

Law and Justice Course Syllabus

Course Objectives

Law and Justice is a one semester elective course for grades 10, 11, and 12 that will offer knowledge and skills necessary for survival in our law-oriented society. This course will offer interactive methods with problem solving opportunities to give students an understanding of law and real life skills, and to be able to think and choose to act responsibly.

Textbook

Street Law: A Course in Practical Law, 8th Edition Published by McGraw-Hill/ Glencoe, Copyright 2010 (Include Web site)

Course Topics

Unit 1: Introduction to Law and the Legal System

Unit 2: Criminal Law and the Juvenile System

Unit 3: Torts

Unit 4: Individual Rights and Responsibilities

Unit 5: Family Law

Unit 6: Mock Trial (Part of the semester summative assessment)

Class Policies

1. Keeping an organized notebook will be essential to succeeding in this course. Students must have all current notes with them in class in a binder.

2. **Homework** will be assigned periodically. The vast majority of homework will consist of reading assigned text chapters and taking notes on the material in preparation for class activities and discussions. Additionally legal vocab. (“Legal Ease”) will also be

assigned with each text section. All reading notes created by the students will be available to them on unit tests and or quizzes.

3. **Late Homework** will be accepted if the student was absent from class the day the assignment was given. Additionally each student will be issued two coupons per quarter enabling them to turn in two assignments a block late each quarter without penalty. A student who is more than one block late with an assignment, or does not have a coupon remaining, will not be able to receive credit for the late assignment.

4. **Quizzes and Tests** will be given as part of each unit of study. Additionally each unit and the final exam will have a performance based assessment as well.

5. **Group Work** is a key element to any successful classroom and will be required through out the year. Students will be required to participate and cooperate whenever group work is assigned.

Academic Honesty: Cheating will not be tolerated regardless of the reason. Any student caught cheating on **ANY** assignment will receive a “0” for that assignment. This includes the crime of “conspiracy to cheat.”

Grading Policy Every collected assignment will be given a point value. These points will accumulate during the marking period. At the end of the marking period a percentage will be calculated by dividing the actual earned points by the possible points.

Social Studies Performance Standard C Grade 12

Social Studies, Standard C: Political Science and Citizenship Performance Standards - Grade 12

By the end of **grade twelve**, students will:

C.12.1 Identify the sources, evaluate the justification, and analyze the implications of certain rights and responsibilities of citizens

C.12.2 Describe how different political systems define and protect individual human rights

C.12.3 Trace how legal interpretations of liberty, equality, justice, and power, as identified in the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and other Constitutional Amendments, have changed and evolved over time

C.12.4 Explain the multiple purposes of democratic government, analyze historical and contemporary examples of the tensions between those purposes, and illustrate how governmental powers can be acquired, used, abused, or legitimized

C.12.5 Analyze different theories of how governmental powers might be used to help promote or hinder liberty, equality, and justice, and develop a reasoned conclusion

C.12.6 Identify and analyze significant political benefits, problems, and solutions to problems related to federalism and the separation of powers

C.12.7 Describe how past and present American political parties and interest groups have gained or lost influence on political decision-making and voting behavior

C.12.8 Locate, organize, analyze, and use information from various sources to understand an issue of public concern, take a position, and communicate the position

C.12.9 Identify and evaluate the means through which advocates influence public policy

C.12.10 Identify ways people may participate effectively in community affairs and the political process

C.12.11 Evaluate the ways in which public opinion can be used to influence and shape public policy

C.12.12 Explain the United States' relationship to other nations and its role in international organizations, such as the United Nations, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and North American Free Trade Agreement

C.12.13 Describe and evaluate ideas of how society should be organized and political power should be exercised, including the ideas of monarchism, anarchism, socialism, fascism, and communism; compare these ideas to those of representative democracy; and assess how such ideas have worked in practice

C.12.14 Explain and analyze how different political and social movements have sought to mobilize public opinion and obtain governmental support in order to achieve their goals

C.12.15 Describe and analyze the origins and consequences of slavery, genocide, and other forms of persecution, including the Holocaust

C.12.16 Describe the evolution of movements to assert rights by people with disabilities, ethnic and racial groups, minorities, and women