

**Florida Department of Education
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - GRADES 9-12, ADULT**

Subject Area: Social Studies
Course Number: 2106350
Course Title: Law Studies
Credit: 0.5

A. Major concepts/concerns. Students learn that the American legal system is the foundation of American society. In order to function effectively, students examine those laws which have an impact on citizens' lives and are provided with an introduction to fundamental civil and criminal justice procedures.

The content should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- need for law
- basis for our legal system
- civil and criminal law
- adult and juvenile courts
- family and consumer law
- causes and consequences of crime
- individual rights and responsibilities
- career opportunities in the legal system

B. Special note. Credit in this course precludes credit in Comprehensive Law Studies.

C. Course Requirements. After successfully completing this course, the student will:

1. Understand the nature of law in a free society, the fundamental values underlying our justice system and the place of law in preserving order in society.
2. Understand how civil and criminal laws are made at the federal, state, and local levels of government and how these laws are employed in the various federal and state courts.

3. Examine the role that lawyers, law enforcement officers, correction officers and court officials play in our judicial system.
4. Analyze the adult criminal justice system, Florida's juvenile justice system and the rights and responsibilities afforded individuals in these systems of justice.
5. Investigate causes and consequences of crime.
6. Examine civil and criminal laws and procedures as they relate to family and consumer law.
7. Analyze the role of women and diverse cultural groups in the legal system.
8. Apply research, study, critical-thinking and decision-making skills and demonstrate the use of new and emerging technology in problem solving.