

SPHS COURSE SYLLABUS 2013-2014

LAW ACADEMY 3: PRACTICAL LAW

Ms. Libby Day

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Course Goals and Content:

Practical Law is a class that will investigate the American legal system and its operation. This course will allow students to develop an understanding of both criminal and civil law, the legal system, and how it impacts their life.

Course Supplies: iPad, copy of the Federal Rules of Evidence (available online for free), and a positive attitude!

Points and Assignments: Total points will be used to determine a student's average. A variety of assignments will be given, including papers, projects, and performances. As this class is designed to be the mock trial/moot court team, **participation will also be a major portion of students' averages.**

Late work: If a student misses one of the major panel discussions, they will be required to write a short essay on the covered topic to make up for the discussion credit. Unless a student has otherwise made arrangements, I use the following guidelines for all late work / make up work.

1. All assignments are due on the due date and can receive full credit.
2. An assignment that is one day late can receive $\frac{3}{4}$ credit.
3. Assignments received up to five days late can receive $\frac{1}{2}$ credit.
4. After one week, assignments will be recorded as a zero.

General Information: Class expectations for conduct will be the same as those found in the SPHS Student Handbook. Academic honesty is critical within Law Academy. If any student is found plagiarizing or cheating in anyway, that student will receive a 0 on the assignment and full disciplinary action will be taken. In addition, working on other class work during Law Academy will not be tolerated. If a student is found using a cell phone or other electronic devices (iPad, etc.) without permission, it will be confiscated and given to school administrators for pick up. For any other concerns or questions, feel free to contact me.

Important Dates:

September 14-15	AL Youth in Government Fall Planning	YMCA Camp Chandler
Sunday in Mid-September	Youth in Government District Meeting	Spain Park High School
Early October (TBA)	Youth Judicial Officer Training	YMCA Camp Chandler
October 18-20	Empire City Mock Trial Invitational	New York City, NY
November 2-4	Youth Judicial Mock Trial Tournament	Montgomery, AL
Sunday in Early December	Youth in Government District Meeting	Mountain Brook High School
January 25-26	Youth Legislature Officer Training	YMCA Camp Chandler
February 21-23	AL YMCA Youth Legislature	Montgomery, AL

NOTE: Students will also be required to participate in a class competition each semester, which will take place outside of the school day.



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