

Pre-Law



Westmont's Pre-Law Track Prepares You for Law School and a Legal Career

Legal careers are built around a deep mastery and understanding of the law, and such training equips lawyers to act as advocates for their clients, whether they are buying a home, adopting a child, creating a will, seeking redress from an injury, or starting a business. Such work requires mastery of complex information, intellectual creativity and rigor, and the ability to communicate in a clear and persuasive fashion. And because virtually all areas of human life are structured by the law, legal training can be put to work in any area of interest—criminal justice, business, the family, the environment, intellectual property, sports and entertainment, etc.

PRE-LAW TRACKS AT WESTMONT

While students from any major can pursue law school, three departments at Westmont offer special pre-law tracks or major concentrations designed to prepare students for law school. See examples of courses below.

PHILOSOPHY

- PHI 012 Critical Reasoning and Logic (4)
- PHI 015 Intellectual Virtue and Civil Discourse (4)
- PHI 104 Ethics (4)
- PHI 113 Contemporary Moral Problems (4)
- PHI 133 Political and Legal Philosophy (4)
- PHI 137 Justice and Public Policy (4)

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

- EB 105 Business Law (4)
- EB 116 Antitrust and Regulatory Environment of Business (4)

POLITICAL SCIENCE

- POL 010 American Government (4)
- POL 020 International Politics (4)
- POL 030 Political Theory and Ideology (4)
- POL 040 Empirical Political Research (4)
- POL 104 Constitutional Law (4)
- POL 112 International Organizations and Law (4)

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



EDWARD SONG, PH.D.
PRE-LAW ADVISER

He works closely with you to explore your interest in law school, get you ready to apply and help you succeed. Professor Song has earned degrees from Yale (Bachelor of Arts), Oxford (Master of Arts), and the University of Virginia (Doctor of Philosophy). Before arriving at Westmont, he served as an associate professor of philosophy at Louisiana State University. He teaches in the Philosophy Department at Westmont, and is the Director of Internships for the Westmont Downtown, Semester in Social Entrepreneurship program. He is also the Director of Fellowship Advising.

WESTMONT ALUMS HAVE GRADUATED FROM THESE LEADING LAW SCHOOLS

Boston University • Cornell University • George Washington • Georgetown University • Harvard University
Northwestern University • Notre Dame • Pepperdine University • University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis • University of California, Los Angeles • University of Minnesota Law School
University of Southern California • University of Texas, Austin • University of Washington
Washington University, St. Louis • William and Mary • Yale University

ALUMNI

Jordan Cunnings '08 serves as an immigration attorney at Innovation Law Lab in Portland, Oregon. After graduating from the UCLA School of Law in 2014, she served as a law clerk for a judge on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. "I could not have made it through law school without the rigorous academic training and intellectual preparation provided by my Westmont history degree," she says. "The reading, writing and critical thinking skills I developed have been invaluable."

Austin Ward '10 studied philosophy at Westmont and graduated from Pepperdine Caruso School of Law in 2014. He served as a judicial intern for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, a trial attorney at Panish Shea & Boyle LLP, and now works as a deputy district attorney for Ventura County.

Stephen Tanizaki '11, a deputy district attorney in Lake Forest, California, graduated from Chapman University School of Law in 2014. He earned a degree in economics and business at Westmont.

Ainslie Tarr '14 majored in communication studies and Spanish at Westmont and graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law in 2017. She works as an associate attorney at Testan Law in Los Angeles after serving for two years as a staff attorney in the Survivors of Violence Unit at the Central American Resource Center.

Lexi Airey Zuidema '16 has joined Van Dermyden Maddux Law Corporation in Sacramento as an associate attorney after graduating from UC Davis School of Law in 2019. She majored in both economics and business and political science at Westmont.

Analise Nuxoll '16 was a recipient of the Faculty Scholars Fellowship at Pepperdine University where she graduated in 2020. She was a Political Science major at Westmont, and now practices law as a public defender in Los Angeles.



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westmont.edu/pre-law-program