



## Modern Languages & +PLUS Pathway Paralegal Studies (Certificate)

**Degree Offered:** • Bachelor of Arts in French • Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

Daemen College's Modern Languages Department focuses on language fluency and cultural understanding.

The Modern Languages curriculum offers a Professional Track for those with interest in applying their language and cultural fluency to their career.

The coursework offered in culture, literature, linguistics, composition and professional-related language skills provides our graduates with the ability to go beyond self-expression to a level of real understanding and communication with hundreds of millions of people who live and work in different cultures and situations.

In an increasingly complex and global environment, having advanced language and cultural skills paired with legal analysis and writing can open the door to a future with exceptional possibilities!

### **As a Daemen FRENCH or SPANISH major with a PARALEGAL STUDIES certificate you will graduate with:**

- Advanced level skills in your major language, French or Spanish. Intermediate level language skills in a second foreign language
- Cultural competency from a semester abroad
- Experience working in at least two countries
- Professional internship abroad and professional legal internship locally
- Community service in your major language locally or abroad
- A senior project that combines both areas of study articulated in the language of study

### **Why Modern Languages @ Daemen?**

- Courses offered in Language, Culture, and Linguistics creating a well-rounded undergraduate curriculum.
- Our Colloquium course in sophomore, junior and senior year focuses on student's individual academic, personal and professional goals. Faculty mentors ensure steady progress toward success.
- Study abroad courses, service learning and internships are closely related to the student's Professional or Educational Track goals. Study abroad opportunities for all languages are available for long and short-term study.
- Students meet with native-speaker Language Assistants for language and developmental tutorials.

## Modern Language +PLUS Students are PREPARED:

Are you interested in law? Have you ever thought about working in a law firm, a corporate legal department, or a government agency? Daemen College offers a Paralegal Studies Certificate which is only 28 credits of coursework and which can be paired with any major.

### Why Paralegal Studies?

Paralegal Studies courses teach students valuable critical analysis skills – the basics of legal analysis, legal argument, and legal writing. Paralegal skills can prepare you for many different jobs in many different places, such as courts, the legislature, insurance companies, employment agencies, not-for-profits, or health insurance agencies. With paralegal skills, it would be easier to be a small business owner or work for a legal software company. Learning paralegal skills, in addition to the pre-law minor, can also help prepare you for law school.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the need for paralegals will continue to grow at a rate of 18% from 2010 to 2020. Paralegal work is less likely to be “offshored” than other legal work because:

“Paralegals routinely file and store important documents and work with lawyers to gather documents for important transactions, hearings, and depositions. They frequently handle documents and take statements, which must be done in person.”

- U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 29, 2012.

*did you know...*

Our students can participate in language-specific community service projects or service learning programs both here and abroad.

Law firms prefer to hire bilingual or multilingual candidates.

### Explore Your World of Opportunity

- Exciting and affordable study-abroad options ensure linguistic and cultural fluency. You can spend a year, semester, summer, January term, or spring break studying in Mexico, Spain, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, France or Quebec.
- Participate in cultural activities on and off campus with the Foreign Language Student Association.
- Earn Service Learning credit working in bilingual schools, after-school programs, or community organizations.
- Spend a semester working in Washington, D.C. at a foreign embassy or international organization.

#### REQUIRED COURSES: 19 CREDITS

ACC 225 Financial Accounting (3)  
CMP 101 English Composition (3)  
PAR 201 Introduction to Paralegal Studies (3)  
PAR 301 Legal Research and Writing (4)  
PAS 302 Law Office Computer Technology (3)  
PAR 303 Litigation (3)

#### PARALEGAL STUDIES ELECTIVES: SELECT 9 CREDITS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

PAR/BA 304 Contract Law (3);  
PAR/BA 305 Real Property Law (3);  
PAR 306 Tort Law (3);  
PAR 307 Criminal Law and Procedure (3);  
PAR 308 Family Law (3);  
PAR 401 Elder & Estates Law (3);  
PAR 402 Environmental Law (3);  
PAR/BA 403 Business and Corporate Law (3);

PAR 404 Intellectual Property (3);  
PAR 405 Immigration Law (3);  
PAR/BA 406 Bankruptcy Law (3)  
PAR 408 Administrative Law (3);  
PAR 409 Advanced Litigation (3);  
PAR 410 Advanced Research & Writing (3);  
PAR 450 Paralegal Internship (3);  
PAR 460 Paralegal Studies Senior Project (3)

**TOTAL CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS = 28 CREDITS**

#### Career Options:

- Serving the growing Spanish/French speaking communities in WNY and the nation at a general practice law firm
- Employment in the federal or state court system as a Spanish or French-speaking translator or advocate
- Assisting in immigration, asylum and refugee cases at a not-for-profit agency or private law firm
- Serving the Spanish/French speaking and refugee population in area banks, real estate companies, and businesses

\*Paralegals cannot provide legal advice to the public except as authorized by law.

For more information, contact Dr. Kevin Telford, Chair of the Modern Languages Department, at [ktelford@daemen.edu](mailto:ktelford@daemen.edu)