

AS/A2 Level LAW



Course Guide

Level 3 Two-year course

2010/11

Law is extremely useful for students thinking of careers in banking, insurance, media, police, civil service, management and administration, and, of course, the legal profession.

Subject introduction

You will not need to have studied Law before in order to take this course. It is important that you have a keen interest in the legal system and in finding out how it works. You will need to keep up to date with the latest developments in the legal world by regularly reading quality newspapers.

You will be the kind of student who will:

- Enjoy developing and understanding legal issues
- Enjoy analysing and solving legal problems
- Enjoy researching areas of the law
- Like communicating legal arguments through lively classroom debate
- Develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of the law in society

Year 1 study outline

The AS in Law consists of two units:

Unit 1 – Law Making and the Legal System

This unit looks at how Parliament and judges make law; how judges interpret law, the civil courts and other forms of dispute resolution, the criminal courts, lay people, the legal profession and the judiciary.

Unit 2 – The Concept of Liability

This unit introduces students to the idea of criminal liability through the study of non-fatal offences against the person (assault, battery, ABH, GBH and wounding), criminal procedure and sentencing. This unit also covers civil liability in negligence, civil procedure and damages (compensation).

Year 2 study outline

The full A Level is made up of the AS units plus two more units which are studied at a higher level.

Unit 3 – Criminal Law (offences against the person) Here you will study murder, manslaughter, non-fatal offences against the person, general defences and learn to evaluate the law.

SEE WHAT'S NEXT

Unit 4 – Criminal Law (offences against property) and Concepts of Law

Here you will study theft, robbery, burglary, blackmail, fraud, making off without payment, criminal damage, and further general defences. You will also look at the relationship between law morals as well as justice, judicial creativity, the importance of fault and the balancing of conflicting interests.

Methods of study

Study is through Powerpoint presentations, handouts, online and classroom testing, activities, and group discussion. Students are encouraged to keep up to date with legal developments in the news and are encouraged to discuss these in class. Students are encouraged also to build a portfolio of newspaper articles to use in essay writing. Students can also develop their research skills and expand their knowledge through using the books, CD-ROM, LawTex and audiotapes available in the library and by using various useful website addresses.

Special features

Law students will have the opportunity to attend student conferences and lectures given by leading academics and examiners of the subject. Students are also encouraged to attend court in order to witness a real court in session.

Subject combinations and careers

Law can be a useful choice for a wide range of careers and can be combined with a wide range of subjects. This subject can lead to various university courses, including a degree in Law. About one quarter of SEEVIC College Law students go on to read Law at university.

The subject is also extremely useful for those thinking of careers in banking, journalism, media, insurance, police, civil service, management and administration and, of course, the legal profession.

Success stories

Many Law students continue to Higher Education to study a whole range of courses as well as Law. Ex-SEEVIC College student, Sarah Law, recently graduated from university with a First in Law. Some students have continued further and have qualified to gain places at Bar School.

Methods of assessment

100% exams.

AS – Two 1½ hour exams

A2 – One 1½ hour exam and One 2 hour exam