

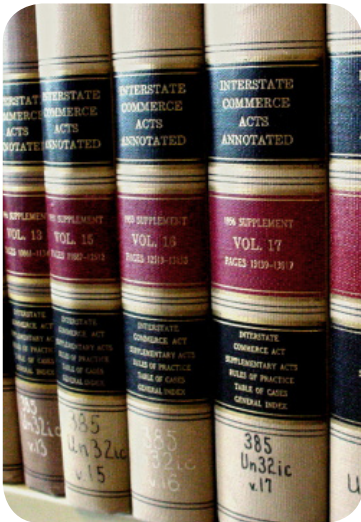


Academy Overview: Law and Public Safety



The Law and Public Safety pathway provides a vehicle for developing the sound communication, as well as critical thinking skills participants need in order to be successful in a democratic society. Emphasis is placed on developing oral and written communication, leadership, and problem solving skills.

Through a three-year course sequence beginning in the 10th grade, students will explore various fields of law that include criminal law, civil law, juvenile justice, corrections, criminology, and constitutional law. In addition to classroom requirements, students will have authentic career and college experiences through internships and partnerships with local corporations, bar associations, universities, law firms, and others in the field of study.



In addition to required core courses, students will observe legislative sessions, participate in mock trials, legal research, and visits to criminal and civil courts. Field trips and volunteer opportunities applicable to the course of study will also be a component of this program.

Course Sequences

Grade	Law	Public Safety
10th	Society and the Law	Society and the Law
11th	Introduction to Criminal Justice/ Speech 1	Introduction to Criminal Justice/ Forensic Science
12th	Student Congress	Constitutional Law (.5) /Project Citizen (.5)

Course Descriptions

Introduction to Criminal Justice

This course surveys the entire criminal justice process from law enforcement to the administration justice through corrections. It discusses the history of the system and introduces various career opportunities.

Speech 1

This course provides instruction in the fundamentals of formal and informal oral communication. The course offers instruction and practice in discussion and in skills of critical thinking. It includes extemporaneous and impromptu speaking, play reading, choral reading, interpretation of poetry, and drills in voice and speech mechanics.

Project Citizen

This program promotes competent and responsible participation in local and state government. Students learn how to monitor and influence public policy. This program will assist students in developing support for democratic values and principles, tolerance, and feelings of political efficacy.

Student Congress

This course provides extended experience in developing the skills of extemporaneous speaking, debate and interpersonal communication for the academically advanced, college-bound student.

Constitutional Law

This is an introduction to American constitutional law, with an emphasis on U.S. Supreme Court decisions. The course will explore various methodologies of constitutional interpretation and modes of constitutional analysis. Topics covered include the role of the judiciary in reviewing acts of the political branches of government; the separation of powers and relations among the three branches of the federal government; the powers of the national government and federalism- based limits on Congress and the states; and individual constitutional rights.

Society and the Law

This course will provide students with an understanding of the various aspects of law which they could encounter in their future.

Forensic Science

This course will allow students to learn how to use the scientific process to investigate and solve problems by exploring how various professionals use forensics to evaluate crime scenes.