

TPHS Course Profile



Introduction to Law

9-12th Grades (10 Credits)

- *Meets high school graduation requirement for CTE*
- *Meets the UC/CSU subject area "g" requirement*

General Information

Description

Introduction to Law provides students with a basis for understanding the American legal system, its ideas and process. In addition, students participate in mock trials by assuming the roles of trial attorneys, witnesses, etc. for both the prosecution and defense. An opportunity for students to compete will be provided through the Constitutional Rights Foundation's San Diego County Mock Trial Competition. Students will also spend a day at San Diego Superior Court observing both arraignments and criminal trials. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to sit as jurors for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Fall Conference (NITA). Speakers from all aspects of the legal community make powerful and meaningful presentations regarding a myriad of legal topics. Finally, students may also participate in the San Diego Teen Court Program, a non-profit organization that works directly with first-time juvenile defenders. Intro to Law is a hands-on approach to exposing students to the judicial process and career choices in the legal field.

Expectations and Goals

Students should come prepared with an open mind. Attendance is a critical aspect to the Law class because most of the work is done in class in group settings. The goal of the class is to participate in a mock trial which serves as the final in the course.

Estimated Homework

The Business Department recognizes that students are challenging themselves by taking an academic elective such as Intro to Law. The amount of homework is **minimal**. The majority of class work is done in class with little to be done outside of class other than reviewing notes for quizzes and tests, etc.

This Class Is Best For...

Students who are intrigued and interested in the legal system. Law students are highly motivated and seek opportunity to explore Law in a hands-on classroom environment. Classroom presentations, group projects and a mock trial give students the chance to improve their public speaking ability in a safe, fun environment. Because this class is open to all grade levels (9-12), the classroom dynamics is unique with upperclassmen and underclassmen sharing experiences, providing guidance and learning the application of the law together.

Course Materials

Required Materials

Text book: West's Business and Personal Law