

Introduction to Law and Public Safety I
DIALVirtual School
SD Assignment Code – 15001

Instructor: Lori Welander
Course Length: One semester
Prerequisite: None

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Grade Level: Grades 9-12

Course Description: Introduction to Law and Public Safety 1 is designed to give the student exposure to skills and knowledge recognized as critical for success in careers in legal services, corrections/law enforcement/security and protective services, and fire management/emergency medical services. Topics to be addressed in Introduction to Law and Public Safety 1 include: career options, lifestyle behaviors, social issues, state and local government, foundations of law, human relations, interpersonal communications, and technical writing.

Instructional Philosophy: Students will be expected to meet all the standards listed in this syllabus and be able to demonstrate their understanding of the underlying concepts. The learning styles, interests, and areas of expertise of each student will help direct the design of the instruction. In order to pass the course, students will need the minimum percentage set by their school district.

Course Standards

LPS 1 Identify career opportunity in the law and public safety fields.

- LPS 1.1 Explore career paths open for people with legal degrees
- LPS 1.2 Explore career paths in the paralegal fields
- LPS 1.3 Explore career paths in law enforcement and corrections
- LPS 1.4 Explore career paths in security and protective services
- Explore career paths in fire management and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

LPS 2 Analyze qualifications for careers in law and public safety

- LPS 2.1 Identify entry level educational standards for careers in law and public safety
- LPS 2.2 Compare and contrast the processes of hiring associated with the different career paths in law and public safety
- LPS 2.3 Identify different physical standards associated with career paths in law and public safety

LPS 3 Recognize Career Development and Specialization

- LPS 3.1 Identify career advancement potential for each of the career paths
- LPS 3.2 Recognize the types of specialized opportunities within each career path

LPS 4 Identify, summarize, and analyze the intricacies that are included in lifestyle behaviors.

- LPS 4.1 Analyze roles of economic, political, educational, familial, and religious institutions as agents of both continuity and change, citing current and past examples.
- LPS 4.2 Identify and analyze the top six factors that influence a person's mental health.
- LPS 4.3 Synthesize the lifestyle expectations of those in law and public safety careers

LPS 5 Research social issues that impact law and public safety careers.

- LPS 5.1 Research prominent deviant behaviors within our society that may involve law enforcement.
- LPS 5.2 Research criminal behavior within our society
- LPS 5.3 Analyze the role of poverty in people and/or their families and the impact of poverty on personal and behavioral choices.

LPS 6 Differentiate the differences and similarities of state, county, local and tribal governments.

LPS 6.1 Explain the jurisdiction associated with each of the different layers of government

LPS 6.2 Distinguish the constituent similarities and differences of each of the levels of government

LPS 6.3 Identify the unique characteristics of tribal government

LPS 6.4 Compare and contrast the structures of state, county, local and tribal governments

LPS 7 Examine the role of federalism in the United States

LPS 7.1 Compare and contrast the forms of federalism

LPS 7.2 Explain the role federalism plays in the division of power between governmental units

LPS 8 Identify the executive, judicial and legislative branches of state, county, local and tribal government

LPS 8.1 Recognize roles and responsibilities of the positions of governor, county commissioners, mayor and tribal chairperson

LPS 8.2 Recognize the forms of legislature, city commissions and tribal councils

LPS 8.3 Recognize the positions within the state unified judicial system, and tribal court system

LPS 9 Summarize how laws are made

LPS 9.1 Identify the steps of the legislative process in which laws or statutes evolve

LPS 9.2 Compare the legislative processes of state, county, local and tribal governments

LPS 10 Identify, analyze, and evaluate constitutional law, common law, statutory law, court decisions, and administrative law.

LPS 10.1 Evaluate and analyze the US legal system from the origin of common law (legal tradition from English law) to our current system of law.

LPS 10.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the basis, purpose, and application of constitutional law.

LPS 10.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the basis, purpose, and application of statutory law.

LPS 10.4 Demonstrate an understanding of the basis, purpose, and application of common law as it applies to case law and precedent.

LPS 10.5 Demonstrate an understanding of the basis, purpose, and application of court decisions.

LPS 10.6 Demonstrate an understanding of the basis, purpose, and application of administrative law.

LPS 10.7 Research and analyze components and possible outcomes of criminal law.

LPS 10.8 Research and analyze components and possible outcomes of civil law.

LPS 11 Understand the importance of human relations skills in the workplace and in personal life

LPS 11.1 Understand processes that guide human interactions.

LPS 11.2 Understand that different settings require different types of behavior, communication styles and relationships.

LPS 11.3 Understand effective human relations skills that can be utilized in the workplace and in personal life.

LPS 12 Understand how to communicate effectively with peers, colleagues and the public.

LPS 12.1 Understand the purposes of interpersonal communication with peers, colleagues and the public in workplace and social settings.

LPS 12.2 Understand various modes of communication.

LPS 12.3 Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication with peers, colleagues and the public in workplace and social settings.

LPS 12. 4 Analyze your interpersonal communication methods, as well as those of others, in order to understand how to effectively communicate in the workplace.

LPS 13 Understand the basics of technical writing for reports and for accurate and professional documentation in the law and public safety field.

Understand why technical writing in the law and public safety field needs to be factual, non-biased, and without conclusion, as opposed to that exhibited in persuasive, personal narrative, critical analysis, research and compare/contrast styles of writing.

Understand how to write a case report.

Instructional Delivery Plan:

Instruction will consist of individual hands-on activities and projects, group work, lecture, discussion, reading, writing, self-assessment, and the use of technology. The course requires student research and peer and community interaction to solve problems and complete projects. Students will connect virtually with the teacher at least 1-2 times during the semester for student presentation of course assignments.

Students will interview community and family members to obtain information for some course assignments. Professionals from the world of work will share their expertise throughout the course. Learning trips could be taken for various units in the course. Students will also use Internet resources to confer with professionals and obtain additional information about the world of work. Students will also use community resources to complete individual and group projects.

Assessment Plan and Grading Scale:

Journal Writings/Reflections – During the course, students will write reflections on learning. Specific directions for each journal writing/reflection will be given with lesson information. Journal writings/reflections will be posted in students' individual Journal under Tools in the course shell. Each journal writing/reflection is worth 10 points.

Assignments – Throughout the semester students will complete assignments related to course content. Students will complete both individual and group projects. These assignments comprise the assignment work portion of the quarter grade.

Assessments – To test student knowledge of course content, periodic assessments will be used.

Performance Tasks/Projects – To demonstrate an understanding of the course content, students will complete performance tasks/projects throughout the semester.

A student's semester grade will be calculated as listed below:

First quarter grade	35%
Second quarter grade	35%
Semester assessment	30%

Since this course is taught through the DIAL Virtual School, the grading policy of the Virtual School will apply. The instructor will use each school's individual grading scale when determining grades.