

Ms. Klassen

Email: hklassen@sd44.ca

Room: 422

Law Studies Course Outline

Overview: Welcome to Law 12! The objective of this course is to investigate, inquire, discuss and interpret the following big ideas:

- Understanding legal rights and responsibilities allows citizens to participate more fully in society
- Laws can maintain the status quo and also be a force for change
- A society's laws and legal framework affect many aspects of people's daily lives
- Laws are interpreted and these interpretations may evolve over time as a society's values and worldviews change.

More information can be found at this link: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/social-studies/12/law-studies>

Health and Safety: Please enter Argyle at the south entrance and wash your hands before entering room 147. Masks are required in all high-traffic areas (such as hallways). You are strongly encouraged to wear a mask in the classroom.

Hybrid Learning: All class communication and assignments will be posted on Microsoft Teams. Part of our class will be fully in-person, and part will be a hybrid of online and in-person. All online learning is **required** and **necessary** to pass the course.

Quarter System: Our Law 12 class will take place over approximately 10 weeks. Attendance and consistent engagement is extremely important.

Learning Expectations: 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. We will sometimes be discussing difficult or controversial topics. Thoughtful and productive comments are encouraged, while profanity, obscene gestures, offensive speech, bullying, and any other behaviour that interferes with class success is not acceptable.

Attendance : Attendance is important. Our class will be interactive and discussion-based; you must attend class to gain opportunities to participate. **Attendance records are one of the factors that will affect _____ positions for the mock trial.** Missing classes will affect your learning, success, and mark.

Course Materials : Please bring each of the following to every class:

- (1) Paper, pen/pencil, highlighter
- (2.) A small notebook/journal

*A class set of law textbooks is kept in the classroom for use during class time. Textbooks will be signed out to students doing the hybrid portion (switch halfway through course).

Main Class Rules:

- (1) Treat others **respectfully** – do not threaten, make fun of, or make personal attacks on others.
- (2) When someone in the class is speaking in discussion, everyone else must be **listening** .
- (3.) All major assignments must be completed satisfactorily to pass the course.
- (4) If you are not in your seat ready to go when the bell rings, you are late.
- (5) Try your best. Do not hand in other people's work. Do not copy other student's work or plagiarize.

- (6.) If you *need* to leave the class – ask me before leaving.
- (7.) Keep your cell phone in your pocket or bag. Do not use it or turn it on during class time UNLESS you have checked with me about using it for some educational purpose.
- (8.) Food and drink is limited to simple snacks (i.e. a granola bar) and other beverages.
- (9.) Clean up after yourself. Leave the classroom the same way it was when you arrived.
- (10.) At the end of the period, wait in your seat to be dismissed.

Curricular Competencies

- Communication
- Comprehension
- Application and Analysis

Evaluation

- Response Journals (15%)
- Quizzes and Tests (20%)
- Mock Trial (30%)
- Assignments (35%)

General Written Requirements:

- 12 pt font (Times New Roman or Arial), double spaced
- Your name, period, and date at the top left corner of the essay
- Title
- Word Count on final page
- Works Cited in MLA Style

*** Please review the guidelines for academic honesty in the student handbook.**

Mock Trial : This is the highlight of the course for many students and is worth a significant amount of your final mark. 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 marked on a **scale**: if all requirements are completed, lawyers would receive between 80-100%, whereas a juror would only receive between 50-70%. **Extra credit research is available**. Everyone has the possibility to receive 0-100%.
- The mock trial is a lot of work - but a lot of fun and a huge highlight of the course.

Extensions: Email me if you have a very good reason to ask for an extension on an assignment. **48 hours notice is required**. There are some deadlines (i.e. term reporting deadlines) after which no assignments can be turned in.

Tutorials: I am available for extra help Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9:10-9:30. It is helpful if you let me know ahead of time that you are coming. Please see me for ANY clarification on assignments, review of completed assignments or general questions.

The Law 12 curriculum is very interesting and it is also very relevant to you. Our main focus will be on some of the concepts, lessons, and themes of law in Canada, and how they relate to our world today. Our units of study are Foundations of Law, Criminal Law, Civil Law, and Family Law. **My overall aim for Law 12 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!

A NOTE TO PARENTS/ GUARDIANS:

Please do not hesitate to contact me by email (hklassen@sd44.ca) if you have any questions/concerns regarding the progress of your child. I look forward to working with you this school year!