

# Whitehall-Coplay School District Syllabus

**Department:** Social Studies  
**Course Title:** Basic Legal Concepts 1

**Course #:** 20217E  
**Grade:** 10 - 12

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:** Students will study selected criminal laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and rules of criminal procedure accompanying those laws. The laws to be covered will include but not be limited to the preliminary provisions, culpability, inchoate crimes, law of theft, law of arrest, law of homicide, law of assault and law of sexual assault. Also covered extensively will be the following Amendments from the Federal Constitution: Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth and Fourteenth. Through active listening activities, interaction, and hands-on activities, students will acquire knowledge of current legal practices. Assessments will include but not be limited to case analyses, writing activities featuring reading apprenticeship, cooperative learning activities, simulations, role playing, written assessments, class discussion, analyses of articles from professional journals and speakers from the criminal justice field.

REQUIRED TOPICS OF STUDY	SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONAL TIME	STANDARDS/ ASSESSMENT ANCHORS
Rules of Criminal Procedure and Law of Arrest	4 weeks	5.1.C.C / 5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C
Fifth & Sixth Amendments & Law of Arrest	4 weeks	5.1.C.C / 5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C
Preliminary Provisions and Insanity	4 weeks	5.1.C.C / 5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C
Inchoate Crime, Justification, Robbery, and Burglary	3 weeks	5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / 5.3.C.H CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C
Fourth Amendment	3 weeks	5.1.C.C / 5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / 5.3.C.H CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G
DUI	2 Weeks	5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / 5.3.C.H CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G
Law of Homicide	4 weeks	5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / 5.3.C.H CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G
Eighth & Fourteenth Amendment	4 weeks	5.1.C.C / 5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / 5.3.C.H CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G
Law of Assault and Kidnapping	2 weeks	5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F CC.8.5.11-12.A / CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G
Law of Theft & Computer Crime	3 weeks	5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / 5.3.C.H CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G
Law of Sexual Assault	2weeks	5.1.C.E / 5.3.C.C / 5.3.C.F / CC.8.5.11-12.A-C-D-G / CC.8.6.11-12A-C-G

**RESOURCES:** Crimes Code of Pennsylvania / 2019 Edition / <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/wu01/li/li/ct/htm/18/18.htm>

**Revised: 06/21**