Live tutoring for one-on-one support from professors and professional tutors
- Subject support including an essay review service
- Workshops covering a wide range of topics
- Podcasts, self-paced tutorials, and additional resources

Career Services
Career Specialists emphasize the practical, tangible steps you can take for results in the real world. Career Services offers:

- Career planning to ensure a personalized approach to pursuing your career goals
- Resume and cover letter reviews, mock interview assistance, and networking advice
- 24/7 availability of the Career Services portal on Purdue Global Campus, which includes job postings and career services tools
- On-demand access to relevant information on résumé writing, interviewing, networking, and more
- A mentoring program to help connect you with alumni in your field

Center For Disability Services
The Center for Disability Services is responsible for the coordination of services for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable and appropriate accommodations may request, through student support staff, to be placed in contact with the Center for Disability Services. Students may also directly contact the Center for Disability Services.
Supporting Military Members, Veterans, and Their Spouses

If you or your spouse served in the U.S. Armed Forces, Purdue Global provides support to help you reach your educational and career goals—whether military or civilian.

- Reduced tuition for servicemembers, including National Guard and Reserve, spouses, and veterans
- College credit for DANTES/CLEP exams and eligible military occupations or training
- Specially trained staff within our Military Student Support Center who understand military culture, procedures, and complex military educational benefits
- Compliance with Executive Order 13607, establishing principles of excellence for educational institutions serving servicemembers, veterans, their spouses, and other family members
- Special deployment policies if you must drop a course or take a leave of absence due to a deployment or change of orders

The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.

ABOUT PURDUE GLOBAL

Building on Purdue’s mission to provide greater access to affordable, world-class education, Purdue University Global delivers a fully personalized online experience that’s tailored to working adults. By opening the doors to adults who need flexibility to fit learning into their busy lives, we make it possible to earn a degree from a school within the respected Purdue University system—completely online.7

Purdue Global offers more than 175 online programs at the associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels, with courses taught by highly respected faculty members who are experts in their fields. Our dedicated faculty and support teams are here every step of the way to help you achieve your goals, providing one-on-one mentoring, educational advising, and comprehensive career services to graduation and beyond.
If you have questions about admissions requirements or financial aid, or need help determining which program is right for you, contact an Advisor.

Call 844-PURDUE-G or visit PurdueGlobal.edu.