

YEAR 10- LEGAL STUDIES

Are you interested in the way that crimes are dealt with in our society? Are you interested in the kinds of high-profile lawsuits you see in the news? This subject explores the origins and foundations of our legal system, and the way laws are made, changed, and applied in cases, encompassing both criminal and civil law. Legal Studies looks at the Australian and Victorian Justice Systems and the principles that they are based on. Legal Studies also gives students the opportunity to unpack real life legal cases and analyse the values and assumptions that inform the legal system, and reflective on how effective that system is.

THE ORIGIN AND OPERATION OF OUR LEGAL SYSTEM

AREAS OF STUDY

- Federation and The Constitution
- The Structure of Parliament
- Government- what is it, and how is it formed?
- Comparing Australia and Indonesia
- The Referendum Process

OUTCOMES

- Define and Apply Legal Terminology
- Unpack and analyse the structure of parliament and Government
- Compare Australia's legal system with one other Oceanic country's
- Analyse the impact of referendums in Australia's past

MAKING AND APPLYING LAWS

AREAS OF STUDY

- Why does society need laws?
- Making a law in Parliament
- Common Law
- The Court Hierarchy
- The Mabo Decision
- International Law

OUTCOMES

- Define and Apply Legal Terminology
- Describe why we need laws in society
- Describe how laws are made by parliament and the courts
- Analyse the impact of the Mabo decision
- Explore the field of international law

CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAW

AREAS OF STUDY

- Introduction to Criminal Law
- The Age of Criminal Responsibility
- Characteristics of an Effective Law
- Culpable Driving
- Sanctions
- The Prison System
- Introduction to Civil Law
- Negligence and Defamation

OUTCOMES

- Define and Apply Legal Terminology
- Describe the key concepts of criminal law
- Analyse Culpable Driving and other criminal offences
- Analyse the prison system and its effectiveness
- Compare Criminal and Civil Law
- Describe the civil torts of Negligence and Defamation