

Social Science: Law A Level

Overview of the course:

The study of Law will give students an insight into rights, the way the law operates and explains the role of key people within the legal system.

Unit 1: Understanding Legal Values, Structures and Processes

- Legal Values • Common Law and Equity
- Criminal Courts and Process • Civil Courts and Process
- Access to Justice: Funding

Unit 2: Understanding Legal Reasoning, Personnel and Methods

- European Law • Legalisation • Delegated Legalisation
- Judicial Precedent • Statutory Interpretation
- Personnel: Legal Professionals

Unit 3&4: Understanding and applying the Criminal Law

- Homicide • Voluntary/Involuntary Manslaughter
- General Defences • Strict Liability
- Sentencing • Criminal Process

What skills will students develop?

Students will develop their analytical and evaluation skills. The study of Law requires students to think beyond the words on the page and apply laws to a range of scenarios.

Further, like a Law degree, students will develop higher order literacy skills through the completion of essays. A key part of the essays will focus on the student's ability to develop balanced and logical arguments which are supported by evidence.

Assessments:

Students will complete at the very least, one assignment a fortnight. Assessments will range from essays, problem solving, timed assessments and mock exams. These assignments will be marked with a focus on literacy and diagnostic marking, allowing students to gain knowledge of how they could improve their working at grades. In class students will be assessed through targeted questioning, group work and peer assessment.

SMSC:

Socially and culturally – the norms of abiding by the legal system and the impact of a criminal record on one's life. Further the importance of the pre-legislative process as it develops an understanding of why laws are passed.

Morally – Students will cover the following areas: Natural justice, the rule of law, why do we need a legal system, the argument about whether it is societal norms that dictate our laws or whether it is the law that dictates societal norms.

Spiritually – Working with peers, presenting to the class, role plays, discussing feedback of assessments, this contributes to confidence and self-belief, resilience and perseverance, self-questioning and integrity.

Literacy:

Throughout the course students are developing their ability to write extended pieces of work, these pieces focus on comprehension, analysis and evaluation.

Further Unit 2, and Unit 3 focus on problem solving skills, students are required to identify key legal issues, explain such issues and apply legal knowledge to fictional scenarios.

Numeracy:

Unit 2 and Unit 4 consist of topic requiring analysis of graphs and statistics to identify trends.

ICT:

PowerPoint presentations are to be completed at different times in the year. The use of Movie Maker is used to record role plays.

Meeting the needs of individual students:

Students are seated according to the social and academic needs to promote positive learning.

All students work is diagnostically marked and students are provided with individualised targets throughout the year.

Intervention strategies such as extension classes/one to one mentoring and workshops are also organised.

Resources to support learning:

- [Resource packs](#)
- [Revision Guides](#)
- [Videos](#)
- <http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/law/>

Extra-curricular activities:

Students are given the opportunity to attend Master Classes and Pathways to Law programmes across different Universities. Both programmes allow students to attend university style lectures, be mentored by university students, providing a sound insight into university expectations and requirements.

Connections with Law firms allow students to meet with Professionals for Q and A sessions and participate in mentoring sessions.

Additional support for learning:

To support learning, preparation and revision resource booklets are provided at the start of each unit.

Extension classes are also run throughout the year, these classes vary from revision sessions to mock exams and timed assessments.

Independent study & VLE

Students are encouraged to use the SILC, VLE and Library for independent study and to complete independent research.