

Welcome to A LEVEL LAW

Now that you've decided to study Subject at A level, you'll need to do a bit of preparation. This pack contains a programme of information sheets, activities and resources to prepare you to start your A level in September. It is aimed to be used after you complete your GCSE throughout the rest of the summer term and over the summer holidays to ensure you are ready to start your course in September.



COURSE DETAILS:

- QUALIFICATION: 'A' Level
- DURATION OF COURSE: 2 years
- SPECIFICATION: AQA
- COURSE WORK: No coursework, only exams

A quick guide to A LEVEL LAW

Paper 1:	Paper 2:	Paper 3:
What's assessed The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100). Criminal law (75 marks out of 100).	What's assessed The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100). Tort (75 marks out of 100).	What's assessed Human rights /Contract law (choose one) (75 marks out of 100). The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100).
How it's assessed •Written exam: 2 hours •100 marks •33% of A-level	How it's assessed •Written exam: 2 hours •100 marks •33% of A-level	How it's assessed •Written exam: 2 hours •100 marks •33% of A-level
Questions A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.	Questions A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.	Questions A combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

TASK 1: THE ENGLISH LEGAL SYSTEM

Define law:

CIVIL and CRIMINAL LAW:

DEFINE EACH KEY TERM

Highlight which key term is associated with Civil law and which is associated with Criminal law

Which key term?

GUILTY	SUBJECTIVE RECKLESSNESS	MENS REA	DAMAGES
ACTUS REUS	WHITE PAPER	DOCTRINE	STATUTE
RATIO DECIDENDI	CIVIL LAW	JURY	MAGISTRATES
LAY PEOPLE	REMEDY	OBLIQUE INTENTION	OMISSION
GREEN PAPER	TRANSFERRED MALICE	STARE DECISIS	PARLIAMENTARY SUPREMACY

Fill in the grid and find out the difference between how Civil law and Criminal law function in the English Legal system

Elements	CRIMINAL	CIVIL
DEFINITION		
PURPOSE OF LAW		
PESON STARTING THE CASE		

PERSON BEING ACCUSED		
LEGAL NAME FOR PERSON STARTING THE CASE		
COURTS HEARING THE CASE		
STANDARD OF PROOF		
BURDEN OF PROOF		
PERSON/DECISION MAKING		
POWERS OF THE COURT		

How are laws made in the UK?

- UK laws are made by statute law and common law. Watch the following links to understand the law- making body in the English legal system.
- Parliamentary law making (statute law):
<https://www.parliament.uk/about/how/laws/>
- Common law (Judge made law): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJHTDgMRE8o>

You Be the Judge

Task: go to: <http://ybtj.justice.gov.uk/> You will need sound to work through the cases.

Choose any two of your choice:

- What did the Defendant do?
- What was the Plea?
- Which court was it heard in?
- What was their any relevant evidence from the Victim/Defendant/other witnesses?
- What would be your decision? Are there any factors that would influence your sentencing of the Defendant?
- What was the Judge's decision?

EXPLORING LAW:

Below are a range of documentaries and legally linked films which you may want to watch.

Title	Origin	Link (if available)
Catching Britain's Killers	iPlayer (BBC)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0009dz2/catching-britains-killers-the-crimes-that-changed-us-series-1-2-double-jeopardy
The Case of Sally Challen	iPlayer (BBC)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000c65v/the-case-of-sally-challen
Crime and Punishment (History of the Law)	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kn1gdZMLtrk
The Briefs	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWTcg8Ye6fl
HARDtalk interview with Lady Hale	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1VozJR_jC8&t=414s
The Bar	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6d78ROXCPgl
To Kill a Burglar	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BemcOAg53eM
The Trial: Murder in the Family	All4	https://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-trial-a-murder-in-the-family

TRIPS/VISITS:

If you are interested in exploring law – you could visit:

- HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT: <https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/>
- READING CROWN COURT: <https://www.thelawpages.com/magistrates-county-crown-court/Reading-Crown-Court-54.html>
- READING MAGISTRATES COURT: <https://www.thelawpages.com/magistrates-county-crown-court/Reading-Magistrates-Court-331.html>

Books which get you thinking about the UK legal system: The Secret Barrister - ISBN-13 : 978-1509841141



Biography

The Secret Barrister is a junior barrister specialising in criminal law.

The law can often feel to the public like an alien and impenetrable world, linked to everyday life only by selective news reportage and artistically-licensed tv dramatisation. The Secret Barrister aims to bridge that gap by providing a candid, and hopefully accessible, explanation of our criminal justice system, of how it works, and of how, all too often, it doesn't.

The Secret Barrister has written for the The Times, The Guardian, New Statesman, iNews, Esquire, Counsel Magazine and Solicitors Journal, and has appeared in The Sun, The Mirror and Huffington Post.