

law

A Level Law Exam Board: AQA

Course content: Law covers the rules and principles that govern the way we live and the actions we take on a daily basis. The course covers the nature and theory behind laws and examines how this is reflected in the English legal system. The course will provide a solid foundation in criminal and civil law, in particular relating to violent crime and negligence. Human Rights Laws are also explored, with a focus on both the theory and application of these. Law touches on subjects as diverse as euthanasia, sexual conduct, the death penalty and immigration. This means that it is an appropriate accompaniment and enhancement to any other subject, from Sociology to History.

With its focus on developing academic skills such as analysis, problem solving and evaluation, it is also an excellent preparation for degree level study, in fact an understanding of law and an ability to 'think like a lawyer' will be invaluable for any career you wish to pursue.

Assessment

Law is assessed by 3 exams. Each paper is 2 hours long and includes a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Paper 1: This paper is taught in the first year. The English legal system component introduces students to the nature of law and covers topics such as the interpretation, precedent and the courts system. Students will also explore the roles of legal professionals and lay people. The substantive part of the paper is criminal law and students will learn the theory and rules behind this before learning about how liability for a range of different offences is constructed or reduced by defences.

Paper 2: The English legal system is revisited and students will learn about law making, civil courts, an access to justice and legal funding. The substantive element focuses on Tort law covering areas including liability

in negligence for physical injury to people and damages to property as well as psychiatric injury and nuisance.

Paper 3: Students will cover topics such as delegated legislation, and the rule of law before moving on to an in depth study of human rights legislation, examining rules and theory and the application and impact of the Human Rights Act in the UK. The main focus of the paper is five articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, including the right to life, right to liberty and freedom of speech. The course will finish with an exploration of Jurisprudence, covering morality, justice, fault and balancing conflicting interests.

Progression:

Students have gone on to university to study law, history, social sciences, theology, politics, business studies, languages. After a Law degree most students intend to become solicitors or barristers or pursue careers in legal journalism or the civil service.

Entry requirements

Minimum of GCSE English, History or Sociology at Grade 6.

