



A-Level Law

Introductory
lesson

AS and A Level Law Plan for this session

Learning Goals:

By the end of this lesson, you will:

- Know what the Law course comprises;
- Have had a taste of what lessons and content might like look; and
- Know what you need to do over the break in readiness for September.

To do this, we will:

1. Be given an overview of the course content;
2. Look at the structure of exams;
3. See what the requirements and expectations of the course are;
4. Take part in a group and whole-class activity; and
5. Be told what your homework will be over the break.

AS and A-Level Law at FCC

A Level Law is a new course being offered at FCC.

It will be taught over two years.

- Year 12 – AS Level
- Year 13 – A Level

We will be following the OCR course for the subject.



Course Content and Exams – AS Level (Year 12)

Content Overview

H018/01 The legal system and criminal law

This component will assess:

- Section A: The legal system
- Section B: Criminal law

H018/02 Law making and the law of tort

This component will assess:

- Section A: Law making
- Section B: The law of tort

Assessment Overview

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes
50% of total AS Level
64 marks

Section A is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Section B is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes
50% of total AS Level
64 marks

Section A is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Section B is worth **32 marks**. Learners answer four 8-mark questions.

Content Overview

H418/01 The legal system and criminal Law

This component will assess:

- Section A: The legal system
- Section B: Criminal law

H418/02 Law making and the law of tort

This component will assess:

- Section A: Law making
- Section B: The law of tort

H418/03 The nature of law and Human rights

This component will assess:

- Section A: The nature of law
- Section B: Human rights law

or

H418/04 The nature of law and the law of contract

This component will assess:

- Section A: The nature of law
- Section B: The law of contract

Assessment Overview

Written paper: 2 hours

33.3 % of total A Level

80 marks

Section A is worth **20 marks**. There will be a choice of medium tariff questions.

Section B is worth **60 marks**. There will be legal scenario and extended response questions.

Written paper: 2 hours

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Section B is worth **60 marks**. There will be legal scenario and extended response questions.

Written paper: 2 hours

33.3 % of total A Level

80 marks

Section A is worth **20 marks**. There will be a choice of extended response questions.

Section B is worth **60 marks**. There will be legal scenario and extended response questions.

Course Content and Exams – A Level (Year 13)

Content: Overview

YEAR ONE	UNIT / CONTENT
Autumn Term Part 1	The legal system
Autumn Term Part 2	Law making
Spring Term	Criminal Law
Summer Term	Law of Tort



YEAR TWO	UNIT / CONTENT
Autumn Term Part 1	Human Rights Law or Law of Contract
Spring Term Part 1	The nature of law
Spring Term Part 2	Revision
Summer Term	Revision and GCE exam

AS Level Content: The Legal System (Term 1)



Topic	Content	Hours
1	Introduction to the nature of law (from Component 3/4 Section A)	4
2	Civil courts and other forms of dispute resolution	4
3	Criminal courts and lay people	8
4	Legal personnel	8
5	Access to justice	3
6	Assessment	1



AS Level Content: The Legal System (Term 2)

Topic	Content	Hours
1	Parliamentary law making	4
2	Delegated legislation	4
3	Statutory interpretation	5
4	Judicial precedent	5
5	Law reform	4
6	European Union law	5
7	Assessment	1



AS Level Content: The Criminal Law (Term 3 and 4)

Topic	Content	Hours
1	Rules and theory	2
2	General elements of criminal liability	4
3	Fatal offences against the person	8
4	Non-fatal offences against the person	8
5	Offences against property	8
6	Mental capacity defences	6
7	General defences	6
8	Preliminary offences	2
9	Evaluation	2
10	Assessment	2

AS Level Content: The Law of Tort (Term 5 and 6)

Topic	Content	Hours
1	Rules and Theory	4
2	Liability in negligence	12
3	Occupiers' liability	7
4	Torts connected to land	10
5	Vicarious liability	7
6	Defences	2
7	Remedies	2
8	Evaluation	2
9	Assessment	2

Law – What you will need

- At least one two-ring binder folder (you will probably need more as the course goes on);
- Dividers for your folder;
- You'll need to bring your folder to each and every lesson;
- Textbook - Martin and Price, *OCR AS/A Level Law: Book 1* (Hodder Education);
- Access to google classroom;
- Willingness to read and consider news and case updates – these will usually be posted on google classroom, but you are highly encouraged to seek out news yourself.

NOTE – THE TWELVE MONTH RULE!

With respect to the last point, the OCR Specifications state the following:

While learners are encouraged to be aware of the changing nature of law, they are not required to be familiar with innovations coming into effect in the twelve months immediately preceding the examination.

Law – Google Classroom

- A Google Classroom will be set up this week - look out for the invite.
- It's expected that you check it regularly – classroom will contain regular compulsory pre-class reading material, regular homework tasks, and links to news stories and other essential material.
- This week, I'll be posting some work for you to do over the break in preparation for our first class in September.



Expectations

Many of you who I've taught know my style and expectations. Teaching Law is particularly well-suited to this.

Overall, I like to make my classroom a calm, safe, and enjoyable space to be, but one where learning happens and hard work is expected. I like lots of discussion and debate, but expect my students to put in the hard yards to build their knowledge and skills. I also have a particular focus on developing writing skills.

The aim is always to see you succeed.



Expectations

In practice, our Law class will look like this:

- Overall, it will be Oxford-style tutorial model;
- You'll be expected to read out of class – this is essential for studying law and will help you build a strong discipline for this to apply in your tertiary studies;
- The idea is you'll come to class with some knowledge – this means we can focus on the more difficult concepts, and apply knowledge to cases and problems as a group;
- There'll be lots of consideration of real cases as well as scenarios; and
- Exam prep and method is a big focus – be prepared to do some at home and engage in the sometimes-less-than-interesting grind of writing practice and instruction in class.



Super Happy Fun Time

Let's get a taste of what
it's really like ...

Let's Make a Law!

Outline of Task:

- In groups, you'll be given a brief to draft a new law to establish a new criminal offence.
- We'll then form into prosecution and defence legal teams to consider an actual case in which a person is alleged to have broken your new law
- We'll then conduct an at-law hearing (note - this is different from a trial) to determine whether the alleged person in the scenario has fallen foul of one of the laws you drafted earlier.

Your Brief



Law to criminalise rock-throwing

The Government and the public have become concerned at reports that there has been an increase in cases where 'youths' have been dropping rocks on cars. This appears to follow a social media trend called 'The Rock Drop Challenge.' In these cases, youths have been dropping large rocks from overpass bridges on cars travelling along motorways. The Government wants a new law to target such offenders and deter others from taking part in this behaviour.



R v Jedediah



The defendant, Ebenezer Jedediah, was tried before the Crown Court for committing an offence under your new law. The prosecution and the defence agreed on the following facts:

- Jedediah, a 74yo homeless man, lived beneath an overpass on the A420;
- One evening, Jedediah hurled an empty glass bottle towards the road;
- Jedediah used a throwing motion, raising the bottle past his head before extending his arm and releasing the bottle in the direction of the road;
- The glass bottle hit a parked truck's tire and caused no damage.

The Crown Court jury found Jedediah guilty. The defence has now appealed to the Court of Appeal on a point of law, arguing that the law as written does not apply to Jedediah.

**Prepare your arguments and get ready to argue them
before the court!**

'The Law is a Beautiful, Complicated Mess.'

Some things you have may have noticed:

- We are always trying to come up with new laws to respond to and pre-empt new situations;
- These laws are introduced either through Parliament (Statute) or decisions of the courts (Common law);
- Despite our best efforts, new cases sometimes do not clearly fall within the law;
- So courts and Parliament will respond to these cases by developing more new laws.
- And so on it goes ...



Homework to do over the break

The following task and materials will go up on google classroom:

1. Read material on 'Introduction to the Nature of Law' (about six pages, plus a short glossary of terms).
2. Complete a quiz about the readings.
3. Working on your own, in pairs, or small groups (no more than 4), you will set up a new country.
4. You must design a set of foundational laws and rules for your country.
5. You will complete a Powerpoint (slide list will be provided) to present your new country.
6. You will present this to the class during a our first lesson in September.

