

**Material Covered:**

The Law Studies 12 course is comprised of the following three themes:

- Law Structures in Canada
- Criminal Law
- Civil, International, and Other Law

**Notebook:**

Your notebook should be neatly organized, as this will help you study for tests. Label the unit and topic headings clearly at the top of the page. Answer questions fully, so that the information makes sense and can be used later for studying. Show what page number in the textbook the information comes from so you can look it up again easily.

**Projects:**

Each unit has the option of either completing a test or a project as an assessment of knowledge. At the end of each theme, there is also a project for you to complete. Each of the theme projects has suggested guiding questions or topics for you to investigate, or you can negotiate your own topic with your teacher. Be sure to get permission first if you are investigating your own topic!

**Textbook:**

This course uses the textbooks

*Law in Action (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)*

ISBN 13: 978-0-13-607087-0 (Pearson)

*BC First Nations Studies (2003)*

ISBN 0-7725-4882-4

(Online edition at [https://nalaatsi.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/bc\\_first-nations-studies.pdf](https://nalaatsi.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/bc_first-nations-studies.pdf) )

**Assessment:**

Your final mark for the course is based 40% on the Unit Worksheets, 30% on the Unit Tests or Unit Projects, and 30% on the Theme Projects. What you get as a final mark will be commensurate with how much effort you put in. Work hard and enjoy the process!

**Theme:**

The topics in the Law Structures in Canada theme explore law and society, government and statute law, human rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and Indigenous Law.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to examine law and our society by investigating what law is, why it is needed, where it came from historically, and what has influenced Canadian law.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the difference between rules and laws.
- Explain what law is.
- Differentiate between law and morality, and law and justice.
- Explain the historical roots of law.
- Describe the historical influences on Canadian Law.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read the *Introduction* on pages 2-6.
- Read Chapter 1, *Law and Society*, beginning on page 10.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- Complete a vocabulary list for any terms you don't know.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Test or Project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate Government and Statute Law in Canada.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the development of Canada's legal framework, from the *British North America Act* of 1867 to the *Constitution Act* in 1982.
- Explain why Canada had to patriate its constitution.
- Describe the three branches of government in Canada, and the role each plays regarding law-making.
- Describe the process by which laws are created.
- Describe how individuals and interest groups can influence law makers.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 2 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 3, *Government and Statute Law*, beginning on page 64.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 2 Test or Project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate Human Rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the evolution of rights in Canada.
- Explain why the *Charter* is more powerful than the *Bill of Rights* that it replaced.
- Explain what fundamental freedoms are.
- Explain what democratic and mobility rights are.
- Explain what legal and equality rights are.
- Explain what language and general rights are.
- Describe international human rights protections.
- Differentiate between the *Canadian Human Rights Act* and provincial human rights codes, and the protections provided by each.
- Explain the process involved in filing a human rights complaint.
- Explain the grounds of discrimination under human rights legislation.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 3 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 4, *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom* beginning on page 92, through Chapter 5, *Human Rights*, beginning on page 128.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 3 Test or Project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to learn about Indigenous Law.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Be able to demonstrate an understanding of Canadian legislation concerning First Peoples.
- Analyze the legal effects of the Indian Act (1876) and the Constitution Act (1982) on Indigenous peoples.
- Examine the importance and role of sentencing circles and alternate dispute resolution processes within indigenous communities.
- Understand indigenous legal orders and traditional laws in Canada and in other parts of the world.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 4 Worksheet.
- This unit uses the textbook *BC First Nations Studies* and begins on page 176. It uses both Chapters 12 and 13.
- If you do not have a copy of this BC First Nations Studies textbook, here is the online link:  
[https://nalaatsi.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/bc\\_first-nations-studies.pdf](https://nalaatsi.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/bc_first-nations-studies.pdf)
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 4 Test or Project.
  
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for Theme Project #1: Law Structures in Canada.

**Theme:**

The topics in the Criminal Law theme explore the nature of crime, criminal court, sentencing and corrections, criminal law and youth, as well as restorative justice and sentencing circles.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to understand the nature of crime by understanding what a crime is and what elements need to be present for a criminal offence to have been committed.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Define crime and criminal offences.
- Describe the Criminal Code and how crimes fall under various jurisdictions.
- Describe the two elements necessary for a crime to have been committed.
- Explain the ways a person can be involved in a crime beyond just being the perpetrator.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 6, *The Nature of Crime*, beginning on page 158.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 5 Test or Project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to understand the criminal court system, and to be able to describe the criminal trial process and the roles played by each of the participants in that process.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the provincial and federal criminal court system.
- Name and describe the roles played by the participants in the criminal court system, including the judge, defence, prosecution, witnesses, jury, and other court personnel.
- Explain the qualifications, selection, and role of the jury in the criminal court system.
- Describe the criminal trial process.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 6 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 9, *The Criminal Court System*, beginning on page 253.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 6 Test or Project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to understand the goals of sentencing, the types of sentences available, and the role played by the correctional system.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the goals of sentencing.
- Describe the procedures followed in sentencing.
- Explain the types of traditional sentences available.
- Explain how restorative justice programs work, and the types of programs available.
- Describe how the correctional system works.
- Explain what paroles, conditional releases, and pardons are.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 7 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 11, *Sentencing and the Correctional System*, beginning on page 311.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 7 Test or project.



**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate how young people are dealt with in the criminal law system.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the differences between the *Young Offenders Act* and the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Describe the legal rights of young people.
- Describe the Youth Criminal Justice System.
- Explain what sentencing options are available to judges when youth appear before them.
- Explain about restorative justice and sentencing circles.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 8 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 12, *Criminal Law and Young People*, beginning on page 349.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 8 Test or project.
  
- Once complete, ask your teacher for the Theme Project #2: Criminal Law.

**Theme:**

The topics in the Civil Law and dispute resolution theme cover topics such as negligence and torts, marriage and family law, contracts, international and other types of law.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate the concept of negligence, unintentional and intentional torts.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the three stages of negligence including duty of care, standard of care, and causation.
- Describe the special types of liability.
- Explain the defences to negligence, including contributory negligence, voluntary assumption of risk, and other defences.
- Describe torts that involve the intentional interference with a person.
- Describe torts that involve the intentional interference with property.
- Explain the defences available to intentional interference.
- Describe torts that involve defamation of character, including libel and slander.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 9 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 14, *Negligence and Unintentional Torts*, beginning on page 416 and Chapter 15 on *Intentional Torts*, beginning on page 441.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 9 Test or project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate the legalities of cohabitation, marriage, and divorce, including the issues involved in ending a marriage.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Describe the essential and formal requirements for entering into marriage.
- Describe what cohabitation means.
- Explain the legal requirements for ending a marriage in divorce.
- Describe what is meant by child custody, child access, and child support.
- Explain what is meant by spousal support.
- Explain how family assets are divided and disposed of when a marriage ends.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 10 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 16, *Marriage: A Changing Tradition*, beginning on page 467 and Chapter 17, *Family Matters*, beginning on page 493.
- Answer the questions on your worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 10 Test or project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate contract law.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Classify contracts as oral or written, implied or express, or under seal.
- Describe the three elements necessary for a valid contract, including offer, acceptance, and consideration.
- Describe the factors that can make a contract invalid.
- Explain how a contract may be discharged.
- Describe the legal principles surrounding the sale of goods.
- Describe how laws protect consumers.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 11 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Read Chapter 18, *Contract Law*, beginning on page 520.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 11 Test or project.

**Goal:**

The goal of this unit is to investigate international and other areas of law.

**Objectives:**

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the structures and roles of global dispute resolution agencies and courts.
- Define and understand the role of international law.
- Learn about the United Nations and their role in international governance.
- Consider the roles of non-governmental organizations.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Understand the difference between treaties and declarations.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the International Bill of Rights.
- Learn about conventions and their role in international obligations.

**What to Do in this Unit:**

- Ask your teacher for the Unit 12 Worksheet.
- You will use the textbook *Law in Action* for this unit.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet and once complete, hand in to your teacher for marking.
- When ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 12 Test or project.
  
- When ready, ask your teacher for the Theme Project #3: Other Areas of Law.
  
- **Congratulations! You've finished Law Studies 12!**