

Paralegal Bilingual

Paralegal Studies: Bilingual

Paralegals who are fluent in both Spanish and English are in high demand in San Diego County, especially with lawyers practicing in immigration law, family law, personal injury and criminal law. Southwestern College offers a certificate and a degree program to help individuals prepare for employment as bilingual paralegals. The program offers courses in various types of law, as well as in Spanish legal terminology and interpretation/translation courses. This program satisfies the educational requirements for paralegals under California law. A degree is required for those students who do not have a college degree. A certificate is awarded to those students who already have an A.A. or A.S. degree or higher.

The degree and certificate are designed to train students to assist lawyers in private firms, legal departments of companies, or governmental agencies. Upon successful completion of the program requirements, the student will have the ability to apply theories and principles of law, prepare or interpret legal documents, draft pleadings including court forms, prepare for litigation, apply legal ethics, case management techniques, and skills for client interaction, and research the law, including on-line legal research. Competency will be assessed regularly by examinations and projects.

Required Courses		Units
Bus 229	Legal Terminology - Bilingual	3
Bus 226	Interpretation/Translation: legal	3
Legl 255	Introduction To Law and Legal Terminology	3
Legl 256	International Law for Business	3
Legl 258	Legal Communications	3
Legl 259	Introduction To Paralegal Studies	1
Legl 260	Legal Research	3
Legl 261	Civil Litigation I	3
Legl 262	Immigration Law	3
Legl 270	Computer Skills For Legal Professionals	2.5
Legl 290	Cooperative Work Experience	2-4
Span 216	Spanish for Bilingual Speakers II ★	5
Sub Total		34.5 – 36.5

Legal Specialty Courses

(Select at least 5 units from the following courses)

Legl 225 Law Office Management (3)

Legl 264	Wills, Trusts & Estate Planning	(3)
Legl 263	Family Law	(3)
Legl 269	Civil Litigation - Procedures	(3)
Legl 268	Computer-Assisted Legal Research	(2)
Legl 266	Mediation & Conflict Resolution	(2)
Legl 267	Interviewing & Investigation	(2)
Legl 271	Intro to Intellectual Property	(2)
Legl 272	Business Organizations	(2)

Sub Total	5
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Total	39.5 – 41.5
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