

## Masconomet Regional High School Curriculum Guide

Course Title: Law In Essex County

Course Number: 5623

Department: Business Education

Grade Level and Phase: 11/12-Honors

Length of Course: Half Year

### Course Description:

Law In Essex County is a half-year Honors level course that will expose the student to the Essex County legal system. Students will gain knowledge of the Massachusetts (Essex County) Trial Court system as well as civil, criminal and juvenile procedures utilizing class discussion, case studies and research.

Law In Essex County is intended as a research and discussion-based course within the classroom. Using approach, students will investigate the processes of the legislative, judicial and enforcement divisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### Objectives:

- A. Students will gain knowledge in the legislating of Massachusetts criminal and civil law.
- B. Students will be able to identify the hierarchy and functions of the Massachusetts State Trial Court system.
- C. Students will be able to identify the hierarchy and functions of the State Appeals courts.
- D. Students will gain knowledge of the various law enforcement agencies and their jurisdictions.
- E. Students will gain an understanding of the rights of citizens as they apply to police enforcement of laws.
- F. Students will be able to distinguish between civil, criminal and juvenile offenses.
- G. Students will understand the procedures of the District Attorney's office in prosecuting a crime.
- H. Students will understand the procedures of civil trial lawyers.
- I. Students will understand the legal procedures involved in a civil and criminal trial.

**Materials and Activities:**

- A. Teacher-made handouts of notes/assignments.
- B. Text: Law for Business and Personal Use (17<sup>th</sup> edition)
- C. Teacher-developed reference materials
- D. Class/Group Interactive discussion
- E. Field Trips (as developed)
- F. Guest Speakers (as developed)

**Assessment:**

- A. Participation in class discussions
- B. Completion of assigned research and note sheets
- C. Topical Quizzes (as assigned)
- D. Unit Tests (as assigned)
- E. Individual essays and projects (as assigned)

**Expectations Addressed:**

- Academic:* Students will communicate effectively.  
Students will demonstrate mathematical competency  
Students will use problem-solving skills.  
Students will use a variety of technological and information resources to gather, analyze, and synthesize facts, results, ideas and concepts.
- Civic:* Students will assume responsibility for their own behaviors.  
Students will contribute to the well-being and welfare of others within the school community.  
Students will demonstrate respect for themselves and others.
- Social:* Students will participate in decision making and team building activities.  
Students will demonstrate and practice an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.