

Student Government Resolution 122.004

A Resolution In Support of a Legal Studies Minor

Sponsored by Santino Bono, Academic Affairs Co-Chair; Hallie Holst, Academic Affairs Co-Chair; Sal Niemeyer, Voting Senator; Alex Peterson, Incoming Senator; Kathryn George, Associate Senator

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of the University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- In 2017, 4% of all Truman Students went to a law school¹; and
- Creating a Legal Studies Minor would help prepare Truman students in developing a critical understanding of the myriad of ways the law intersects with almost every aspect of society and will enhance students' ability to be civically engaged and enter career fields requiring knowledge of the law, including those considering law school²; and
- The minor will be Interdisciplinary in nature, and requires a minimum of 6 courses and a minimum of 18 credits across a minimum of 3 disciplines; and
- There would be two required courses, JUST 307 The Legal System and (either) POL 161 American National Government or POL 262 American State and Local Government; and
- The remaining 12 credits could be chosen from two lists: Core Electives and Supporting Electives. Students can take 6-9 credits, or even all of the remaining 12 credits, from a list of core electives; and
- The supporting coursework includes a broad range of coursework that provides invaluable interdisciplinary context to the study and understanding of the law, its impact on society, and strongly supports the preparation of students for law school or graduate legal studies; and
- The classes for this minor may double count from other majors, minors, and the Dialogues and;
- Truman State University will not need to hire new faculty to support the minor or purchase new facilities or technology; and

¹ <https://career.truman.edu/reports/area-of-study-in-graduate-school/>

² <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Uldhei59v587AdS46pLiXcYUkGOSjnGQd4jC8kPFJUw/edit>



Student Government
senate.truman.edu

Student Union - Lower Level
100 East Normal Avenue
Kirksville, MO 63501-4221

- The minor would offer the opportunity for special topics courses in any discipline, if related to the legal system, by committee approval to be counted for up to 3 credits; and
- Up to 3 credits may be applied through an approved Internship; and
- The Faculty Senate is set to discuss the addition of this minor on at their next meeting Thursday, November 17th; and
- Truman State University already offers the classes required to complete the Legal Studies Minor, and will continue to do so to accommodate the creation and implementation of the minor; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT,

- Supports the establishment of a Legal Studies Minor; and
- Supports the maintenance and improvement of the Legal Studies Minor if established; and
- Encourages future Academic Affairs committees to monitor the progress of the Legal Studies Minor; and

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT,

Additional copies of this resolution be disseminated to The Board of Governors; Sue Thomas, President; Kathryn Brammall; President of Faculty Senate; Scott Thatcher, Undergraduate Council Chair; Julia Edgar, Graduate Council Chair; Charles McAdams, Interim Provost; The Truman Media Network; Ryan Nely, Institutional Compliance Officer; Elizabeth Wiles, Assistant Professor of Justice Systems; Elizabeth Clark Dean of School of Social & Cultural and The University Archives.

Approved by Unanimous Consent on November 13th, 2022.

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads 'Kennedy Cooper'.

Kennedy Cooper, President of the Student Association