Law Studies 12 Course Outline (Know and Do)

***BIG IDEAS:***

Understanding legal rights and responsibilities allows citizens to participate more fully in society.

Laws can maintain the status quo and can also be a force for change.

A society’s laws and legal framework affects many aspects of people’s daily lives.

Laws are interpreted and these interpretations many evolve over time as a society’s values and worldviews change.

***Students are expected to know the following:***

* **key areas of law such as criminal law, civil law, and family law**
* **foundations of Canadian law**
* **the Constitution of Canada and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms**
* **legislation concerning First Peoples**
* **role of the judiciary as a constitutional check on legislative power**
* **Canada’s correctional system**
* **legislation concerning children and youth**

***Students are expected to be able to do the following:***

* **Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze legal concepts, issues, and procedures; and communicate findings and decisions**
* **Assess and compare the significance and impact of legal systems and codes (significance)**
* **Assess the justification for differing legal perspectives after investigating points of contention, reliability of sources, and adequacy of evidence (evidence)**
* **Analyze continuities and changes in legal systems and thought during different time periods and across jurisdictions (continuity and change)**
* **Explain different perspectives on past or present people, places, issues, and events by considering prevailing norms, values, worldviews, and beliefs (perspective)**
* **Recognize implicit and explicit ethical judgments in a variety of sources (ethical judgment)**
* **Make reasoned ethical judgments about controversial decisions, legislation, or policy (ethical judgment)**