

VCE Legal Studies

CAREER PATHWAYS (there are many more!)

- Solicitor or Barrister
- Judge's associate
- Police prosecutor
- Journalism
- Human Resource Management
- Politics
- Management consultant
- Law enforcement
- Advocacy
- Police officer

WHY CHOOSE LEGAL STUDIES?

Studying Legal studies will give you knowledge of constitutional, criminal, and civil law which is useful for a diverse range of careers in law, policy, business and government. You will learn about how our laws are made, about human rights and how you can make a difference and be a positive influence. You will learn about our court system, our parliamentary system and our role as citizens in a democratic society. You will also learn to think critically and evaluate the effectiveness of our legal system in achieving justice in terms of access, fairness and equality, and from a biblical perspective.



Excursion to the Melbourne Magistrates' Court

Unit 1: The presumption of innocence
Unit 2: Wrongs and rights
Unit 3: Rights and justice
Unit 4: The people, the law and reform

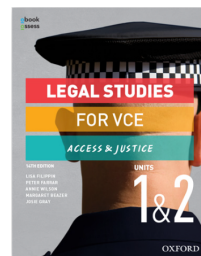
TEXTBOOKS:

Units 1 and 2: Access to Justice (Legal Studies for VCE, Oxford, new 15th ed.)

Units 3 and 4: Edrolo textbook

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment includes structured questions, case studies, practical assignments (for Units 1 and 2 - such as creating a legal criminal case folio).



What does Legal Studies cover?

UNIT 1: THE PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE (Year 11)

Area of Study 1: Legal foundations – overview of our court and parliamentary systems, principles of justice, criminal and civil law.

Area of Study 2: Proving guilt – key concepts and purpose of criminal law, types of criminal law, the presumption of innocence.

Area of Study 3: Sanctions – how criminal cases are determined, how sanctions are imposed, the effectiveness of sanctions.

UNIT 2: WRONGS AND RIGHTS (Year 11)

Area of Study 1: Civil liability – areas of civil law, purposes and key concepts of civil law, an in-depth focus on two areas of civil law.

Area of Study 2: Remedies – how civil cases are resolved, the jurisdiction of Victorian courts, the role of a civil jury, institutions that resolve civil disputes including tribunals, ombudsmen and complaints bodies.

Area of Study 3: Human rights – the meaning and development of human rights, how human rights are protected in Australia, current human rights issues.

UNIT 3: RIGHTS AND JUSTICE (Year 12)

Area of Study 1: The Victorian criminal justice system – key principles of the criminal justice system, the rights of the accused and victims, the principles of justice in relation to the criminal justice system, sentencing.

Area of Study 2: The Victorian civil justice system – key principles, remedies and their purposes, resolution of a civil dispute and the ability of the civil justice system to achieve principles of justice.

UNIT 4: THE PEOPLE, THE LAW AND REFORM (Year 12)

Area of Study 1: The people and the law-makers – learn about the way in which the Australian Constitution regulates state and federal law-making, how laws are made through parliament and the courts and the relationship between courts and parliament.

Area of Study 2: The people and reform – reasons for law-reform and constitutional reform, ways in which individuals can influence law reform, parliamentary committees and royal commissions.



Want to find out more?

For further information about the **Study Design** (new for 2024) for Legal Studies, go to the **VCAA website**:

<https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/vce/vce-study-designs/legalstudies/Pages/Index.aspx>

Or contact Mrs Campbell by email: sonja.campbell@baysidecc.vic.edu.au