



**Law & Justice
2024-2025**

Course Description: This course is designed to provide high school students with a comprehensive understanding of the criminal justice system and its interplay with political science. Students will explore the components, functions, and ethical considerations of the criminal justice system while also examining the political structures, processes, and theories that influence law enforcement, the judiciary, and corrections. Additionally, the course will offer insights into the challenges and debates surrounding criminal justice policies, practices, and their broader political implications.

Culture of Learning: This class re-enforces PSSC's school wide agreements: Be Present, Be Respectful, Be Engaged and Be Professional. Being at a skills center, I believe firmly in holding students to high standards that will be needed in the current and future job market. Learning career specific skills are important, but soft skills are just as essential. Critical thinking, professionalism, communication, and problem solving are covered under 21st century skills (see Learning Outcomes below). My job is not just to support a student in earning a top grade, but rather, to become the kind of person that can be successful in today and tomorrow's world.

Student Learning Outcomes: The following standards will be covered and assessed in this course. This course offers several high school credits, including a 1.0 CTE/Elective, .5 PE, .5 English Language Arts, and .5 Civics. This class will have 3 separate gradebooks, giving you a grade for each credit.

Civics:

D2.Civ.7.9-12. Apply civic virtues and democratic principles when working with others. D2.Civ.5.9-12 Evaluate citizens' and institutions' effectiveness in addressing social and political problems at the local, state, tribal, national, and/or international level.

D2.Civ.4.9-12 Explain how the U.S. Constitution establishes a system of government that has powers, responsibilities, and limits that have changed over time and that are still contested.

PE:

Standard 1 Students will demonstrate competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns. Standard 2 Students will apply knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement and performance.

Standard 3 Students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness.

Standard 4 Students will exhibit responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others.

Standard 5 Students will recognize the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-express

CTE/Elective:

1.A.3 Elaborate, refine, analyze and evaluate their own ideas in order to improve and maximize creative efforts

- 1.B.1 Develop, implement and communicate new ideas to others effectively
- 1.B.2 Be open and responsive to new and diverse perspectives; incorporate group input and feedback into the work
- 1.B.4 View failure as an opportunity to learn; understand that creativity and innovation is a long-term, cyclical process of small successes and frequent mistakes
- 2.A.1 Use various types of reasoning (inductive, deductive, etc.) as appropriate to the situation
- 2.C.1 Effectively analyze and evaluate evidence, arguments, claims and beliefs
- 2.C.5 Reflect critically on learning experiences and processes
- 2.D.1 Solve different kinds of non-familiar problems in both conventional and innovative ways
- 3.A.1 Articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts
- 3.B.1 Demonstrate ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams
- 3.B.2 Exercise flexibility and willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal
- 3.B.3 Assume shared responsibility for collaborative work, and value the individual contributions made by each team member
- 6.A.2 Use digital technologies (computers, PDAs, media players, GPS, etc.), communication/networking tools and social networks appropriately to access, manage, integrate, evaluate and create information to successfully function in a knowledge economy
- 7.A.1 Adapt to varied roles, jobs responsibilities, schedules and contexts
- 7.A.2 Work effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities
- 7.B.1 Incorporate feedback effectively
- 7.B.2 Deal positively with praise, setbacks and criticism
- 8.A.3 Utilize time and manage workload efficiently
- 8.B.1 Monitor, define, prioritize and complete tasks without direct oversight
- 8.C.1 Go beyond basic mastery of skills and/or curriculum to explore and expand one's own learning and opportunities to gain expertise
- 9.A.1 Know when it is appropriate to listen and when to speak
- 9.A.2 Conduct themselves in a respectable, professional manner
- 10.A.1 Set and meet goals, even in the face of obstacles and competing pressures
- 10.B.1.b Manage time and projects effectively
- 10.B.1.c Multi-task
- 10.B.1.d Participate actively, as well as be reliable and punctual
- 10.B.1.e Present oneself professionally and with proper etiquette

Assessment Methods:

Quizzes and examinations
 Class discussions and debate participation (no reassessment)
 Research projects and presentations
 Case studies and real-world scenarios
 Mock scenes & mock trials (no reassessment)
 Industry recognized certifications (no reassessment)
 PE participation (no reassessment)
 Portfolio project/interview (no reassessment)

Instructor Contact Information:

Anna Mora

Text or Call: 401-375-1232
Email: anna.mora@highlineschools.org

Text or email is the quickest way to contact me

Equivalency Credits (Whole Year):

1.0 CTE/Elective
.5 English Language Arts
.5 Physical Education
.5 Civics

College Articulation Credits:

Highline College

5 credits CJ 101 Intro to Criminal Justice
5 credits CJ 102 The Justice System
5 credits CJ 110 Criminal Law

Green River College

5 credits CJ 101 Intro to Criminal Justice
5 credits CJ 240 Intro to Forensic Science

Central Washington University

5 credits POSC 101 Intro to Politics and Political Science
5 credits POSC 210 American Politics

Industry-Recognized Certifications Offered:

CPR/First Aid
Bloodborne Pathogens
Stop the Bleed
21st Century Success Skills
OSHA 10
Criminal Justice I (YouScience)
Criminal Justice Fundamentals (YouScience)
More TBD

Grading Policies: We use Standards-Based Grading to assess student learning as per Highline Public Schools.

The grade scale is as follows:

4 (A; 3.2 - 4.0): EXCEEDING standard

3 (B; 2.4 - 3.19): MEETING standard

2 (C; 1.6 - 2.39): APPROACHING standard

1 (D; 1.2 - 1.59): BEGINNING standard

NC (NC; 0 - 1.19): NO EVIDENCE. The NC does not earn credit for a course.

Reassessment Opportunities:

PSSC Policy - Reassessment opportunities will be clearly published and determined by the instructor. Not all assignments and assessments are eligible for reassessment.

Law & Justice Policy - There are some things that cannot be reassessed. This is because we cannot always recreate these opportunities, particularly when we offer certifications or mock scenes/trials. You will always know when something is not able to be reassessed because it will be marked clearly on our class calendar and I always give 48 hours notice. Excusing your absence is important legally, but it does not excuse you from the work that day. If there is an assignment that is eligible for reassessment and you wish to reassess, there is a Google Form on our class calendar titled "Reassessment Form." You are welcome to fill it out 48 hours after the assessment. The instructor who gave the assessment will reply to you within 24 hours.

Required Materials: All students need to have a notebook and a writing utensil. These will be provided by the instructor, but if a student loses them, they are responsible for replacing them.

Program Costs: There will no longer be any classroom fees. Uniforms will be provided.

Professional Attire & Uniform Requirements: Students must wear a lanyard with their student ID and PSSC provided attire and/or program-specific uniform as required by the instructor.

Course Technology: This course utilizes Google classroom. Google Chromebooks are available during the class period.

Work-Based Learning (WBL): WBL is an instructional strategy that provides students with career exploration opportunities and hands-on learning where knowledge gained in CTE courses can be applied to real-life work experiences. The goal of every work-based learning program is to prepare students for the next generation of the workforce. PSSC students will participate in Work Based Learning through their CTE program and may earn elective credits.

Common WBL opportunities

- Job placement in career pathway
- Internships
- Clinicals
- Externships

All PSSC students will participate in Work Based Learning.

Leadership:

Leadership is a key component of (PSSC Program) where your student can be a member of (CTSO or equivalent). The purpose of (CTSO or equivalent) is to encourage the development of vocational understanding, leadership qualities, social awareness, and a sense of responsibility to school and community. It is each student's choice as to how active they will become in (CTSO or equivalent).

List of opportunities:

- CTSO conferences, competitions
- Community Service
- PSSC Program Leader

Cell Phone Policy:

PSSC Policy - Cell phones should be used for educational purposes only as directed by the instructor.

Law & Justice Policy - Phones and headphones may only be used when allowed by the instructors. If a student continues to use their phone/headphones inappropriately during class time, the students' professionalism grade will drop.

ALL PHONE USE IS FORBIDDEN WHEN BLUE TRAINING GUNS ARE OUT! Students are required to place their phones in their class cubby (which will be supervised by the instructor) while training guns are in use. If a student refuses to turn in their phone or is discovered to have their phone on their person while blue training guns are in use, they will not be given a blue training gun, will be asked to leave the classroom, and will receive an NC for the day's grade. Repeat offenses can result in being removed from the course permanently.

If there is going to be a day when phones will be taken by the instructor, you will receive at least 24 hours notice both in class and online via our class calendar (bit.ly/MORAschedule)

Attendance Policy:

The seat time mandate for CTE courses in Washington ensures students receive sufficient instructional hours and hands-on training time to master necessary technical skills. Prescribed minimum seat time safeguards the quality of CTE programs by allowing for in-depth classroom learning, adequate lab practice on equipment, and fulfillment of certification requirements. Upholding seat time standards is crucial for preparing a workforce with job-ready expertise meeting industry needs.

Therefore, it is critical that students are present. Whether excused or unexcused, missed time is missed time.

1. If a student is tardy, they must complete the QR code in their classroom. It is their responsibility as a student to complete the QR code so their absence can be corrected to a tardy. If they do not complete the QR code, the student will be marked absent.
2. As a professional courtesy, please contact the course instructor via email, Google voice text or phone call.

3. Absences may be excused by any of the following methods within 48 hours of the absence: a. Phone call to PSSC Attendance Specialist, Kelsey Gomez (206-631-7353)
 - b. Email to PSSC Attendance Specialist, Kelsey Gomez (kelsey.gomez@highlineschools.org)
 - c. Hand-written note turned into PSSC Attendance Specialist Kelsey Gomez
4. Please include the following information in the note, call or email:
 - a. Student Name
 - b. Parent Name
 - c. Date of the absence
 - d. Reason for the absence
5. Prearranged absence forms are in the office. The form must be completed with all required signatures before departure date. This form will be shared with your home school as well.
6. Reassessments opportunities will be clearly published and determined by the instructor. Not all assignments and assessments are eligible for reassessment.

Student Handbook: [CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

Year 2 Eligibility:

All Year 1 PSSC students will have quarterly check-ins with their PSSC teachers, student success dean, counselor, and families to assess performance in their program, needed supports, and progress towards mastery of content and skills necessary for Year 2 programming. All information will be shared with the home school support staff.

Class Period Breaks:

Instructors will assign breaks as needed. During breaks, students may do the following:

- Use the restroom at the front of the building
- Step outside using the back classroom door

Students may not:

- Go visit other classrooms
- Talk loudly in the halls and disrupt classes
- Go to your car in the parking lot (ask instructor if necessary)

Students are responsible for watching the time and need to return to class at the specified time. If this continues to be an issue, daily grades may be affected. If you need to see the counselor or dean, please get a pass from your instructor or counselor.

Dress Code:

Students will be wearing uniforms on Tuesdays and other days as instructed by teachers. Uniforms will be provided by the teacher, but students are responsible for cleaning and making sure you have your uniforms with you in class. If you are unable to suit up, you will not receive full credit for the day's grade. You will always receive a 48 hour notice both in class and online on our class calendar (bit.ly/MORAschedule)

Shoes are not provided for your uniform, but you are required to wear shoes with laces, covered toes, and a back on the heel (sneakers, tennis shoes). Crocs, sandals, slippers, or slip on shoes will not suffice. This is for your safety and so that you can properly engage.

Central Washington University Policies & Procedures for Credit:

CWU Credit Process: Students and families are responsible for completing the registration process to earn CWU credit for the PSSC Teaching Academy course. There are strict deadlines to register for college credit as well as strict deadlines to drop or withdraw from the course. PSSC instructors will help students and families complete all steps necessary.

CWU POSC 101 Intro to Politics: This course explores the meanings of power, political actors, resources of power and how they are being used for what purposes, under what ideological, institutional and policy processes affecting our quality of life.

Course Student Outcomes:

- Identify the basic terminologies, concepts, political processes, and theories in the study of politics and power structure
- Students will distinguish the issues of “what to see,” “why,” and “how to see” in real world situations: recognize the dynamic and complex structure of power within which diverse political issues occur. - Analyze and identify political actors, their resources of power, and the interconnections between political, social and economic power.
- Appraise how citizens in a given society can effectively participate in political processes and impact government’s policy decisions
- Explain how various types of political ideologies, political culture, government institutions, levels of industrialization, geographic location and current globalization phenomena affect people’s lives. - Apply knowledge and critical thinking skills to about “things political” to stimulate continued inquiries in the study of politics.

CWU POSC 210 American Politics: Origin and development of the United States government; structure, political behavior, organizations, and processes; rights and duties of citizens.

Course Student Outcomes:

- Recognize the procedures and purposes of the major US institutions (Congress, Presidency, Courts and Federalism.)
- Describe and explain the historical development of US political culture and voter preferences. - Analyze how individual citizens collect political information and develop values and policy preferences, and express them through political participation.
- Examine evolving rights & responsibilities in US Constitution, Bill of Rights and appraise their effects upon US political development, culture, diversity and citizenship.
- Evaluate major historical and current public policy debates and differentiate arguments and positions. - Identify collective decision making procedures of the US government; apply disciplinary models to explain outcomes.
- Identify and explain basic concepts of American politics and government used in political science and the real world.

Required Assessments: All assignments in our PSSC Law & Justice course contribute to students grades for CWU college credit.

CWU Grade Scale:

A A	4.0 3.7	Excellent	Meets all objectives of the course and fulfills all requirements; performs at a level that reflects excellence
B+ B B	3.3 3.0 2.7	Good	Meets all objectives of the course and fulfills all requirements; performs at a high level
C+ C C	2.3 2.0 1.7	Satisfactory	Meets all objectives of the course and fulfills all requirements; performs at a satisfactory level
D+ D D	1.3 1.0 0.7	Marginal Pass	Makes progress toward meeting the course objectives; fulfills course requirements at a substandard level
F	0	Failure	Fails to meet the course objectives; does not fulfill course requirements