

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

Subject Area: Social Studies
Course Number: 2106380
Course Title: Legal Systems and Concepts
Credit: 0.5

- A. Major concepts/content.** Students learn that the American legal system is the foundation of American society. They examine the American legal system and the nature of specific rights granted under the United States Constitution.

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

- need for law
- basis for the American legal system
- constitutional rights and responsibilities
- precedent-setting cases involving individual rights
- roles involving individual rights in the criminal justice 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. Identify historical antecedents for our laws and the basis for the creation of laws.
2. Investigate the background, principles and applications of the United States Constitution.
3. Explain the rights protected by the Constitution and identify precedent-setting cases related to these rights.

4. Recognize the process for enacting criminal laws at the state and local levels.
5. Analyze the stages of the criminal justice system.
6. Identify government and private agencies which provide services to individuals accused of crimes.
7. Evaluate the citizen's role in law making and law enforcement.
8. Explore careers in the justice system.
9. Analyze the role of women and diverse cultural groups within the justice system.
10. Apply research, study, critical-thinking and decision-making skills and demonstrate the use of new and emerging technology in problem solving.