# **UNIT 1: Foundations of Law**



# **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

# **BIG IDEAS**

How does the American legal system work?

#### Students will:

- Explain basics of US law and our legal system.
- Explain the four sources of law: Constitutional Law, Statutory Law, Case Law and Administrative Law.
- Explain the role of the Bill of Rights in our legal system.

# **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- What are the four sources of law?
- What are the differences between criminal and civil law?
- What are the differences between substantive and procedural law?

#### Process

- O How do the four sources of law interact?
- O How are the state and federal court systems similar/different?
- How are the criminal and civil court systems similar/different?
- How has the U.S. legal system evolved?

#### Reflective

- Why do we have laws?
- Why are there four sources of law?

- Benchmark 4.0: Demonstrate understanding of the structure and processes in the U.S. legal system.
  - 4.1: Discuss the intent of laws and various regulations.
  - o 4.2: Discuss the nature of law and sources of law in the United States.
  - 4.3: Understand how the US Constitution and Bill of Rights is the foundation of law in the US.
  - 4.4: Describe the United States' judicial system.
- Benchmark 10.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify and discuss issues about Environmental Law.
  - o 10.1: Explain the nature of business and environmental ethics.

- Juvenile Crime and Consequences in Kansas: An Informational Booklet for Juveniles
- Law for Business and Personal Use: Thomson Southwestern

# **KEY LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

Mock Trial

# **UNIT 2: Ethics and Career Opportunities in the Legal System**



#### **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

#### **BIG IDEAS**

How are ethics and the law related and what career options are available in the legal system?

#### Students will:

- Describe the role of ethics in the legal system.
- Explore a variety of potential legal careers.

## **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- O What are ethics and values?
- What are the legal career options?

#### Process

- How does our legal system reflect the values of society?
- How do you pursue a career in the legal field?

#### Reflective

- How can you analyze the relationship between ethics and the law?
- Why do you need to evaluate the future outlook for various legal career options?

- Benchmark 1.0 Analyze the relationship between ethics, morals, and the law.
  - 1.1: Discuss the responsibility for obeying the law as a person and a business.
  - 1.2: Describe the role of ethics and values in personal and legal systems.
  - 1.3: Compare various ethical systems, and discuss how they may conflict.
- Benchmark 12.0: Understand careers available in the Business Management and Entrepreneurship Pathway.
  - o 12.1: Explore career opportunities in the Business Management and Entrepreneurship Pathway.
  - 12.2: Illustrate the services of professional organizations in occupations found in the Business Management and Entrepreneurship Pathway.

- 12.3: Explore job and career options in relation to developing the student's IPS, personal interest, financial goals, and desired lifestyle.
- 12.4: Explore the Workforce and Labor market information to determine needs when developing WBL experience with a career plan. https://klic.dol.ks.gov/vosnet/gsipub/documentView.aspx?enc=XR1MJE2Q7Rmn9KjAm0oNxA==
- o 12.5: Identify the purpose and goals of a Career and Technology Student Organization [CTSO].

- Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Judicial Learning Center
- Law for Business and Personal Use: Thomson Southwestern

# **KEY LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

- Ethical Dilemmas and Discussion
- Ethics Unwrapped Cases

# **UNIT 3: Criminal Law**



# **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

# **BIG IDEAS**

What are the responsibilities of law-abiding citizens?

#### Students will:

- Describe the difference between adult and juvenile law.
- Describe the three classifications of crime.
- Describe the criminal trial process.

# **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- O What are crimes?
- O What is the role of a jury?
- What are potential consequences of a criminal act?
- o Define terminology associated with the criminal justice system.

#### Process

- How do felonies, misdemeanors and petty crimes differ?
- O How is a criminal lawsuit initiated?

#### Reflective

- Why do we have a criminal law system?
- What would happen if there was not a criminal law system in place?

## **FOCUS STANDARDS**

- Benchmark 2.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify and discuss Criminal Law.
  - 2.1: Recognize the differences between various levels of crime (for example: felonies, misdemeanors, infractions).
  - 2.2: Describe the nature of legal procedures.

# **SUPPORTING RESOURCES**

# **KEY LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

- Courthouse Visit
- School Resource Officer Visit
- Mock Trial

## **UNIT 4: Civil Law**



# **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

# **BIG IDEAS**

# How are injurious disputes resolved?

#### Students will:

- Describe the difference between criminal and civil law.
- Describe the civil law trial process.
- Explain classifications of torts: intentional, unintentional, strict-liability/no-fault.

# GUIDING QUESTIONS

#### Content

- O What is a tort?
- What is the role of a jury?
- What are potential consequences of an injurious act?
- What terminology is associated with the civil justice system?

#### Process

- O How are torts classified?
- O How is a civil lawsuit initiated?
- How does the reasonable person standard play a role in the civil law process?

#### Reflective

- Why do we have a civil law system?
- Why do we have compensatory and punitive damages in civil law?

- Benchmark 3.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify and discuss Civil Law.
  - o 3.1: Discuss and classify different types of tort claims.
  - o 3.2: Discuss the challenges faced and remedies of tort cases.
  - o 3.3: Identify the basic torts relating to business enterprises.

• Law for Business and Personal Use: Thomson Southwestern

# **KEY LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

- Courtroom Visit
- Previous Cases McDonald's Hot Coffee, etc.

# **UNIT 5: Contract Law**



# **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

# **BIG IDEAS**

How can the nature and importance of contracts be explained?

#### Students will:

- Define what a contract is and what are the six elements of a legally binding contract.
- Define valid, void and voidable contracts.

# **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- What is the purpose of a contract?
- What are the six elements of a legally binding contract?
- What is the uniform commercial code (UCC)?
- What are potential consequences of breaking a contract?
- What are the classifications of contracts (i.e. implied vs. expressed, unilateral vs. bilateral etc.)?
- What is arbitration and mediation?

#### Process

- How does a minor's contractual capacity impact an agreement/contract?
- How are contracts considered valid, void or voidable?
- How does alternative dispute resolution work and why is it an alternative to litigation?

#### Reflective

- Why do we have contracts?
- Why is it necessary for a legally-binding contract to contain all six elements of a contract?

- Benchmark 5.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify issues and discuss Contract Law.
  - 5.1: Demonstrate an understanding of the variety of different types of contracts.
  - 5.2: Identify people who lack contractual capacity.
  - 5.3: Discuss the several ways contracts may be invalidated or violated.

Law for Business and Personal Use: Thomson Southwestern

# UNIT 6: Business Organizations, Bankruptcy, and Employment Law



## **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

## **BIG IDEAS**

What are the essential elements of law that businesses need to be aware of?

#### Students will:

- Describe the major types of business organizations.
- Describe the different chapters of bankruptcy.
- Analyze the role and importance of Agency and Employment Law.

## **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- What are the types of business organizations?
- O What are the chapters of bankruptcy?
- What is the legal responsibility of the employer to their employees?
- What are the rights of the employee?

#### Process

- How do you form a business entity?
- O How do you declare bankruptcy?

#### Reflective

- Why is employment critical to the function of business?
- Why are there workplace regulations?

- Benchmark 11: Describe the major types of business organizations, including sole proprietorships partnerships, corporations, and limited liability companies operating within the socioeconomic arena of the national marketplace.
  - 11.1: Outline the legal implications for forming and utilizing a sole proprietorship and/or partnership.
  - 11.2: Understand how businesses; including partnerships, corporations, and limited liability companies, could be legally dissolved.

- 11.3: Demonstrate the ability to identify issues and discuss C Corporations, S Corporations, and Limited Liability Companies.
- Benchmark 8.0: Analyze the role and importance of Agency Law and Employment Law as they relate to the conduct of business in the local, state, and national marketplaces.
  - 8.1: Explain the nature of human resource regulations through administrative law. 8.2:
    Demonstrate an understanding of discrimination both justified and unjustified. (For example:
    Justified discrimination in the realm of employment, payroll is an example. Paying a more productive individual more than another individual that is less productive is discriminatory but it's best practice, so it is justified.
  - o 8.3: Understand the importance of legal/government compliance.
  - o 8.4: Explain the nature of workplace regulations (including OSHA, ADA).
  - 8.5: Explain the nature of employee tax regulations on a business.

# **UNIT 7: Consumer Protection and Emerging Legal Issues**



#### **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

## **BIG IDEAS**

What is the role of regulations in protecting consumers?

#### Students will:

- Identify consumer protection laws.
- Define common unfair practices.
- Discuss emerging legal issues.

#### **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- What are the different consumer protections?
- What are the roles of federal consumer protection agencies?
- What are the different agencies involved in consumer protection?

#### Process

- How are consumer protection laws enforced?
- How should laws evolve to keep up with emerging technologies?

#### Reflective

- Why are there consumer protection laws in place?
- Why is it important to be aware of emerging legal issues?

## **FOCUS STANDARDS**

- Benchmark 7.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify issues and discuss Consumer Law.
  - 7.1: Demonstrate an understanding of consumer protection laws.
  - 7.2: Define common unfair practices.
  - 7.3: Explain the nature of a contractual relationship.

## **SUPPORTING RESOURCES**

# **KEY LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

• Contemporary legal issues in publications

# **UNIT 8: Property and Family Law**



# **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

## **BIG IDEAS**

What is the purpose of property law and why is there a need for legal financial family planning?

#### Students will:

- Understand what property law protects.
- Understand what issues are encompassed in family law.

## **GUIDING QUESTIONS**

#### Content

- What are the various types of property?
- What are the different legal documents used in family law?

#### Process

- How do changing life roles impact family law needs?
- How does the law protect property?

#### Reflective

- Why are there family laws?
- Why is legal legacy planning important?
- O Why should property be protected?

## **FOCUS STANDARDS**

- Benchmark 6.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify issues and discuss Property Law.
  - o 6.1: Recognize and discuss the various types of property cases.
  - 6.2: Describe the methods used to protect intellectual property.
- Benchmark 9.0: Demonstrate the ability to identify issues and discuss Family Law
  - 9.2: Demonstrate an understanding of wills, trusts, probate, and estate planning.

## SUPPORTING RESOURCES

# KEY LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Courthouse Visits