

Course Title: Law Studies

Instructor: Mr. Borah

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**Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to law and the

American legal system with an emphasis on the judicial branch at the federal and state level, as well as criminal, civil and constitutional law and legal process and procedure.

Additional focus is given to the citizen's role in lawmaking and the judicial process as well as the extent to which law affects our daily lives. Students will be expected to

analyze cases, current events, articles, and complete a series of Document Based

Questions (DBQ's). Law Studies involves active student participation in their learning.

**Course Goal:** Inspire an intellectual curiosity that will carry students through the rest of their lives.

To foster this engagement we will maintain a safe and respectful environment, which honors the school's past, present and future by assisting students on developing:

- Communication skills that are applicable to the multiple paths students take beyond high school and enable students to advocate for their own personalized education
- Time management and study skills that allow students to develop individual responsibility and contribute to collaborative learning
- Critical thinking skills that encompass student ability to creatively solve problems, analyze and apply knowledge to authentic scenarios
- Opportunities for students to grow through diverse activities, celebrations of creativity and performance and community outreach.

## Course Objectives

### Students will:

- Students will have a basic understanding of the different sources of law and will be able to describe and give major court cases associated with each.
- Students will be able to define jurisdiction and be able to compare and contrast federal and state jurisdiction.
- Students will be able to define the elements of a crime, what a crime is, and the major types of crimes.
- Students will know what a tort is, what the different types of torts are, and the four essential elements that must be present for a tort.
- Students will learn about major court cases that have impacted our nation
- Students will know the different procedures associated with both Civil and Criminal trials.

### Schedule/Topics

- [Sources of Law/Judicial Review](#)
- [Organization of the Court System](#)
- [Criminal Law](#)
- [Civil Law/Torts/Contracts](#)
- [Court Cases](#)
- [Law as Career/Mock Trial](#)

### Required Materials:

- Chromebook
- Pen/Pencil

## Grading

- **Types of Assessment:** You will be graded in this class based on the points you accumulate through: participation; writing assignments; class work; homework; projects; quizzes; and tests.
- **Late Work:** All work is to be turned in on time. Late work will be worth 50% of the original grade if it is turned in the next day.
- \*\* If a student ends the quarter without any missing work, they may be eligible to receive extra credit points.
- **Missing Work:** It is your responsibility to make-up work that you missed during an excused absence. You should see me or talk to a friend in class to see what you missed. We did not take the day off because you were not here...we missed you, but continued on with our scheduled lesson.
- **Participation:** Students need to come to class ready to be part of the learning experience. This experience will include reading, taking notes, and completing classroom work. This course will use classroom discussion as a key tool for learning. Students need to learn how to express their thoughts in this type of setting. Not every student will be vocal every day, but those who choose not to actively participate in discussions will lose participation points.

### **Quarantine Learning Plan\***

\*This plan is only available to students on an approved plan through the Nurse's Office

**Daily Work:** Should be checked daily on google classroom with due dates posted.

**Projects:** Will be posted on Google Classroom with due dates and rubrics to be followed

**Tests:** Will be noted prior to test day with study guides on Google Classroom. Tests will be completed in the classroom when possible. If you are officially quarantined a test will be sent through a google form. It must be completed by the due time and date.

**Materials:** The Americans textbook will be posted on Google Classroom

**Due Dates:** All due dates will be posted on Google classroom

Technology Assistance: Please contact Tech Services at 246-1812 or email Gina Williamson at [gwilliamson@mvths.org](mailto:gwilliamson@mvths.org)

## **Expectations**

- 1. No Phones**
- 2. No Hats**
- 3. No getting out of seat without permission**