**CORNWALL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

**INTRODUCTION TO LAW**

**POLICIES AND GUIDELINES**

**MRS. SPENCER**

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The following is an outline of some of the important information you will need for this school year. Please read this sheet carefully and keep it in your folder. I encourage you to share this information with your parents. This information will also be posted in our google classroom for the duration of the course for your reference.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** A one-semester course emphasizing law. The objective of this course is to better understand our legal system and how it affects our everyday lives. We will focus specifically on legal philosophies, the objectives of law, the judicial system, the state of corrections, civil procedure, criminal law, and family law.

**CLASS PREPARATION**: Be on time. Please bring your school issued charged chromebook, a two pocket folder with lined paper and writing implements to class each day. A highlighter would also be helpful along with a chromebook charger. I expect that students will have a positive attitude, be willing to learn, ask questions and participate in class discussions. Student attendance is imperative for student success. In order to properly learn and retain information students need to be in class and participating in a lesson. Staying home and submitting assignments via Google Classroom is not a substitute for instruction from a teacher. In addition to attendance it is imperative that students are on time for school. Students that come into class late disrupt the learning that is taking place and are missing seat time. Students that develop habits of lateness will be

required to meet with school support staff and their parents/guardians to create a plan of action to arrive at school on time. Students that are late will be subject to discipline.

**CELL PHONES**: Cell phones will be off and away during class. Any phone issues will immediately be addressed by the teacher and administration.

1st offense: warning

2nd offense: warning and a teacher phone call home

3rd offense: teacher phone call home and a teacher consequence

4th offense: referral

**GRADING**: There are several factors that are used to compute your average. Included are:

Test Scores- 50% - (All projects/papers/articles will be counted as a test.)

Quiz Scores- 30%

Homework- 20%

**TEST-QUIZZES**: Chapter tests will be announced. Quizzes may or may not be announced.

**ASSIGNMENTS**: Must be neat, legible and on time. Any assignment handed in one day late (which has been done correctly) will gain a grade of 50%. Assignments turned in more than one day late will result in a zero. Most homework will be turned in using google classroom. Homework will be posted weekly in Google classroom. Completing the homework on time is essential for success in this course. It is your responsibility to get any materials or assignments after an absence and to hand in that work for a grade. If a student is absent, it is also their responsibility to check the Google classroom for class materials, notes and assignments to be completed and be in contact with me via email with any questions or issues.

**REQUIREMENTS**: In addition to all other assignments, you will be required to complete a departmental final exam at the end of the semester. This is a two-day exam and will be worth 10% of your overall grade. Seniors with a 90 overall average and less than 10 absences can be exempt from the final exam. Please note that one cut from the class will require taking the final exam. Overall averages will be calculated by using the following breakdown - Quarters 45% - Final Exam 10%.

**FINAL NOTES**: Discussion topics will undoubtedly produce a wide variety of opinions. You are free to express your opinion, but you must always be respectful of others. Also, be open-minded. Also, we will be watching films on controversial topics, some of which are very graphic. If at any time you feel uncomfortable viewing a film you will be provided with an alternate assignment at a different location. Please let me know.

Arrangements can be made anytime for additional help. I encourage you and your parents to contact me if you have any problems or concerns about this course. I am more than willing to help any student during their free periods or after school till 3:00pm. I also expect students to participate in a positive manner. Students will be respectful of classmates, teachers, staff and classroom property.