



AMERICAN LAW (K383) .5 credit

Syllabus/Academic & Discipline Plan

The mission of Juneau-Douglas High School is to develop a healthy community of learners and to prepare our culturally diverse student population for global citizenship.

Instructor	Gary Lehnhart	E-mail	gary.lehnhart@juneauschools.org
Office Hours	Enrichment, lunch, and after school.	Phone	523-1543

Course Description:

This class allows students to actively participate in learning about the American legal system. From mock trials, where students (with the help of mentoring attorneys) participate in all aspects of a trial, to trial presentations, America's system of justice is examined in a series of hands-on activities. Judge, jury, attorney... students get exposed to all roles as we examine America's vast legal heritage, its complicated interpretation and its compelling attraction in life's everyday dramas.

Text(s):

None

Please note: Many textbooks are issued through the JDHS Library's textbook management system. If a textbook is checked out through the JDHS Library, it must be returned in the same condition at the end of the course or unit of study. Failure to return a book or damage to a book may result in a monetary fine based on the value of the textbook and restricted access to PowerSchool.

Materials to Bring to Class:

Notebook and pen or pencil.

Proper Heading for Papers:

Name, Period, Date

Course Syllabus:

Significant Trials:

Students will learn about the development of law by presenting a significant trial in American history.

Criminal/Civil Law:

Each branch will be explored and examined through multiple methods.

Law-Related Issues:

Students will choose a law-related issue that matters to them and present it.

Mock Trials:

Students will form into legal teams and, with the assistance of a mentor, prepare and participate in a mock trial.

Goals/Objectives:

1. Give students exposure to the history of law in America.
2. Students will take part in trials that will expose them to the practice of law.
3. To explore how law influences our everyday life economically, politically and socially.

Curriculum / Standards:

This course will be taught to district standards and district curriculum. The Juneau School District curricular information may be reviewed using the Juneau School District web site under the *Departments – Instructional Services* menu item: <http://www.juneauschools.org>. The NEW Alaska State Standards can be found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development website: <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/standards/>.

Grading:

Grading will follow the policy adopted by the Juneau School District Board of Education (Board Policy # 5420R). As per board policy, semester grades represent the cumulative progress of students.

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = 0% - 60%

“INC” = Incomplete

There is no extra credit.

Late/Make-up Work Policy and Procedures:

Late work is accepted, but penalized by degree. When the work is presentation-based, half credit will be given. This will be announced beforehand when appropriate.

Behavioral Expectations:

Show respect for self and others by being a “serious” student.

Please note: Students are expected to adhere to JDHS policies, as outlined in the Student Handbook, at all times. Classroom policies may include more specific requirements, but they cannot be relaxed beyond the minimums as set forth in the Student Handbook.

Consequences of Misbehavior:

Case-by-case basis.

Please note: Any action that endangers others, seriously interferes with the learning process, or is significantly disrespectful to staff or students may result in immediate removal from the classroom and/or direct referral to an administrator, thus by-passing above consequences.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY— (From the JDHS Student Handbook):

Academic dishonesty or “cheating” does not allow for any type of true analysis and is not tolerated. Cheating includes, but is not limited to

1. Procuring, possessing, using, or distributing tests, quizzes, answer keys, teacher manuals, teacher textbooks and similar materials;
2. Any attempt to tamper with or alter a teacher's record or grades;
3. Representing the work of others as one’s own work, whether the materials are plagiarized from another student, a published work or some other source, such as an Internet site.
4. Making use of notes or other memory aids during testing, except for those notes a teacher specifically authorizes for student use during a particular test or quiz, and;
5. Obtaining or offering unauthorized information regarding tests or assignments.

The **academic penalty** for all parties involved in cheating is a zero or failing grade for any copied or plagiarized assignment, exam, or quiz. Students will not be allowed to make-up the work. Also, the **disciplinary penalty** for cheating may include an office referral for disciplinary action. Possession and/or unauthorized distribution of testing materials or altering a teacher's records call for severe disciplinary consequences. **Repeat offenses could result in loss of credit for an entire course.**

Electronic Devices:

Cell phones, iPods, CD players, and other electronic devices are to be turned off and out of sight during class unless the teacher has given specific permission for their use. If an item is confiscated for violation of class rules, it may be retrieved from the teacher on the first offense. For subsequent offenses, the item will be turned over to an administrator for retrieval.

Please keep the information above. Return the signature form below.

I have read and understand the Academic/Discipline Plan for the class of .

Student Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Email: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Email: _____

***At JDHS we are PROUD to be Crimson Bears - Personalized, Resilient, Optimistic,
Unified, Diverse.***