

CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term
Spring 2006
[2006*01]

Curriculum Program Title

Office Systems Technology

Code

A2536A

Concentration

Legal

Curriculum Description

Legal is a concentration under the curriculum title of Office Systems Technology. This curriculum prepares individuals for entry-level positions in legal or government-related offices and provides professional development for the currently employed.

Course work includes terminology, operational procedures, preparation and transcription of documents, computer software, and court-related functions as they relate to the legal office profession. Emphasis is placed on the development of accuracy, organizational skills, discretion, and professionalism.

Graduates should qualify for employment in corporate legal departments; private practices, including real estate and estate planning; and city, state, and federal government offices. With appropriate work experience, graduates may apply for certification as a Professional Legal Secretary (PLS).

*Curriculum Requirements**

- I. General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. (*See second page for additional information.*)
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
Total Semester Hours Credit in Program	64-76	36-48	12-18

*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.

Major Hours

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration** (*if applicable*). A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit from required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

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	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum Major Hours Required	49 SHC	30 SHC	12 SHC
A. CORE <i>Courses required for the diploma are designated with *</i> Required Courses: * OST 164 Text Editing Applications 3 SHC * OST 184 Records Management 2 SHC Required Subject Areas: *Formatting/Word Processing. Select one: OST 134 Text Entry & Formatting 3 SHC OST 136 Word Processing 2 SHC *Office Systems/Management. Select one: BUS 135 Principles of Supervision 3 SHC OST 181 Intro to Office Systems 3 SHC OST 289 Office Systems Management 3 SHC *Computers/Information Systems. Select one: CIS 110 Introduction to Computers 3 SHC CIS 111 Basic PC Literacy 2 SHC OST 137 Office Software Applications 2 SHC	12-14 SHC	12-14 SHC	
B. CONCENTRATION <i>Courses unique to a concentration are designated with **</i> BUS 115 Business Law 3 SHC ** OST 155 Legal Terminology 3 SHC ** OST 156 Legal Office Procedures 3 SHC ** OST 252 Legal Transcription I 3 SHC	12 SHC	12 SHC	
C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS <i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i> ACC, BUS, BAF, CIS, CJC, COE, CRT, CSC, CTS, LEX, ECO, ISC, MKT, NET, OMT, OST, PSY, and SEC <i>Foreign language courses (including ASL) that are not designated as approved other major hours may be included in all programs up to a maximum of 3 semester hours of credit.</i>			