

## Course Title: US Law & Politics - 10134

**Course Description** Treason is the only crime specifically defined in the U.S. Constitution. Why did the Constitution's framers think it was so important to define this crime? In U.S. Law a Politics, a one-semester course, you will learn the answer. This course begins by discussing types of courts and laws, including property law, school law, juvenile law and even laws about automobiles. You will also learn about the judicial branch of government, public opinion and political behavior, political parties and interest groups the electoral process, and the executive branch of government. Most Americans w vote in an election or participate in a court trial at some point in their lives. This course will help you become a responsible, well-informed U.S. citizen.

**Suggested Grade Level: 9-12**

**Length of Course: One Semester**

**Units of Credit: .5**

**Course Objectives:** When you finish this course, you will be able to:   
 } Understand and describe the different processes in the American legal system   
 } Trace civil and criminal cases from the municipal court up to the Supreme Court of the United States   
 } Describe the juvenile justice system   
 } Describe the power the judicial branch has to interpret law   
 } List and describe major political activities, such as voting and running for office   
 } Describe ways to scientifically measure public opinion, contrasting these method with nonscientific methods   
 } Define political parties and explain how they are organized and structured in the United States   
 } Explain the difference between political parties and special interest groups   
 } Explain how public officials are servants of the public under the social contract theory   
 } Explain why the right to vote is a limited right, or privilege   
 } Describe the process of nominating presidential candidates   
 } Define bureaucracy as it applies to the executive branch of the federal government   
 } List the government departments and describe their major functions   
 } Describe the role of the Federal Reserve System

## **Course Title: Criminal Investigation - 10136**

**Course Description** In this course, the student will examine the process of identifying and arresting criminal suspects, types of crimes and offenses, and preparing for court. The student will study the history of criminal investigation and explore the relationship between investigation and the courtroom process by examining case studies.

**Suggested Grade Level: 9-12**

**Length of Course: One Semester**

**Units of Credit: .5**

### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the year, the student will be able to

- Define terms related to criminal investigation
- Outline the history of criminal investigation
- Analyze the process of criminal investigation
- Examine types of criminal offenses
- Explain the relationship between criminal investigation and the courtroom process

## **Course Title: Introduction to Law - 10149**

**Course Description** In this course, the student will explore substantive and procedural areas of law and legal practice, such as the legal profession, courts, ethics, sources of law, and alternative dispute resolution systems. The student will analyze an application of law to factual circumstances.

**Suggested Grade Level: 9-12**

**Length of Course: One Semester**

**Units of Credit: .5**

### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the year, the student will be able to

- Examine the sources of American law and the court system
- Research and draft legal documents
- Analyze and explain the trial process
- Explain criminal law and procedure
- Examine family, real estate, employment, and bankruptcy laws