



South Carroll High School – Honors Law and Citizen

Spring 2016

Mr. Widner – Planning (7:30-8:55)

bmwidne@carrollk12.org (410-751-3575)

Course Description: Through this course, the students will extend their knowledge of the civil and criminal law in the United States. They will deepen their understanding of the Constitution's provisions for the judicial system and examine how the legal system balances rights while protecting society. The students will explore current and pertinent issues related to the justice and legal system.

Units of Study:

- Unit 1: Introduction to Law
- Unit 2: Rights of the Accused
- Unit 3: Criminal Law
- Unit 4: Civil Law
- Unit 5: Law Enforcement
- Unit 6: Corrections and Prisons

Classroom Texts: *Street Law* (\$80 obligation if lost or ruined)

Materials of Instruction:

- Three inch three-ring binder
- Appropriate writing materials (pens and pencils)
- Lined paper

Grading Policy: Student grades will be based on the total amount of points accumulated during a quarter. This total will vary based on the work assigned. Grades will be based on Summative assignments (test, homework, classwork and projects; the percentage of the grade will be no less than 60% of the total score) and Formative assignments (homework and classwork, not exceeding 40% of total score). A comprehensive final will be given at the end of the class and will be worth 10% of the course grade. Grades will be updated roughly once every two weeks.

Make up work due to absence: Work missed because of absences may be made up at a time mutually convenient to the teacher and student involved. The student is expected to take the initiative in planning such a time and the student should do so no later than the second day following their absences from class. The student will be reminded that long-term assignments or

projects are due on the date announced regardless of the absences which may occur in between the time the announcement is made and the time the assignment or project is due. In the case of a verified illness, or an emergency, which extends over a period of time, arrangements should be made with the teacher involved to consider a revised date. Parents are to e-mail the teacher for missed work.

Second Chance Learning: Students will be given a second chance learning opportunity to redo all summative assessments one time each. In order to qualify, students must fill out a reflection form, attend at least 1 flex mod, and (if applicable) must have turned in the original assignment on time. The 2nd assessment must be completed within 2 calendar weeks of the original assessment's return (unless arrangements were made between student and teacher). The score on the second assessment will replace the score on the original assessment.

Homework Policy: Homework assignments shall be meaningful; that is, they shall be related to course outcomes, rigorous and relevant to students, and differentiated as appropriate, to account for individual differences among students. The purpose of homework is to prepare for subsequent lessons, to practice or review to strengthen concept and skill development, and to evaluate what students know by applying, extending, or integrating their knowledge and understanding through projects or other assignments. Homework shall be assigned on an as needed basis as determined by the teacher.

Late Work: All late work will be accepted up to the interim date. A deduction of 10% of the grade will be administered for every day an assignment is late.

Academic Integrity: All parties have an obligation to act in a consistently honorable manner with one another in all cases. Academic dishonesty/cheating in any form on graded assignments will not be tolerated. Examples include: turning in work as your own when someone else has done all or part of the work, knowingly giving or receiving information about answers to homework, quizzes, or tests, and plagiarism. Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas without giving them proper credit. This includes the use of internet sources. It is a violation to use a computer or other electronic device to complete work that is to be done by the student. If there is a question, the student should contact the teacher to be clear about the use of technology for a given assignment. Discipline for such offenses will range from the following actions depending on the severity of the offense:

- 1st Offense: zero on the assignment in question; discipline referral; direct parent contact
- 2nd Offense: zero on the assignment in question; out of school one day suspension; parent conference
- 3rd Offense: zero on the assignment in question; out of school three day suspension and parent contact

- 4th Offense: zero on the assignment in question; one grade reduction for quarter grade in the course where the infraction was occurred; out of school five day suspension

Classroom Expectations:

1. Listen carefully and follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Stay in your seat unless given permission to leave it (During instructional time)
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on to participate.
4. Follow all classroom routines and procedures.
5. Respect the classroom, yourself, classmates and all other school rules.
6. Students may only use approved electronic devices at times designated and announced by the teacher. If students use these devices at an unapproved time or use it in an unapproved way, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.
7. Students will be permitted to use electronic devices that assist with learning.
8. The teacher reserves the right to suspend the use of electronic devices during class instruction.

Consequences: In the event that student behaviors are inappropriate in the classroom, the following is a list of potential support systems and consequences:

- Verbal warning
- Private discussion with the student
- Time out in the classroom
- Parent /guardian contact
- Lunch or after-school detention
- Referral to an administrator

Contact Information

Mr. Widner may be contact at SCHS (410) 751-3575

Monday through Friday from 7:00 am-3:30 pm. (Best time 7:30-8:55am)

Mr. Widner is also accessible through the teacher email account.

BMWIDNE@carrollk12.org

Course Contract

I have read, understand, and hereby agree to follow the stated procedures, guidelines, and rules.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

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