

The B.A. Political Science program within the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) is proposing a 3+3 Pre-Law Option to be operated in partnership with the University of California Hastings College of Law. This program modification will establish an accelerated path through which Political Science students can earn both their Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor degrees in six years, rather than the usual seven. Students participating in the Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. option will have their first year of law school coursework count towards completing some of the course requirements for their Political Science undergraduate degree at Cal Poly (no more than 25% of their undergraduate degree). This option would be administratively tracked by the CSU through the degree database as a “concentration” (lacking no other means of tracking it).

Please see the attached PDF which contains the following:

1. Proposal for a Pre-Law (3+3 Option) B.A./J.D., pages 1-6
2. Campus approvals, page 7



Pre-Law (3+3 Option) Concentration Proposal

3/16/2022

TO: Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, Provost and Executive Vice President
Bruno Giberti, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Planning

FROM: Anika Leithner and Philip Williams

COPIES: Philip Williams, Jennifer Teramoto Pedrotti

SUBJECT: Proposal for New Pre-Law (3+3 Option) Concentration

Summary

Cal Poly Degree Designation and Title	B.A. Political Science
Partner Institution	University of California Hastings College of Law
Partner Institution Degree Designation and Title	J.D. Law
Proposed Start Term and Year	Fall 2022
Cal Poly College	College of Liberal Arts
Cal Poly Department	Political Science
Contact Name(s) and Email(s) of Proposer(s)	Philip Williams, Dean (pjw@calpoly.edu) Anika Leithner, Chair (aleithne@calpoly.edu)

Cal Poly – UC Hastings College of Law Articulation for a Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration

Purpose and Characteristics of the Proposed Program

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo is partnering with the University of California Hastings College of the Law to establish an accelerated degree program through which Political Science students can earn both their Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor degrees in six years, rather than the usual seven. Students participating in the Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration will have their first year of law school coursework count towards completing some of the course requirements for their undergraduate degree at Cal Poly (no more than 25% of their undergraduate degree). Based on the high quality and performance of Cal Poly students already pursuing the traditional J.D. pathway at Hastings, UC Hastings leadership reached out to Cal Poly to explore the possibility of developing an accelerated program for high-achieving Cal Poly students each year. These 3+3 programs are becoming increasingly common around the country. Within the CSU, CSU-Dominguez Hills and CSU Northridge campuses both have articulations for 3+3 B.A./J.D. programs with Southwestern Law School.

Key Program Features

- Students earn a law degree (Juris Doctor) in a total of six years (three years undergraduate and three years in law school).
- Students save one year's worth of undergraduate tuition and living expenses while gaining a head start in entering the legal profession.
- Credits earned in the first year of law school apply toward the BA degree.

The Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration will only be open to those applicants who enter Cal Poly as freshmen and complete all three years of their undergraduate work at Cal Poly. Students participating in the Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration will be enrolled in the Political Science degree program at Cal Poly for the first three years of the Program, and will be considered full-time students of Cal Poly and will be subject to the policies and procedures of Cal Poly.

Upon matriculation at UC Hastings through this Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration, students are considered full-time students of UC Hastings Law, and will be subject to the policies and procedures of UC Hastings Law. Students will be considered for financial aid during the application process with UC Hastings Law to the same extent as students at UC Hastings Law who are not participating in the accelerated J.D. Program.

UC Hastings Law shall, in accordance with applicable laws, notify Cal Poly at the end of each academic year of the students in the Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration who have successfully completed their first year of full-time study at UC Hastings Law and will send an official transcript recording that first year of study to Cal Poly. Upon receipt of the transcript, Cal Poly shall award those students their bachelor's degree in accordance with Cal Poly's standard procedures.

UC Hastings Law will vet candidates for the program pursuant to its usual admissions standards and will determine whether to admit them in its sole discretion.

Students who successfully earn a JD at UC Hastings Law will receive the degree from UC Hastings. The UC Hastings Law degree is separately conferred by UC Hastings Law, not jointly with Cal Poly. The Cal Poly degree is separately conferred by Cal Poly, not jointly with UC Hastings Law. Cal Poly will award the

baccalaureate degree to students after successful completion of the first year at UC Hastings Law and in accordance with Cal Poly’s standard graduation criteria.

Accreditation

The University of California Hastings College of the Law is an American Bar Association-approved law school and is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. UC Hastings is also a member of The Association of American Law Schools.

Proposed MOU (Attached)

Curriculum Flowchart and Narrative

First Year			Second Year			Third Year			Hastings Credit	
Fall	Winter	Spring	Fall	Winter	Spring	Fall	Winter	Spring		
POLS 112 or AP Credit (4) [D1]	POLS 225 (4)	POLS 230 (4)	POLS UDE (4)	POLS UDE (4)			POLS 359 (4)	POLS 361 (4)	Pre-Law (12) Free Electives (24) POLS UDE (8)	
POLS 180 (4)			STAT 217 (4) [B4]			POLS DEI Course (POLS 308, 310, 343, 380, 417, 419, 445, 457, 459) (4)		POLS 461/462 (4)		
ENGL 133/134 (4) [A2]			GE (4)	GE (4)	GE (4)	GE (4)				
COMS 101/102 (4) [A1]			GE (4)	GE (4)	GE (4)	GE (4)	GE (4)	GE (4)		
	Support Course (ANT 201, GEOG 150, HIST 110, 111, 222, or 223, SOC 110) (4)						GE (4)			
	Any 200- or 300-level ES or WGS (4)				POLS 245 (4)	Pre-Law (4)	Pre-Law (4)	Pre-Law (4)		
	COMS 126, COMS/ENGL 145, ENGL 148, PHIL 126 (4) [A3]				Graduate Writing Requirement					
	GE (4)	GE (4)								
16	16	16	14	14	16	14	14	16		44
48			44			46				44
180 Units										
Major Courses (44 at CP, 8 at H)		Support Courses (12 at CP)		GE Courses (72 at CP, of which 8 in major)		Concentration (16 at CP, 12 at H)		Free Electives (24 at H)		

Cal Poly students participating in the Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration with Hastings will receive credit for the equivalent of 44 quarter units at Cal Poly during their first year in law school. Twelve of those units will be applied to a student's pre-law concentration (out of 28 total), 8 units will be applied to a student's upper-division electives (out of 20 total), and 24 units will go toward a student's free electives (out of 24 total). Pursuing this 3+3 program does not significantly impact the total number of units a student is expected to complete each quarter at Cal Poly, which still ranges between 14 and 16 units per quarter. The only difference will be the types of courses a student completes. For instance, instead of pursuing free electives in their third year, 3+3 students would be expected to finish up their remaining GE requirements at Cal Poly. Similarly, students would complete fewer concentration and upper-division major courses in their third year (giving them room for GE requirements).

A slightly larger departure from the regular B.A. program is the fact that 3+3 students would enroll in their senior projects in their last quarter at Cal Poly, which is spring quarter of their third year.

During their first year at UC Hastings, Cal Poly students would receive "placeholder" units on their Cal Poly transcripts similar to study abroad students, which allows those students to remain affiliated with Cal Poly while they wait for their Bachelor's degree to be awarded. This also provides students with the ability to return to Cal Poly to complete their degree requirements without having to reapply in the event that they fail to complete their first year of law school.

Degree completion

To receive their Cal Poly B.A. degree, students will have to demonstrate that they have completed all of their undergraduate requirements by the end of their first year at Hastings.

Senior Project Requirement

Cal Poly students will enroll in POLS 461 and POLS 462 with a political science advisor in spring quarter of their third year. Students will work with their advisors to develop the framework of a suitable project that meets Cal Poly and departmental standards. If necessary, an "I" (Incomplete) grade can be awarded, allowing students to complete work during the summer before their first year at UC Hastings.

While students are required to have "senior standing" before beginning their senior project, many of our students are eligible to do so by spring quarter of their third year as a result of having completed enough overall units toward their degree. In the case of advanced undergraduates who are close to senior standing who wish to embark on their capstone project before their fourth year, the Political Science department has always made exceptions on a case-by-case basis (e.g. for students collecting data for their project while studying abroad or completing an internship). A similar exception can be made for 3+3 students. Faculty will advise students on the timeline of completion for required preparatory courses for senior project (POLS 359 and POLS 361), which is also reflected in the proposed flowchart. POLS 359 should be taken prior to senior project while POLS 361 can be taken concurrently with instructor consent. 3+3 students can choose to finish POLS 461 and POLS 462 in a single quarter or they can complete POLS 461 in spring quarter and POLS 462 during the summer before they enroll at Hastings. "I" grades are designed to allow students flexibility with their research projects and are eligible to be used here.

Residency Requirement

We are requesting that Cal Poly waive the requirement that 28 units in residence of the last 40 units counted toward the degree. The essence of the 3+3 program (as with the Animal Sciences/Veterinary Medicine 3+2 programs) is that the first year of law school count towards the completion of their remaining undergraduate degree requirements as detailed above. President Armstrong and Provost Jackson-Elmore strongly support waiving the residency requirement for the limited number of student who will be pursuing this program.

Application Process

Cal Poly has agreed to implement the following plan to carry out the accelerated program:

- Cal Poly will develop Pre-Law recruiting materials (e.g., web content, print pieces, etc.) and list the affiliation with UC Hastings Law. Prior to dissemination, Cal Poly shall provide UC Hastings Law with a copy of such recruiting materials for review and comment as to the description of the affiliation.
- Cal Poly will advise qualified students about the opportunity to apply for and the benefits of the Pre-Law 3+3 B.A./J.D. Concentration. To be considered, qualified students will need to have a minimum higher education GPA of 3.3. The timing of courses POLS students are expected to take during their first two years in the program does not differ between traditional students and prospective 3+3 program students. While the POLS department will advertise the 3+3 opportunity to students during their first year, it is more important that students enter their third year at Cal Poly with a thorough understanding of which courses they will need to complete before being eligible to enroll at Hastings. Advising will reflect this timeline and intensify efforts to communicate with students during their second year at Cal Poly to ensure eligible candidates are aware of and meet the expected requirements.
- A pre-screening committee comprised of Cal Poly pre-law faculty in the Political Science department will select students to recommend to Hastings based on the following criteria:
 - Minimum 3.3 GPA
 - Pre-law concentration
 - On path to complete all POLS degree requirements outlined in the flowchart by the end of their third year
- As part of their overall recruitment efforts, Cal Poly will engage in targeted outreach to underrepresented minorities in the department.
- Cal Poly will send the list of interested and pre-selected pre-law students who will meet Cal Poly's graduation requirement with only one additional year as a UC Hastings Law first-year student AND who meet the 3.3 GPA requirement to the Director of Admissions at UC Hastings Law by October 31 of the year prior to anticipated matriculation at UC Hastings Law.

Acceptance Criteria

Cal Poly will use its current admissions criteria and policies to accept students into the Political Science major. UC Hastings Law will vet candidates for the 3+3 program pursuant to its usual admissions standards and will determine whether to admit them in its sole discretion.

Expected Student Demand

	At Initiation	After 3 Years	After 5 Years
Number of Majors (Annual)	1-3	3-5	5-7
Number of Graduates (Cumulative)		1-3	3-5
Source of data	Based on informal survey of pre-law students and Hastings experience with other 3+3 programs		

Meeting Demand

Given the small number of students involved, the department does not foresee any issues in meeting the anticipated demand. No additional coursework will be required of students before admission to the program. Students will be advised that by the end of their third year they will need to complete all but 20 units of the Political Science degree requirements and all but 24 units of their overall graduation requirements.

Expected Impact on Department

We do not foresee any significant impact on the department in terms of advising resources, budget or course offerings.

Signatures

We all confirm that the proposed pre-law 3+3 concentration aligns with the mission and strategic plan for the department, college, and university.

<u>Shelley L. Hurt</u> Shelley L. Hurt (Mar 16, 2022 10:48 PDT)	03/16/2022
Shelley Hurt, Department Curriculum Committee Chair	Date
<u>Anika Leithner</u> Anika Leithner (Mar 16, 2022 10:53 PDT)	03/16/2022
Anika Leithner, Department Chair/Head	Date
<u>Christian Anderson</u> Christian Anderson (Mar 16, 2022 10:56 PDT)	03/16/2022
Christian Anderson, College Curriculum Committee Chair	Date
<u>Philip Williams</u>	03/16/2022
Philip Williams, Dean, College of Liberal Arts	Date
<u>Gregory S. Bohr</u>	03/16/2022
Gregory Bohr, Academic Senate Curriculum Committee Chair	Date
<u>Bruno Giberti</u>	03/21/2022
Bruno Giberti, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Planning	Date

This proposal was approved by the Academic Senate via the consent agenda on _____. The signatures below represent campus support of this proposal.

Thomas D. Gutierrez, Chair, Academic Senate	Date
Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs	Date
Jeffrey D. Armstrong, President	Date