

**Secondary 5 Option –
Introduction to Law**
Teacher: Mr. Joshua Parr
Telephone: 514-486-1101 ext. 668
E-mail: parrj@loyola.ca



This is a survey course in which students will be introduced to fundamental legal concepts and processes and to the various legal systems that influence their everyday lives. Through reading and class discussion, students will be asked to apply critical thinking skills to these concepts in a number of ways, with an emphasis on persuasive oral and written argument.

Material for the course:

- Binder or duotang to hold handouts and looseleaf for note-taking
- Textbook: none. Course materials will consist of handouts and websites.
- All students must subscribe to the Google Classroom page for this class as well as the Moodle page for this class.

Mark Breakdown

(This mark breakdown is subject to adjustment over the course of the year.)

Term I: 20% of final mark

Test 25% Reading quizzes 15%
Class Activities/Participation/"Blitz" Debate 20%
Assignment - Canned Fact Pattern Memo/Moot 20%
Assignment - Contract Analysis 20%

Term II: 20% of final mark

Test 25% Reading quizzes 15%
Class Activities/Participation/"Blitz" Debate 20%
Contract Drafting Exercise 15%
Criminal Law Essay 25%

Term III: 60% of final mark

Test 30% Reading quizzes 10%
Mock Trial 40%
Witnessing 10%
Juror Participation/Verdicts 10%

Class Participation & Reading Assignments

Class participation is an important component of this course, and students are expected to arrive in class having completed assigned readings. Reading quizzes will be administered without warning.

“Blitz” Debates

Once in each of Term I and Term II, students will be made to take their turn participating in in-class “blitz” debates. Students will be marked on their performance in this debate as part of their participation mark. No additional out-of-class preparation is required for this debate aside from completing assigned readings on time.

Office Hours

Mr. Parr’s office hours will be announced on a weekly basis via Google Classroom. Office hours will take place in room 135 unless otherwise indicated.

iPad Use

Students are expected to bring their iPads to class charged and ready to use. Quizzes and materials are frequently delivered via Moodle. However, iPads should remain unused and invisible without the express permission of Mr. Parr. Students wishing to use their own laptop computers in lieu of iPads may do so with the permission of the Mr. Parr; however, this permission is subject to being revoked.

Homework Policy

Unless otherwise indicated, assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified. Assignments that are late will be penalized 20% if handed in before the end of the school day following the due date, and will receive a mark of 0 if not handed in by that time. Assignments are frequently assigned through (and must be submitted through) Google Classroom. Student absence does not eliminate the obligation to ensure the assignment is handed in on time; absent students are encouraged to e-mail their assignment to another student to hand it in in their stead.

Planned topics to cover include:

- Philosophies of Law
- The Canadian Constitution and Constitutional Law
- The Canadian Courts System
- Criminal Law, Evidence, and Sentencing
- International Law
- Contract Law
- Copyright, Trademark and Patent Law
- Civil Liability (Tort) Law