

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

Subject Area: Social Studies
Course Number: 2106370
Course Title: Comprehensive Law Studies
Credit: 1.0

A. Major concepts/concerns. Students learn that the American legal system is the foundation of American society. They examine the components and processes associated with the American legal system and are provided with a comprehensive examination of the civil and criminal justice systems.

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

- historical antecedents for law
- reason for laws
- civil and criminal law
- social values and their impact on the establishment and interpretation of laws
- causes and consequences of crime
- comparison of adult and juvenile justice systems
- significance of the Bill of Rights to the American legal system
- family and consumer law
- rights and responsibilities under the law
- importance of the adversarial relationship in American jurisprudence

B. Special note. Credit in this course precludes credit in Law Studies or Legal Systems and Concepts.

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

1. Formulate a rationale for the regulation of human behavior in society.

2. Distinguish between civil and criminal law, including the legislative process and the judicial process.
3. Analyze the stages of both a civil and criminal proceeding.
4. Evaluate the economic and social impact of civil and criminal justice.
5. Evaluate the alternatives available to the courts in sentencing offenders.
6. Investigate causes and consequences of crime.
7. Recognize the citizen's role in law making and law enforcement.
8. Describe and evaluate career opportunities available in the legal system.
9. Analyze the role of women and diverse cultural groups within the legal system.
10. Apply research, study, critical-thinking and decision-making skills and demonstrate the use of new and emerging technology in problem solving.