

Legal Studies

Degree Type

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Admission Requirements

General Undergraduate Admission Requirements

Note: Not all Online Program offerings are available to residents of all U.S. states. Please contact an admissions representative for further information.

To be admitted to any of the undergraduate programs at South University, the prospective student must provide proof of high school graduation as recognized by the state of residence on the date the degree was earned, or the equivalent (e.g. GED with no single test score below 145 or numeric score equivalent to 2.0 on old version or state-issued certificate designated as the equivalent of a High School Diploma) with a minimum CGPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale within 5 weeks of the start date (refer to Conditional Acceptance). The prospective student must also complete the university administered placement tests prior to the start of the first quarter for campus students and during the first session of attendance for online students. South University accepts the International Baccalaureate Program diploma as meeting the requirement for high school graduation. Credentials earned outside the United States must be evaluated by a NACES or AICE-member credential evaluation service. Please speak with an admissions representative for more information.

Students with less than the minimum CGPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale may meet admissions requirements by submitting a minimum combined SAT (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math) score of 700 or 900 on the old SAT, a combined ACT score of 18, or meet the criteria established for acceptance as a transfer student.

Students with less than the minimum CGPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale may be admitted provisionally for two quarters. Failure to achieve a 1.5 CGPA in the first two quarters of attendance will result in dismissal. Students may appeal the dismissal by following the Procedures for Appealing Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal Policy.

Acceptable verification of high school graduation or the equivalent would include a copy of the high school diploma, high school transcript (official or unofficial), GED certificate, or GED scores and state-authorized examination scores (ex. HiSET, TASC) or a state-issued certificate designated as the equivalent of a high school diploma. In states that maintain a database that serves as an official registry of high school and GED graduates, an excerpt from the official database documenting the student's graduation or GED completion may be used.

Campuses in South Carolina must be provided with official high school transcripts or GED scores or state-issued certificates designated as the equivalent of a high school diploma.

Please see the policy on GPA Calculation for Admission for additional information

Conditional Acceptance

Students may be conditionally accepted by submitting unofficial copies of documentation required for the admission requirements. Conditional acceptance is allowed for 5 weeks beyond the start of the student's first session. Failure to provide acceptable, official documentation, as stated in the admissions requirements, within 5 weeks from the start date will result in the following:

- Removal from class

- Cancellation of enrollment
- No final course grades
- No transcript

Students who do not provide acceptable documents for full, unconditional acceptance within the 5 week period will not be responsible for tuition and related fees. South University may grant exceptions to the 5 week period for unusual situations or circumstances. All exceptions must be submitted to the Office of the University Registrar for approval.

Admission of Transfer Students

Note: Not all Online Program offerings are available to residents of all U.S. states. Please contact an admissions representative for further information.

To be eligible for admission, transfer students must complete the application procedures and satisfy the following criteria:

1. Submit a completed application for admission.
2. Have earned 24 or more credit hours, or the equivalent (e.g. 16 semester hours), with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 from an acceptable accredited collegiate institution.
3. Submit official transcripts (including verifiable faxed transcripts) from all colleges and universities attended.
4. Submit self-certification of high school graduation or GED completion.

For transfer of credit practices refer to the applicable section under the [Academic Affairs](#) section of this catalog.

To be admitted as a Transfer student into South University the prospective student must have earned 24 or more quarter credit hours or the equivalent (e.g. 16 semester hours), with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 from an acceptable accredited collegiate institution. Official transcripts from the collegiate institution(s) must be received within 5 weeks of the start date (refer to Conditional Acceptance), and who are not required to take ENG0099 and/or MAT0099, will be exempt from taking the UVC1000 Strategies for Success. Students will select another 4 credit course in consultation with their Academic Advisor or Academic Counselor to fulfill the degree requirements.

Students with 24 or more quarter credits with less than a 2.0 GPA may be admitted provisionally for two quarters. Failure to achieve a 1.5 GPA in the first two quarters of attendance will result in dismissal. Students may appeal the dismissal by following the Procedures for Appealing Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal Policy.

Students who are citizens of countries other than the United States should refer to the section entitled International Student Admissions Policy.

Students who are transferring from or to a school within the University of North Carolina or the North Carolina Community College System should be aware of the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement approved by both governing Boards on March 1, 1996 and revised in September of 2008. This agreement may be found in its entirety at the following [website](#).

For additional admissions information please see the admissions section [here](#).

Program Overview and Outcomes

Legal/Paralegal Studies Curriculum

South University's Legal Studies (BS) and Paralegal Studies (AS) programs are designed to provide opportunities for students to prepare for a rapidly changing and challenging profession as a paralegal. The American Bar Association (ABA) defines a paralegal as "a person, qualified by education, training, or work experience who is employed or retained by a lawyer, law office, corporation, governmental agency or other entity and who performs specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a lawyer is responsible." Paralegals and legal assistants may not give legal advice, set fees, represent clients in court, or provide legal services to the public except as permitted by law. All students in South University Paralegal and Legal Studies programs receive instruction in legal ethics and how to avoid the unauthorized practice of law. Paralegals and legal assistants may not give legal advice, set fees, or represent clients in court.

Coursework emphasizes development of keen analytical and critical thinking skills while fostering sensitivity to cultural and political diversity. Students use modern law office technology and software in courses taught in classrooms, computer labs, or in courses offered online through the Savannah campus. South University encourages students to commit to lifelong learning that is beneficial in obtaining employment following graduation and that may help them in advancing in their careers as paralegal professionals.

Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies

Offered at Online Programs

Note: Not all Online Program offerings are available to residents of all U.S. states. Please contact an admissions representative for further information.

The Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies degree program is designed to provide students with a broad academic background in general education, fundamental theoretical legal concepts, and practical applications. This program is designed for the student who has an interest in seeking an entry-level position upon graduation or who is ready to take the next step in his or her career in the legal field. The graduate will be prepared for challenging assignments, including investigating cases, researching the law, and preparing documents for litigation or business transactions, while working under the supervision of a licensed attorney.

The coursework is designed to emphasize development of keen analytical and critical thinking skills, while fostering sensitivity to cultural and political diversity. Graduates can pursue entry-level positions as paralegals in law firms, banks, insurance companies, governmental agencies and corporations.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of procedural law and substantive law by successfully completing advanced or specialized legal assignments performed in a law office or any organization involved with legal processes under the supervision of an attorney.
2. Demonstrate a proficiency in the skills required for the complexities of a modern technology-based law office.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of professional and ethical standards expected of a paralegal in a broader spectrum of legal practice.
4. Demonstrate enhanced communication skills, including public speaking, letter and memorandum writing, as well as complex legal drafting under the supervision of an attorney.
5. Demonstrate advanced legal research, acute critical thinking, reasoning, and analytical approaches to legal problem solving.

Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies: 180 Credits

For students enrolled prior to August 2024.

Area I General Education Requirements: 64 Credits

Professional Development

Course Code	Title	Credits
ITS1000	Computer and Internet Literacy	4.0
UVC1000	Strategies for Success	4.0

Basic Communications

Course Code	Title	Credits
ENG1100	Composition I	4.0
ENG1200	Composition II	4.0
ENG1300	Composition III	4.0

Choose one additional course from the list below:

Course Code	Title	Credits
COM2006	Interpersonal Communication	4.0
SPC1026	Public Speaking	4.0

Mathematics and Statistics (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
MAT1001	College Algebra I	4.0
MAT1005	College Algebra II	4.0
MAT1500	College Mathematics	4.0
MAT2058	Statistics	4.0

Natural Sciences (choose two)

Course Code	Title	Credits
BIO1020	Biology I	4.0
BIO1021	Biology II	4.0
CHM1010	General Chemistry	4.0

Arts and Humanities (choose two)

Course Code	Title	Credits
ENG2002	World Literature I: From the Ancient World to the Middle Ages	4.0
ENG2003	World Literature II: From Enlightenment to Modernity	4.0
ENG2011	Introduction to American Literature: 1865 to present	4.0
HIS1101	U.S. History I: Colonial to 1865	4.0
HIS1102	U.S. History II: 1865 to Present	4.0
HUM1001	History of Art through the Middle Ages	4.0
HUM1002	History of Art from the Middle Ages to Modern Times	4.0
HUM2101	World Civilization I: Prehistory to 1500 C.E.	4.0
HUM2102	World Civilization II: 1500 to Present	4.0
PHI2301	Introduction to Philosophy	4.0
REL1001	World Religions	4.0

Social and Behavioral Sciences (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
ECO2071	Principles of Microeconomics	4.0
ECO2072	Principles of Macroeconomics	4.0
POL2076	American Government	4.0
PSY1001	General Psychology	4.0
SOC1001	Introduction to Sociology	4.0
SOC2010	Social Problems	4.0

Area II Foundation Requirements: 40 Credits

Course Code	Title	Credits
BUS1038	Business Law I	4.0
BUS2038	Business Law II	4.0

Elective Pool (eight courses or 32 credit hours)

Transfer students may transfer any course to help fulfill the elective pool requirements, provided the course meets the standards of the Credit for Transcribed and Non-transcribed Work policy found in the Academic Affairs section of this catalog.

Non-transfer students, with their advisor's consultation and approval may choose courses from any department recommended and listed course or more broadly from any course offered by South University. Work from other fields must include any required prerequisite courses in the elective field.

A course can be used to meet only one requirement in Area I, Area II, or Area III, but not simultaneously in two areas. Students should work with their academic advisor or counselor to be sure they are making appropriate course choices.

Area III Major Requirements: 76 Credits

Core

Course Code	Title	Credits
LGS1001	The Legal Field: Law and Ethics	4.0
LGS1004	Torts and Remedies	4.0
LGS1005	Legal Research and Writing I	4.0
LGS1006	Legal Research and Writing II	4.0
LGS2001	Civil Litigation	4.0
LGS2002	Family Law	4.0
LGS2003	Estate Planning and Probate	4.0
LGS2004	Criminal Law	4.0
LGS2007	Computers in the Legal Office	4.0
LGS2099	Paralegal Externship	4.0
LGS4005	Advanced Legal Research and Writing	4.0
LGS4008	Litigation Support Management	4.0
LGS4030	Employment Law	4.0
LGS4075	Legal Topics Seminar	4.0

Electives (choose two)

Course Code	Title	Credits
LGS2005	Real Estate Law	4.0
LGS2008	Worker's Compensation Law	4.0
LGS2010	Bankruptcy Law	4.0
LGS2030	Administrative Law	4.0

Electives (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
LGS3009	International Law	4.0
LGS3040	Constitutional Law	4.0
LGS3050	Immigration Law	4.0
LGS3060	Contract Law for Paralegals	4.0
LGS3065	Criminal Procedure	4.0
LGS4010	Evidence	4.0
LGS4020	Advanced Real Estate Law	4.0
LGS4045	Advanced Technology for Paralegals	4.0
LGS4050	Environmental Law	4.0
LGS4051	Cyberlaw	4.0
LGS4055	Intellectual Property	4.0
LGS4060	Legal Externship II	4.0

Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies: 180 Credits

For students enrolled on or after August 2024.

Area I General Education Requirements: 64 Credits

Professional Development

Course Code	Title	Credits
ITS1000	Computer and Internet Literacy	4.0
UVC1000	Strategies for Success	4.0

Basic Communications

Course Code	Title	Credits
ENG1100	Composition I	4.0
ENG1200	Composition II	4.0

Choose one additional course from the list below:

Course Code	Title	Credits
COM2006	Interpersonal Communication	4.0
SPC1026	Public Speaking	4.0

Mathematics and Statistics (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
MAT1001	College Algebra I	4.0
MAT1005	College Algebra II	4.0
MAT1500	College Mathematics	4.0
MAT2058	Statistics	4.0

Natural Sciences (choose two)

Course Code	Title	Credits
BIO1020	Biology I	4.0
BIO1021	Biology II	4.0
CHM1010	General Chemistry	4.0

Arts and Humanities

Course Code	Title	Credits
HUM1200	Introduction to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	4.0

Social and Behavioral Sciences (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
ECO2071	Principles of Microeconomics	4.0
ECO2072	Principles of Macroeconomics	4.0
POL2076	American Government	4.0
PSY1001	General Psychology	4.0
SOC1001	Introduction to Sociology	4.0
SOC2010	Social Problems	4.0

Choose any two additional General Education electives not already applied:

Course Code	Title	Credits
BIO1020	Biology I	4.0
BIO1021	Biology II	4.0
CHM1010	General Chemistry	4.0
COM2006	Interpersonal Communication	4.0
ENG1300	Composition III	4.0
ENG2002	World Literature I: From the Ancient World to the Middle Ages	4.0
ENG2003	World Literature II: From Enlightenment to Modernity	4.0
ENG2011	Introduction to American Literature: 1865 to present	4.0
ENG2020	Introduction to Film Studies	4.0
HIS1101	U.S. History I: Colonial to 1865	4.0
HIS1102	U.S. History II: 1865 to Present	4.0
HUM1001	History of Art through the Middle Ages	4.0
HUM1002	History of Art from the Middle Ages to Modern Times	4.0
HUM2101	World Civilization I: Prehistory to 1500 C.E.	4.0
HUM2102	World Civilization II: 1500 to Present	4.0
PHI2301	Introduction to Philosophy	4.0
POL2076	American Government	4.0
PSY1001	General Psychology	4.0
REL1001	World Religions	4.0
SOC1001	Introduction to Sociology	4.0
SOC2010	Social Problems	4.0
SPC1026	Public Speaking	4.0

Area II Foundation Requirements: 40 Credits

Course Code	Title	Credits
BUS1038	Business Law I	4.0
BUS2038	Business Law II	4.0

Elective Pool (eight courses or 32 credit hours)

Transfer students may transfer any course to help fulfill the elective pool requirements, provided the course meets the standards of the Credit for Transcribed and Non-transcribed Work policy found in the Academic Affairs section of this catalog.

Non-transfer students, with their advisor's consultation and approval may choose courses from any department recommended and listed course or more broadly from any course offered by South University. Work from other fields must include any required prerequisite courses in the elective field.

A course can be used to meet only one requirement in Area I, Area II, or Area III, but not simultaneously in two areas. Students should work with their academic advisor or counselor to be sure they are making appropriate course choices.

Area III Major Requirements: 76 Credits

Core

Course Code	Title	Credits
LGS1001	The Legal Field: Law and Ethics	4.0
LGS1004	Torts and Remedies	4.0
LGS1005	Legal Research and Writing I	4.0
LGS1006	Legal Research and Writing II	4.0
LGS2001	Civil Litigation	4.0
LGS2002	Family Law	4.0
LGS2003	Estate Planning and Probate	4.0
LGS2004	Criminal Law	4.0
LGS2007	Computers in the Legal Office	4.0
LGS4005	Advanced Legal Research and Writing	4.0
LGS4008	Litigation Support Management	4.0
LGS4030	Employment Law	4.0
LGS4075	Legal Topics Seminar	4.0

Electives (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
LGS2005	Real Estate Law	4.0
LGS2008	Worker's Compensation Law	4.0
LGS2010	Bankruptcy Law	4.0
LGS2030	Administrative Law	4.0
LGS2100	Paralegal Internship	4.0

Electives (choose three)

Course Code	Title	Credits
LGS3009	International Law	4.0
LGS3040	Constitutional Law	4.0
LGS3050	Immigration Law	4.0
LGS3060	Contract Law for Paralegals	4.0
LGS3065	Criminal Procedure	4.0
LGS4010	Evidence	4.0
LGS4020	Advanced Real Estate Law	4.0
LGS4045	Advanced Technology for Paralegals	4.0
LGS4050	Environmental Law	4.0
LGS4051	Cyberlaw	4.0
LGS4055	Intellectual Property	4.0
LGS4060	Legal Externship II	4.0
Total Credits		180