

**Liverpool Girls’ High School**

*Innovation Excellence Learning*

**Legal Studies**

STAGE 6 PRELIMINARY ~ COURSE OUTLINE

The Preliminary course develops students’ knowledge and understanding of the nature and functions of law and law-making, the development of Australian and international legal systems, the Australian constitution and law reform. It examines an individual’s rights and responsibilities, how disputes are resolved and examines a contemporary issue concerning the individual and technology. Students have the opportunity to investigate issues that illustrate how the law operates in practice. This is achieved by investigating, analysing and synthesising legal information and investigating legal issues from a variety of perspectives. The HSC course investigates the key areas of law, justice and human rights through a variety of focus studies which consider how changes in societies influence law reform.

**PRELIMINARY COURSE CONTENT**



* Part I – The Legal System (40% of course time) – *the nature and functions of law*
* Part II – The Individual and the Law (30% of course time) – *how the law impacts on individuals*
* Part III – The Law in Practice (30% of course time) – *investigation of contemporary issues that illustrates how the law operates*

**SYLLABUS OUTCOMES**

*A student:*

**P1.** identifies and applies legal concepts and terminology

**P2**. describes the key features of Australian and international law

**P3**. describes the operation of domestic and international legal systems

**P4**. discusses the effectiveness of the legal system in addressing issues

**P5**. describes the role of law in encouraging cooperation and resolving conflict, as well as initiating and responding to change

**P6**. explains the nature of the interrelationship between the legal system and society

**P7**. evaluates the effectiveness of the law in achieving justice

**P8**. locates, selects and organises legal information from a variety of sources including legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents

**P9**. communicates legal information using well-structured responses

**P10**. accounts for differing perspectives and interpretations of legal information and issues

**BOSTES PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Component** | | **Weighting** |
| **A** | Knowledge and understanding of course content | 60 |
| **B** | Inquiry and research | 20 |
| **C** | Communication of Legal Studies information, issues and ideas in appropriate forms | 20 |
|  | | **100** |

EVIDENCE OF LEARNING (Assessment)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Task No.** | **Targeted Outcomes** | **Learning Context** | **Task** | **Date Due** | **Weighting** | | | **Marks** |
| A | B | C |
| 1 | P – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | The Legal System | Mid-course Examination | Term 1  Week 9 | 20% |  | 5% | 25% |
| 2 | P – 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 | The individual and the law | Research task and extended response | Term 2  Week 9 | 10% | 20% | 5% | 35% |
| 3 | P – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 | The legal system, the individual and the law and the Law in Practice | End of course examination | Term 3  Wks 9-10 | 30% |  | 10% | 40% |
| **TOTAL** | | | | | **60%** | **20%** | **20%** | **100%** |

**REPORTING PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENT IN PRELIMINARY COURSES**

The Common Grade Scale shown below is used to report student achievement and performance in the Preliminary Stage 6 year in all NSW schools.

The Common Grade Scale describes performance and achievement at each of five grade levels.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A | The student demonstrates extensive knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies highly developed skills and processes in a wide variety of contexts. In addition the student demonstrates creative and critical thinking skills using perceptive analysis and evaluation. The student effectively communicates complex ideas and information. |
| B | The student demonstrates thorough knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies well-developed skills and processes in a variety of contexts. In addition the student demonstrates creative and critical thinking skills using analysis and evaluation. The student clearly communicates complex ideas and information. |
| C | The student demonstrates sound knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies skills and processes in a range of familiar contexts. In addition the student demonstrates skills in selecting and integrating information and communicates relevant ideas in an appropriate manner. |
| D | The student demonstrates a basic knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies skills and processes in some familiar contexts. In addition the student demonstrates skills in selecting and using information and communicates ideas in a descriptive manner. |
| E | The student demonstrates an elementary knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts, and applies some skills and processes with guidance. In addition the student demonstrates elementary skills in recounting information and communicating ideas. |