



Public Law Semester Overview

Grade level: 10th - 12th grade

This course is designed to allow the student to examine his/her place in the legal system. Course content will deal with how the law and the judicial system directly affect the individual as well as individual rights and responsibilities under our legal system. Topics include: why law, where law comes from, different types of law, the criminal justice system, juvenile law, etc. Real world applications of these concepts will be explored as they deal with individuals in society.

Semester Only Course	
Unit 1: Introduction to Law and the Legal System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understanding "What is Law?" ● Characteristics and Functions of Law ● U.S. Legal System
Unit 2: Resolving Disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alternatives to Courts ● Court System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Federal ○ State/Local
Unit 3: Constitutional Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights ● Function of the U.S. Supreme Court
Unit 4: Criminal Justice Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Investigation ● The Proceedings Before Trial ● The Procedures during Trial ● Sentencing and Corrections
Unit 5: Criminal Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Crime in America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crimes Against Property ○ Crimes Against Persons ○ Drug Crimes ○ Criminal Defenses ● Juvenile Justice Systems
Unit 6: Civil Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Torts-A Civil Wrong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Liability ○ Intentional Torts ○ Negligence ○ Strict Liability ● Consumer & Housing Law ● Family Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marriage ○ Divorce & Separation ○ Adoption & Foster Care

- ★ Semester 1: 18 weeks, 72 student contact days
- ★ Semester 2: 20 weeks, 82 student contact days