

Course Syllabus

Description:

How do law and the U.S. legal system affect your daily life? In this course, you will examine aspects of the foundations of the U.S. legal system as well as different types of law including civil, criminal, family, and consumer law. You will analyze key principles underlying law such as justice and how the state and federal court systems work to fulfill these principles.

Estimated Completion Time: 1 Segment / 16–18 weeks

Major Topics and Concepts

01 Basics of U.S. Law

- identify the basics of U.S. law
- explore U.S. law and legal systems
- examine how laws are created
- identify the levels of court systems, types of courts, and the role of the courts
- identify the U.S. Constitution and its amendments as the supreme law of the land, the framework for government and all laws
- examine the relationships between morality, rights, and the legal system
- evaluate modern case scenarios based on legislation and precedent

02 Civil and Criminal Law

- compare criminal and civil law
- identify the steps in criminal law procedures and the rights of the accused in criminal law procedures
- examine the meaning of justice as it applies to criminal law
- define terms and concepts associated with tort law, also known as civil law
- describe the roles of individuals, organizations, and different branches of government in law reform

03 Consumer and Family Law

- identify consumer rights and responsibilities
- recognize that marriage is part of family law and represents a binding contract in the U.S. legal system
- recognize how the U.S. legal system supports and enforces parental duties
- examine other family matters addressed and supported by U.S. law and the legal system

04 Special Topics in Law

- identify means of acquiring legal U.S. citizenship and related requirements and the agencies that administer U.S. immigration policy
- define intellectual property, copyright, patent, and trademark and identify modern issues in intellectual property law
- identify juvenile law and the goals of the juvenile legal system
- define public health law
- identify government policies and programs related to the workplace

Course Assessment and Participation Requirements:

To achieve success, students are expected to submit work in each course weekly. Students can learn at their own pace; however, "any pace" still means that students must make progress in the course every week. To measure learning, students complete self-checks, practice lessons, multiple-choice questions, projects, and discussions. Students are expected to maintain regular contact with teachers; the minimum requirement is monthly. When teachers, students, and parent work together, students are successful.