



## Course Syllabus

Franklin High School		2020-2021
<b>Course Overview</b>		
<u>NOTE:</u> For core classes, all elements of this section (except for name and contact information) are the same.		
Course Title: Law and Your Rights (Introduction to Law)		
Instructor Name: Brain Halberg	Contact Info: bhalberg@pps.net	
Grade Level(s): 09-12		
Credit Type: (i.e. "science", "elective") Elective	# of credits per semester: 1	
Prerequisites (if applicable): None		
<p><b>General Course Description:</b> This course is an introduction to the United States legal system and how it works. We will explore the foundations of law, legal analysis, criminal law, criminal procedure, civil law (torts, contract, business law, family law, etc.), and the Constitution. These areas will be discussed through the examination of actual and hypothetical situations which highlight both positive and negative elements of our legal system. Students will also have an opportunity to meet with members of the legal community, and should develop a working understanding of their rights and responsibilities under the law.</p> <p>Students will also be given an opportunity to identify an community advocacy issue and develop a policy plan to address it through the Mikva Challenge Soapbox Nation initiative.</p>		
<p>Law and Your Rights students will be expected to show growth in the following common core state standards:</p> <p>Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly, as well as inferences drawn from the text. (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.1)</p> <p>Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem. (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.7)</p>		
<b>Course Details</b>		
<i>Learning Expectations</i>		
Materials/Texts:		
Street Law Textbook (2020 edition) Various additional readings and resources will be provided and drawn principally from teacher created materials and the following:		



Classroom Law Project  
The Mikva Challenge  
Bill of Rights Institute  
American Bar Association

**Course Content and Schedule:**

The course will meet twice per week for 75 minutes and additional small group or asynchronous sessions as scheduled by the teacher. All meeting times and links will be provided on canvas while students are engaged in distance learning.

Major skills covered in this course will include a basic working legal vocabulary, public speaking skills, critical analysis of information and evidence, improved citizenship as an educated participant in the American legal and governmental systems.

Law and Your Rights will cover the following major topics of study:

Introduction to Lawmaking and the legal system

Criminal Law

Civil Law

Juvenile Justice

Consumer and Housing law

Individual rights and civil liberties (e.g., introduction to constitutional law, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, expression in special places, freedom of religion, due process, right to privacy, discrimination, rights and responsibilities under the law)

Trial Phases, Rules and Procedures

Trial Case Study and Simulation

**Differentiation/accessibility strategies and supports (TAG, ELL, SpEd, other):**

In general, there are many aspects of the Mock Trial course that lend themselves to differentiation for students with a variety of skills and needs.

- **Special Education:**

Accommodations indicated by the Individual Education Plans and 504 plans will be made in cooperation with students, special education teachers, and parents. Some standard accommodations include, but are not limited to, use of available technology, additional scaffolding, and additional time to write.

- **ELL/ESOL:**

Strategies used in this class to address ELL needs include those found in Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) and Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD)

- **TAG**

Assignments and activities are designed to allow students to work beyond their current ability, if so desired, and include levels of questions, open-ended writing prompts, small group work, and other critical thinking exercises.

Safety issues and requirements (if applicable):

Upon the return to in-person instruction and the resumption of trial observation visits, Students are expected to follow PPS field trip guidelines and be Franklin Strong!

Classroom norms and expectations:

Students are expected to follow the guidelines set forth in the 2020-2021 Franklin student guidebook.

### *Evidence of Course Completion*

Evidence of class work, summative assessments and overall course completion will be available via Student and Parent Vue accounts on synergy.

#### **Due Date, Quizzes/Tests, and Late Work Policy:**

1. All work may be turned in late with no penalty while we are engaged in distance learning.
2. When any summative assessment is not completed by the student, they must speak with the teacher in order to be granted an extension.
3. When in person school resumes, if the student misses the due date of an essay, quiz/test, or assignment because of an unexpected, but excused absence (sickness, emergency, etc.), the essay, quiz/test, or assignment is upon return or upon discussion of an alternate date with the teacher.
4. While we are in distance learning, all formative and summative assignments may be revised. This will change to only summative assignments upon a return to in-person learning.

Progress Reports/Report Cards (what a grade means):

While remote learning is in place, grade entry will occur on canvas with progress report and report card submission done via synergy (i.e. student and parent vue). In addition grading while under remote learning will be conducted under a total point method.

The grading scale for the course is as follows:

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: <59

Career Related Learning Experience (CRLEs) and Essential Skills:

- Read and comprehend a variety of text *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Formative assessments such as class discussion, journal responses. Summative assessment such as quizzes, short answer responses, and tests.
- Write clearly and accurately *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Accuracy and clarity in writing will be assessed via case studies, and research assignments
- Listen actively and speak clearly *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Active and clear listening will be assessed via in-class discussions, Mock Trial simulations and case studies.
- Think critically and analytically *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Critical and analytical thinking will be assessed through an ongoing study of the American court system and current legal issues before the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Personal management and teamwork *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Personal management and teamwork will be assessed via daily working in learning groups, development of class and trial/court documents and analysis of materials in a small and large group setting.
- Use technology *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Technology skill growth will be assessed via research assignments that require the use of databases and online e-book materials and use of a mobile device for positive academic support.
- Civic and Community Engagement *Assessments used to assess this Essential Skill:*  
Civic and community engagement will be assessed via responses to classroom speakers, reflections on courthouse trips. Goal-setting on public service and the rights and responsibilities of citizens will begin the year and be evaluated throughout the course.

#### **Communication with Parent/Guardian**

What methods are used to communicate curriculum, successes, concerns, etc.?

If you have any questions or concerns about your child please contact me. I can be reached via email at [bhalberg@pps.net](mailto:bhalberg@pps.net). I can also be reached via PPS remind.

Once we return to in-person learning, you may also call and leave a message at 503-916-5140, extension 84438. I will endeavor to reply to your message as soon as possible. Please note that I am not able to regularly access this voicemail during distance learning.

#### **Personal Statement and other needed info**

