

# LAW 12

# COURSE OUTLINE

Contact, Questions, or Assignment Submission → [amcintosh@sd44.ca](mailto:amcintosh@sd44.ca)

Welcome... Welcome to Law 12. I am thrilled to be teaching Law 12 again this year, and I am going to do my best to ensure that you will be happy to be in this class. This course outline is intended to summarize all of the course information, expectations, and rules that we will discuss in class. You'll notice at the end I have lines for the signatures of all the important people in your education – your teacher, your parent, and yourself. This outline acts as both an information aid and as a contract that we all will abide by, in order to meet your needs as a learner.

Learning Expectations... In order for you, and all the other students, to learn in this class, we all need to act in certain way. When you are in our class, I expect you to be devoting your attention to the topics of the class. You will be very busy this year, so I want to use the time in class effectively and efficiently. When I assign work, I expect it to be complete and handed in on time. I expect that you will do your best to submit only quality work for the important assignments we do have. Furthermore, I expect you to behave in a mature manner appropriate for our class. This means to respect yourself, your peers, your teacher, and your environment. This is an adult class, and I expect you will act as a reasonable adult. I believe that your behaviour is dictated by choices you make. Positive choices will lead to success in this class, while people who might repeatedly choose to disrespect and disregard other people's rights will be forfeiting their own rights to be in the class. Most of all, I expect you to be responsible for your own learning. You are at the age where your future can be determined by the classes you take and the marks you achieve. I am here to guide, motivate, and teach you, but I cannot make you learn – only you can do this by choosing to engage in the class and the school work.

Attendance... In my classes, attendance is particularly important. My classes are interactive, and thus require you to be in the classes to gain the opportunities to participate. Missing too many classes, whether for legitimate reasons or not, will affect your learning, success, and mark. If you are away, **it is your responsibility to find out what work you have missed and to complete it.** We can discuss a reasonable time-line or extension for completing the work. Students and parents can contact me at the above email.

Late for Class... If you are not in your seat beginning the "entry assignment" when the bell sounds – you are late. Being late causes you to miss important information provided at the beginning of the class and an interruption for peers. Repeated tardy behaviour will be dealt with increasing severity.

Course Materials... Coming to class prepared is a necessity. Please bring each of the following to every class:

- **One Binder with Paper and dividers**
- **Two ink pens**
- **One Highlighter pen**
- **Your Agenda or Personal Planner**

Homework... There will not be a lot of homework to do for this academic class. I usually allow class time to work on assignments – if not completed during allotted class time or when the work is better suited to working outside of the classroom: it will be homework. Along with attendance issues, not completing assignments is only reason students do not pass this course. At this time it may be helpful to write down the names and numbers of to contact in the event you forget what you are suppose to do or you need help.

Fieldtrip... We will be visiting a courthouse early in the year. This is an important full day field trip that most students say is one of the most valuable experiences they have had in school. You get to see real law in action and you will find it

is quite different than the “law” you might see on TV. Details to follow soon on this exciting trip to the 222 Main Street Courthouse! There is no cost for the trip but students are responsible for getting to and from the Courthouse.

**Class Rules...** In order for our class to function properly, there are a few simple rules I have. These rules are generally to **respect** your own learning, the other people in the class, and the learning environment as explained on the first page. Below is a list of 10 specific rules that are frequently asked about:

- When someone is speaking to the whole class, everyone else must be **listening**.
- Treat others **respectfully** – do not threaten, make fun of, or make personal attacks on others.
- Assignments are due at the start of the class unless otherwise stated. Late assignments will be penalized.
- All assignments must be completed satisfactorily to pass the course.
- Try your best, and do not hand in other people's work. Do not copy other student's work or plagiarize.
- If you *need* to leave the class –ask me before leaving.
- Food and drink is permitted if it does not distract or inhibit anyone's learning. Clean up your own mess.
- Do not use, turn on, or have visible any electronic. If you have a device for a learning purposes, please clear use with me ahead of time.
- Leave the classroom the same way it was when you arrived.
- Please use appropriate language for the classroom.

**Instructional Support:** I am available for tutorial or enrichment opportunities. The best way is to make an appointment in-class or by e-mail. Otherwise you can simply come by the classroom. If you are falling behind, are disorganized, or have missed classes, I may require your presence for instructional support.

**Evaluation...** Any work can be improved as long as you have made an honest attempt the first time it was handed in. Any quiz or test you miss for an excused reason must be made up immediately upon your return, and will likely be a different test based on the same learning outcomes. There is no final exam for Law; however, I will give you my own “open binder” assessment of the Learning Outcomes. The following assessment styles will be used in my class.

- Journals/Discussions/Debates
- Assignments & Quizzes
- Mock Trial
- Learning Outcomes Assignment & Assessment

**Course Content...** O.K., now I would like to enlighten you on the content of the course. Not only is the Law 12 curriculum very interesting, it is also very relevant to you. The scope of the curriculum is broad, and I am not interested in making you memorize thousands of laws or words. I want you to learn to love the subject of Law like I do. To me, “it is better to learn a few things very well, than a lot of things not at all.” What I am interested in, is teaching you in depth about some of the concepts, lessons, and themes of law in Canada, and how they relate to our world today. We will concentrate on the following organizers: The **Foundations of the Law**, **Criminal Law**, **Civil Law** and **Family Law**. We will also have a Mock Trial, visit a courthouse, and study famous cases. An in-depth summary of the course content can be found on the “Learning Outcomes” sheet.

**My overall aim in all the courses I teach is to foster good citizens who have a passion for learning and a curiosity about the law (and life in general). I am looking forward to a successful year!**

**1<sup>st</sup> LESSON...** This course outline is also an “expressed contract.” It is an agreement or promise between two or more parties as to how we will conduct ourselves in class. By signing the bottom we will have a valid and binding agreement. Thus, if someone does something contrary to what they have agreed to, they will be breaching the contract. You may be required to face a judge if you breach our contract! Once you have read all of the above, and understand my expectations, please add your signature below. Keep this course outline/contract at the front of your binder at all times.

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Student

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Parent / Guardian

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Mrs. McIntosh