

YEAR 10 LEGAL STUDIES

Year 10 Legal Studies investigates Australian citizens' legal rights and responsibilities, our system of criminal and civil law, and the resolution of disputes. It also delves into the Constitution and how laws are made and altered to deal with the changes in our society. These processes are approached by focussing on current legal issues in the media. Students demonstrate their understanding through a range of research activities and inquiry based responses over the semester.



What do students learn?

- Young people and the law: what laws apply specifically to young people under the age of 18?
- Principles of Justice: why is our legal system the way it is? Where is it failing?
- Criminal Law process and infamous cases
- Civil Law: suing and being sued
- The Constitution
- How laws are made
- How individuals can influence legal change
- Looking at the law as it's reported in the media

What do students do?

- You get to be the judge: after learning the basics about a range of legal situations, students write judgements to determine guilt and "hand down" sentences
- Study notorious Australian cases, such as the Port Arthur Massacre
- Choose legal cases of interest from the media and write about them in their own legal blog
- Participate in debates about issues such as the death penalty
- Explore how the law is made and examine ways individuals can have an impact on our legal system
- Read real cases and analyse whether justice was achieved

How will students be assessed?

- Legal Glossary
- Blog: Ongoing assessment throughout the semester of posts relating to:
 - Case studies
 - Opinion pieces
- Sentencing written extended response
- End of Semester Exam