

2008/2009 American Judicial System Syllabus

Mr. Girardin

Grade: 11-12 **Term:** 1/2 Year

Credits: 2.5

Text: Street Law: A Course in Practical Law. 7th Edition. Glencoe. 2005

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the legal foundations that shape our everyday lives. Students will become familiar with areas of contract law, torts, property law, criminal law, and constitutional law. The course will be taught by examining real court decisions. Students will learn the “ins and outs” of the legal profession by making use of guest speakers from the local legal community.

Students will be encouraged to read and write actively and critically, and will employ a variety of resources including technology to acquire, process and utilize information.

Course Expectations: Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared to learn. A notebook, writing utensil and the course text are required for each class. Students are expected to be respectful of each other, the instructor, and of school property. It is expected that students will actively, positively and productively participate (individually and cooperatively) in class discussions and activities.

Grading: Students will be graded on selected in class work, homework, essays, quizzes, and tests. A total points system will used (Students grades will be calculated by comparing the total points earned versus the total potential number of points).

Approximate values:

- Homework and class work- 5-10 pts
- Quizzes- 10 -25 pts
- Tests- 50-75 pts
- Essays- 10-15 pts
- Current Events (3x per quarter)- 10 pts

Extra credit will not be offered except in special circumstances. Generally late homework will accepted the next school day for 3/5 value.

On occasion a surprise quiz may be given, tests will always be announced and review sheets will be given.

The Final exam will be cumulative.

Extra Help: Available every day after school in room 306 until 2:30pm (or later by special request).

