

law.

A Level / BTEC Preparation Pack



Overview

The Law department at the College is looking forward to welcoming you in September. We have a very experienced team of 6 teachers who will help you settle into College and ensure that you learn to love the law as much as we do! To help you step up to sixth form study, we have set out a range of resources for you to have a look at over the next few months so that you feel confident that you have chosen a subject that you will enjoy. Whether you study A Level or BTEC Law, these

resources are a good starting point. We have focused on criminal law as this is the topic we will start with so enjoy working your way through.



Jen Ludwig
Head of Law

Online Courses

You Be The Judge - <http://www.ybtj.justice.gov.uk/>

We recommend you start with this great interactive course that teaches you all about how sentencing works in the criminal courts. There are 8 crimes to investigate, including murder and drug dealing and you will get the chance to act as the judge and give out sentences when you have heard all the facts.

Law in Action – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tgy1/episodes/downloads>

These are brilliant podcasts on a range of different legal issues. We really enjoyed 'What's it really like to be in prison' and 'Online abuse and the Law' but there are lots to choose from.

The Hearing – <https://player.fm/series/the-hearing-a-legal-podcast>

We recommend Episode 9 with Dean Strang who was one of the defence lawyers for Stephen Avery, which will be of interest to any fans of the Netflix documentary, Making a Murderer.

The Student Lawyer is a free online resource that brings together legal news and articles in an accessible format for future lawyers. The site is written by law students or practising professionals and is intended for law students of all levels: <http://thestudentlawyer.com/>

Activities

Double Jeopardy: [Watch the episode here](#) - Catching Britain's Killers: The Crimes that Changed Us (Episode 2). Whilst you are watching it, think about the following questions and see if you can answer them:

1. What were the facts of the case of Julie Hogg?
2. What evidence was there that Billy Dunlop was responsible for the murder?
3. What was the aim of the double jeopardy law?
4. What further charges did Billy Dunlop face and what was the evidence to support them?
5. What sentence did he receive?
6. What are the criteria for double jeopardy to be set aside?

P.S. the other two episodes are excellent as well... take a look!

Films



Watch any of these films and at the end, ask yourself what area of law it was about. Could you summarise the key legal points?

- Making a Murderer
- The Children Act
- Denial
- Witness for the Prosecution
- 12 Angry Men
- Erin Brockovich
- The Life of David Gale
- Provoked
- Legally Blonde
- The Devil's Advocate

TV



All of these TV shows will give you an idea of how the law works in practice and we are sure you will find a series that you will get hooked on.

- Rhys Jones ['Caught in the Cross Fire'](#)
- The Trial: [Murder in the Family](#)
- [Life and Death Row](#)
- Disclosure – [Can Cannabis Save My Child?](#)
- Crime: [Are We Tough Enough?](#)
- Catching Britain's Killers: [The Crimes That Changed Us \(Interrogation\)](#)
- [The Case of Sally Challen](#)
- 24 Hours in Police Custody
- Crime and Punishment
- [The Briefs](#)
- [HARDtalk Interview with Lady Hale](#)
- [The Barristers](#)
- [To Kill a Burglar](#)
- Law and Order

Suggested Reading



Books

There are some excellent fiction and non-fiction books that will give you an insight into how the law works:

- The Secret Barrister - Stories of the Law and How It's Broken
- The Firm - John Grisham
- Anatomy of a Murder - Robert Traver
- Presumed Innocent - Scott Turow

The Media

A good Law student will be interested in current affairs relating to legal issues so we recommend that you read a newspaper or check out a news website every day. Many newspapers have specific sections for legal news:

- The Independent
- The Guardian and Twitter @GdnLaw

Course Specifications



A Level - [Download OCR Law Specification](#)

BTEC - [Download Pearson Law Specification](#)

The following books are also useful reading:

OCR AS/A level Law 1 and 2 by Jacqueline Martin

My Revision Notes - OCR A-Level Law