



Argyle Secondary Socials Studies Department

1131 Frederick Road, North Vancouver, V7K 1J3

Telephone: (604) 903-3300 Fax: (604) 903-3301

Law 12 Course Outline

Mr. Pearce

Room 227

Argyle Secondary

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Contact: mpearce@sd44.ca or through MS Teams

Welcome to Law Studies 12! In this course, we will be exploring Canadian and global law in order to weigh how they impact our daily lives and how we can use rules of law in order to participate more fully in society. The main goal of this course is to build a curiosity about societal function within you, based upon legal understanding, and to strengthen your awareness of local, federal, and international justice systems. Law Studies 12 is a survey course, meaning that we will cover multiple general topics, as law is most likely not a subject taught to you until now! The course is divided into 5 major areas of learning expectation comprised of several topics of law.

Module	Topics
Module One: Foundations of the Law	Philosophy and Purpose of Law Moral Imperative of Law Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms Human Rights
Module Two: Criminal Law	The Nature of Criminal Law The Court System Elements of Offences Law Enforcement Trial Procedures Criminal Offences and Defenses Sentencing and Release Youth Justice
Module Three: Civil Law	Alternative Forms of Dispute Resolution Resolving Civil Disputes Negligence and Insurance Torts
Module Four: Family and Contract Law	Marriage, Divorce, and the Family Residential and Tenancy Law Contracts and Dispute Resolution
Module Five: International Law	International Law Makers (UN, WTO etc.) Humanitarian Law

In this course you will build several **skills**, such as:

- Reflection
- Oral presentation and public speaking
- Research and case interpretation
- Written
- Critical thinking

Materials Needed: these are essential, as we must limit sharing of materials

- A sturdy binder
- A agenda/organizer: school provided or personal
- Pens, pencils, erasers
- Lined and plain paper
- A journal: physical or online, you choose
- At least 2 highlighting pens (different colours)

***A class set of law textbooks is kept in the classroom for use during class time. These may be lent on a by-case basis**

Student Learning Activities and Strategies:

Students will be expected to participate in a variety of activities and produce an array of work that will reflect their learning in the course. Some examples of the activities and strategies in which they might participate or create are:

- graphic organizers
- letters and/or opinion essays on current issues
- note taking from class presentations, text sources, and other media
- oral presentations and role playing in both individual and group format
- examination and interpretation of primary and secondary print and non-print resource

Assessment and Evaluation:

The following are some of the assessment and evaluation strategies that might be used:

- research projects
- self and group assessments
- oral discussion and presentations
- reflection journals
- quizzes and tests
- written reports, essays, and paragraphs on a variety of topics
- Socratic seminars

Mock Trial – your final exam:

This is the highlight of the course for many students and is worth a significant amount of your final mark. The mock trial will take place in the last few weeks of our course

Some things you should know:

- Roles (i.e. lawyer, judge, juror) are assigned based on attendance records, aptitude (based on course mark and LSAT performance), and student preference
- The mock trial is a lot of work - but a lot of fun and a huge highlight of the year

Evaluation Breakdown**

- Response Journals (10%)
- Quizzes and Tests x4 (25%)
- Mock Trial (25%)
- Current Events Presentation (15%)
- Socratic Seminars (10%)
- Other Assignments (15%)

***Note: students who feel they need alternative evaluations must meet and discuss, with the instructor, format and criteria before the date of the evaluation**

****Note: Percentage weight of assignments subject to change.**

Policies and Procedures:

Microsoft Teams

All class communication and assignments will be posted on Microsoft Teams. Please take the time to refamiliarize yourself with this platform and ask lots of questions as we get started. Our class will be fully in-person, but you will be required to check Microsoft Teams for deadlines, communications, and general assignment hand in.

Attendance & Extensions

Whether you are absent due to illness, athletics, or otherwise, it is your responsibility to contact me early and often, along with staying up to date on the MS Teams page to see what learning you have missed. Extensions are granted on a by-case basis, and you will have a much easier time being granted one if you communicate your situation to me early. Any work can

be improved if you have made an honest attempt the first time it was completed.

***Late assignments (with no communication or extension) will be penalized. Plagiarized work will receive an automatic "0".**

Classroom Expectations

- **Treat your classmates, yourself, and your instruction with respect:** this means listening when others are speaking, approaching conflicting opinions with an open mind (question the opinion not the person), using appropriate language, and a 0-tolerance policy on bullying, threats, or personal attacks
- **Leaving class:** please write your name on the board when you leave for the washroom, this will be your way of asking. Abuse of "washroom" breaks will result in limitation. One student should leave the class at a time, with obvious exceptions, please be mindful of your classmates!
- **Food and drink:** both are permitted as long as it does not inhibit anyone's learning and that you clean up after yourself
- **Electronic devices:** these devices should be used only in times of learning when instructed to, or during determined breaks. Inappropriate usage will result in a 1 strike warning and then confiscation

Instructional Support:

I am available during flex time (8:30-9:10) every morning during Semester 2 or general assistance at lunch hours, after school, and virtually through Teams by appointment. I can be found in either room 227 or the PHE office. Please email or Teams message me to set a time.