

# Justice & Law

**Instructors:**

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Are taxes a form of forced labor? Can you really say *anything*? Is cannibalism for survival still murder? Should people be able to buy babies in a free market and should Governments benefit from cigarette smoking? Explore these, and other moral/legal dilemmas, through justice seminars, mock trials and moot courts. Students will research and develop arguments to justify their positions, convict murderers or clear clients of false charges.

2 Semesters/1 Credit

**Graduation Standards: The number of the standards is referenced in the performance indicators listed in each unit.**

1. SSGS 1 Civics & Government 1 IDEALS, STRUCTURES & PROCESSES: Students understand the ideals, purposes, principles, structures, and processes of constitutional government in the United States and in the American political system, as well as examples of other forms of government and political systems in the world.
2. CIVICS & GOVERNMENT 2 RIGHTS, DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES: Students understand the constitutional and legal rights, the civic duties and responsibilities, and roles of citizens in a constitutional democracy and the role of citizens living under other forms of government in the world.
3. CIVICS & GOVERNMENT 3: CULTURAL DIVERSITY: Students understand political and civic aspects of cultural diversity.

Unit 1	<b>The Moral Basis - What is the right thing to do?</b>
Summary	Exploring what we think is right or wrong through the lens of Utilitarian, Libertarian and Metaphysical thinking.
Performance Indicators Assessed in Unit	<p><b>SSGS 1</b> Evaluate current issues by applying democratic ideals and constitutional principles of government in the United States, including checks and balances, federalism, and consent of the governed as put forth in founding documents.</p> <p><b>SSGS 2</b> Analyze the constitutional principles and the roles of the citizen and the government in major laws or cases</p>
Unit 2	<b>Due Process and privacy - Protecting the innocent, guilty, or us all?</b>
Summary	Analyzing the 4th, 5th and 6th Amendments through Supreme Court Cases dealing with due process and privacy
Performance Indicators Assessed in Unit	<p><b>SSGS 1</b> Evaluate current issues by applying democratic ideals and constitutional principles of government in the United States, including checks and balances, federalism, and consent of the governed as put forth in founding documents.</p> <p><b>SSGS 2</b> Analyze the constitutional principles and the roles of the citizen and the government in major laws or cases. Defends a position on a contemporary issue using constitutional principles, major laws, or cases.</p>
Unit 3	<b>Express yourself - The First Amendment- Express yourself, just not like that?</b>
Summary	Explore the limits of free expression and how the First Amendment applies to religion, schools, art, and politics.
Performance Indicators Assessed in Unit	<b>SSGS 1</b> Evaluate current issues by applying democratic ideals and constitutional principles of government in the United States, including checks and balances, federalism, and consent of the governed as put forth in founding documents.

	<b>SSGS 2</b> Analyze the constitutional principles and the roles of the citizen and the government in major laws or cases. Defends a position on a contemporary issue using constitutional principles, major laws, or cases.
<b>Unit 4</b>	<b>Equal Protection - Rights, Privileges, and Immunities for...all?</b>
Summary	<u>Explore the Constitutional framework and interpretations providing for equal opportunity in a diverse and evolving society.</u>
Performance Indicators Assessed in Unit	<p><b>SSGS 1</b> Evaluate current issues by applying democratic ideals and constitutional principles of government in the United States, including checks and balances, federalism, and consent of the governed as put forth in founding documents.</p> <p><b>SSGS 2</b> Analyze the constitutional principles and the roles of the citizen and the government in major laws or cases. Defends a position on a contemporary issue using constitutional principles, major laws, or cases.</p> <p><b>SSGS 3:</b> Students understand political and civic aspects of cultural diversity. Analyzes constitutional and political aspects of historical and/or current issues that involve unity and diversity in Maine, the United States, and other nations.</p>
<b>Unit 5</b>	<b>Mock Trial</b>
Summary	Learn about the legal process including direct examination, cross examination, opening and closing statements. Practice your skills in various Mock Trials in preparation for a Celebrity Trial when we will get to decide the fate of local or national high profile cases.
Performance Indicators Assessed in Unit	<p><b>SSGS 1</b> Evaluate current issues by applying democratic ideals and constitutional principles of government in the United States, including checks and balances, federalism, and consent of the governed as put forth in founding documents.</p> <p><b>SSGS 2</b> Analyze the constitutional principles and the roles of the citizen and the government in major laws or cases. Defends a position on a contemporary issue using constitutional principles, major laws, or cases.</p>

### Summative Assessments Retake

- Students have the opportunity to retake summative assessments.
- The student must submit a retake form to the teacher within five (5) school days of the date that the summative assessment score is reported to the student.
- The highest score a student can receive on a retake or late assessment is a 75.
- The score achieved on a retake will replace the current score (even if the score is lower).
- If a student is making up a test from an absence, that assessment will be graded up to 100.

### Make-up Work

Upon their return to school from an absence, it is the student's responsibility to secure make-up work from their teacher. Some summatives will be simulations (Moot Court and Mock Trials) and require student attendance. Alternative assessments may be assigned for student absences and completion of the Retake form.

### Grading of Formative Assessments

- Formative assessments will count as 30% of the grade; Summatives 70%
- Formative assessments may be scored on either a 0-100 scale or a 0-4 scale.
- The 0-4 scale will be represented in Power School as 4=100, 3=87, 2=77, and 1=67.
- The method of scoring of formative assessments will be determined by assignment.