St Benedict's Sixth Form

A Level Law

Course Description

Law plays a vital role in society. The law helps define a society's values and also provides a means to solve problems and disputes without resorting to violence. A Level Law enables you to further explore the relationship between law, society and the individual.

You will be introduced to the English Legal System as a whole. This will involve how laws are made, who can make law and how judges interpret statutes. You will also learn about legal personnel including barristers and solicitors as well as the role law people have (i.e. juries and Magistrates)

In criminal law you will learn fatal offences such as murder and voluntary manslaughter, non-fatal offences such as grievous bodily harm, property crimes such as theft and robbery, capacity and necessity defences, and attempted offences. In tort law you will study liability in negligence for injury to people and damage to property, occupier's liability, vicarious liable, nuisance and any defences. In contract law you will learn how contracts are formed, broken and any remedies for breach of contract, you will also learn consumer rights which is useful for students in future practical applications.

Skills Attained

The course encourages you to develop the skills necessary to analyse and solve problems by applying rules and to develop the ability to communicate arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly. It will help you substantiate arguments and develop an enquiring and critical mind.

Assessment

You will sit 3 two hour examinations—all equally weighted in June in the second year of your studies.
Paper 1: Law and the English Legal System—Criminal Law
Paper 2: Law and the English Legal System—Tort Law
Paper3: Law and the English Legal System—Law of Contract



Progression

A level Law equips students with a wide range of skills and knowledge which will support further study and employment. The course is supported by visits from legal professionals and visits to court. It is an excellent introduction to studying law at university, a legal apprenticeship or training as a Chartered Legal Executive. In addition to progressing to careers as solicitors or barristers, Law students may also progress to careers in criminology, policing, business, politics and teaching, journalism, public relations and a range of management areas.

Misconception: universities prefer prospective law students not to study A level Law. This is false! All universities treat Law favourably or neautrally as a subject choice. The only university that places Law on a non-preferred list is LSE.

Misconception: the first year of a law degree is a repeat of A level Law. This is false! Not only does an LLB Law degree require more rigorous critical thinking skills, but it also covers many other law specialisms such as property law, constitutional law, human rights, and expands specialisms such as criminal law and contract law further. This makes A level Law a useful introduction and a good place to start building necessary skills for further study.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English

Exam Board: AQA

latkinson@sbsj.co.uk