

Criminal Justice Essentials Text: Street Law; A Course in Practical Law

Instructor: Pedro M. Vega email: vegape@lee.k12.ga.us **Prerequisite: Introduction to Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security.**

Course Description: The course will build on what students learned in the first pathway course. Students will develop a more detailed understanding of the history and roles of our federal and state courts, the difference and application of civil law as compared to criminal law, and a greater awareness of the Constitutional amendments that affect operations of law enforcement agencies, and the goals in sentencing offenders.. In addition, students will learn about law enforcement field techniques and ethics, as well as Ga. traffic law.

Instructional Philosophy: Students will have an opportunity through this course to gain an understanding of their interest in pursuing a career in the Public Safety area. Students will be expected to demonstrate technical literacy (read, write and comprehend the language of the field), and numerical literacy (understand and perform math concepts that are relative to the field). Professionals in the public safety field will be invited to talk with the class.

Course Goals:

Students will develop a deep understanding of the 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, and 14th amendments to the U.S. Constitution. They will understand the roles of various court officials, courtroom procedures, and the trial process. They will develop a deeper understanding of the difference between civil and criminal law, and adult criminal law and juvenile law. Students develop a deep understanding of various patrol tactics and procedures and legal issues concerning policing proper evidence collection and storage, and proper handcuffing procedure. They will also be introduced to defensive tactics used in law enforcement. Students will develop a deeper understanding of corrections, building on first year material.

Grading Scale:

- A - 90 & above (Outstanding quality of work presented on time)**
- B - 80-89 (Above average quality of work presented on time)**
- C - 70-79 (Average quality of work presented on time)**
- F - < 70 (Poor quality of work and late work)**

Assignments: reading assignments, quizzes, tests, midterm assessments, labs covering policing techniques and mock trial elements, and projects.

SkillsUSA is co-curricular with this class. It provides students with opportunities to compete in skill competitions tied to what they learn in the Law and Justice program. There is a cost to join and participation is OPTIONAL. Students going to competition must meet eligibility requirements and pay the *nonrefundable* fees for the trip. They may offset the cost by participating in fundraisers. If a student is disqualified from competition due to grades or behavior, or withdraws, the money paid is *forfeited*.

Assessment Plan:

40%-tests

35%-class work /homework/labs/ quizzes

25%-projects

Late Work Policy:Up to a 50% reduction in grade; Any work over 3 days late that has not been approved by me for later submission may receive a 0.

Class Expectations: Students will come to class *on time* with their notebook, textbook and any other necessary material **EVERY DAY!** All rule infractions will be handled according to the LCHS student handbook and official school policy. Students are expected to be familiar with school policies. Failure to do so can negatively impact a student's grade. All LCHS policies pertaining to electronic devices should be adhered to and will be enforced. Please feel free to contact me. I can be reached most quickly by email at any time during the school day. **You can also use infinite campus to check your student's' grades online.**

Materials: Students will need 1 flash drive. They may use a three ring binder with other subjects in it as long as they use dividers so that my class has its own section in the binder. They may use pencils, blue, black (preferred), green, or purple ink. *Any work done in red will not be counted.* Work done in any other color may not be counted.

If a student is absent, they must arrange to make up all missed work upon their return to school. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero (0) for the missed work. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO DO THIS!

Google Classroom Information School Year: 20/21

Google Classroom 1st Period Code # [36kx3qf3](#)

Google Classroom 2nd Period Code # [egfwpq5](#)

Google Classroom 3rd Period Code # [x4a4z7c](#)

Expectations for Virtual Students

•ALL VIRTUAL STUDENTS are expected to adhere to the LCHS Student expectations for Online Learning for the Lee County School System.

•[LCSS Online Learning Expectations](#)

•Virtual students are expected to log in daily to class during the scheduled class period.

•Virtual students must complete tests and quizzes during their scheduled class period.

•Virtual students are expected to uphold academic integrity and digital citizenship: including appropriate class discussions and participation.