

Year 11 – 12 Legal Studies

Course Structure

Legal Studies develops students' knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to the legal system and its effectiveness in promoting a just and fair society, with a view to empowering students to participate effectively as citizens at the local, national and international level.

Themes	
Justice, law and society Culture, values and ethics Conflict and cooperation	Continuity and change Legal processes and institutions Effectiveness of the legal system
<p style="text-align: center;">Year 11 Preliminary course (120 indicative hours)</p> <p>Part I – The Legal System (40% of course time)</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic legal notions 2. Sources of law: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander customary law 2.2 Contemporary Australian law 2.3 International law 3. The constitutional system in Australia 4. The operation of the legal system <p>Part II – The Individual and the State (20% of course time)</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Power and authority 6. Legal controls on State power 7. Duties 8. Rights <p>Part III – The Law in Focus (40% of course time)</p> <p>Application of Part III as the dynamic context for the study of Parts I and II in the following common areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status under the law • Mechanisms for achieving justice • Responsiveness of the legal system <p>to TWO focus groups chosen from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2. People who have a mental illness or intellectual or physical disability 3. Migrants 4. People who are socioeconomically disadvantaged 5. Women 6. Members of other groups covered by human rights legislation, including anti-discrimination legislation 	<p style="text-align: center;">Year 12 - HSC course (120 indicative hours)</p> <p>Part I – Law and Society (25% of course time)</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Law and justice 2. Human rights <p>Parts II and III – Focus Studies Framework</p> <p>Study of the operation of the legal system through the application of the following common areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key legal concepts and features of the legal system • Legal issues and remedies • Morality, ethics and commitment to the law • Effectiveness of the law • Law reform <p>Part II – Focus Study: Crime (25% of course time)</p> <p>Application of the focus studies framework to Crime</p> <p>Part III – Additional Focus Studies (50% of course time)</p> <p>Application of the focus studies framework to TWO focus studies chosen from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consumers 2. Family 3. Global environment 4. Indigenous peoples 5. Shelter 6. Technological change 7. Workplace 8. World order