

# **Cedar Grove School District**

## **Cedar Grove, NJ**

**2017** | **Grades 9-12**

# **Personal & Business Law**



*Revised 2017*

*Approved by the Cedar Grove Board of Education*

Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Michael J. Fetherman

Board of Education  
Mrs. Christine Dye, President  
Mr. Frank Mandala, Vice-President  
Mr. Peter Prvulovic  
Mr. David Schoner  
Mr. Vincent Vollero

# **Personal & Business Law**

## **Course Description**

This semester course examines the relationship between individual people and law. The course begins with an overview of where laws originate. Topics include types of crimes, tort laws and cases, the dual court system, and current events in the field of law. The course will conclude with an in depth look at court room and trial procedure through the use of mock-trials, videos, and courtroom visitations. The use of open debates/discussions, role-playing exercises, and other group activities will help students meet the objectives of the course. Requirements may include current event reviews, film reviews, and case research.

**This curriculum was written in accordance with the  
2014 NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS FOR  
21<sup>st</sup> Century Life and Careers**

These standards can be viewed at  
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/2014/career/>

## Unit 1- The Laws and the Courts

Course Objectives	Student Objectives	NJSLS 21st Century Life and Careers	Suggested Timeframe (In Blocks)
Examine the foundations of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how ethical decisions are made</li> <li>Identify the different ethical character traits</li> <li>Describe how the law relates to ethics</li> <li>Explain the importance of the law</li> <li>Identify the parts of the Constitution</li> <li>Explain the purpose of the Bill of Rights</li> <li>Identify the role the Bill of Rights plays in our society</li> <li>Explain the component of common law</li> <li>Explain the purposes of statutory law</li> <li>Identify the ways that the courts make law</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, 8.1.12. A1, A3, C1,D1, D2, D3, D4, E2, F1	12
Investigate the United States court system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define jurisdiction</li> <li>Describe the federal court system</li> <li>Explain the role of the United States Supreme Court</li> <li>Determine the common structure of the court systems</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2	6
Identify and differentiate criminal and civil trial procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify alternative dispute techniques</li> <li>Differentiate between civil and trial cases</li> <li>Describe the steps in a civil lawsuit</li> <li>Explain the rights of a criminal defendant</li> <li>List the steps in a criminal prosecution</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2	6
<b>Unit Assessment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tests</li> <li>Quizzes</li> <li>Projects/Assessments</li> <li>Daily homework</li> </ul>			
<b>Materials and Resources</b>			
<p><b>Textbook</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Business and Personal Law</i>. Brown and Sukys, Glencoe, 2008</li> </ul> <p><b>Films and Videos</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Rainmaker</i>. 1997</li> <li><i>Fracture</i>. 2007</li> <li><i>Erin Brockovich</i>. 2000)</li> <li>Law and Order-Variou episodes</li> </ul> <p><b>Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Teacher Works</i>. Plus, Glencoe, 2008</li> </ul> <p><b>Websites</b></p>			

- Cornell University Law School: <http://www.lawschool.cornell.edu/>
- Supreme Court of the United States: <http://www.supremecourt.gov/>

**Teacher-Created Materials**

- Study guides
- Chapter reviews
- PowerPoint
- Business Jeopardy

**Unit 2 –Criminal Law**

Course Objectives	Student Objectives	NJ CCCS 21st Century Life and Careers	Suggested Timeframe (In Blocks)
Explore criminal justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the difference between categories of crimes</li> <li>• Distinguish federal from state criminal law</li> <li>• Describe the elements of a crime</li> <li>• Determine several defenses to criminal acts</li> <li>• Explain the differences between penalties for committing felonies and misdemeanors</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2	5
Examine different types of crimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the different categories of crime</li> <li>• Identify several special crimes that involve the use of motor vehicles</li> <li>• Define different types of business crimes, such as arson, forgery, and embezzlement</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2	5
<b>Unit Assessment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tests</li> <li>• Quizzes</li> <li>• Projects/Assessments</li> <li>• Daily homework</li> </ul>			
<b>Materials and Resources</b>			
<p><b>Textbook</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Business and Personal Law</i>. Brown and Sukys, Glencoe, 2008</li> </ul> <p><b>Films and Videos</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Rainmaker</i>. 1997</li> <li>• <i>Fracture</i>. 2007</li> <li>• <i>Erin Brockovich</i>. 2000)</li> <li>• Law and Order-Variou episodes</li> </ul>			

**Software**

- *Teacher Works. Plus*, Glencoe, 2008

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**Unit 3 –Tort Law**

Course Objectives	Student Objectives	NJ CCCS 21st Century Life and Careers	Suggested Timeframe (In Blocks)
Define a tort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distinguish between a tort and a crime</li> <li>• Differentiate between and give examples of negligence and intentional torts</li> <li>• Explain a person’s right and duties in relation to the tort law</li> <li>• Describe remedies available in tort law</li> <li>• List the main intentional tort against people and property</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2	9
Investigate negligence and liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define negligence</li> <li>• Explain the concepts of the reasonable person test and proximate cause</li> <li>• Explain the concept of strict liability</li> <li>• Compare and contrast negligence, strict liability, and proximate cause</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2	5
<b>Unit Assessment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tests</li> <li>• Quizzes</li> <li>• Projects/Assessments</li> <li>• Daily homework</li> </ul>			
<b>Materials and Resources</b>			
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**Unit 4 –Consumer Law: Sales Contracts and Personal Law**

Course Objectives	Student Objectives	NJ CCCS 21st Century Life and Careers	Suggested Timeframe (In Blocks)
Examine the elements and requirements of sales contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the Uniform Commercial Code</li> <li>• Compare and contrast service contracts and contracts for the sale of goods</li> <li>• Explain when title and risk of loss pass in a sale of goods</li> <li>• List the remedies of the buy and seller when a contract is breached</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4
Discuss Consumer Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distinguish different types of consumer fraud</li> <li>• Describe laws and agencies that protect consumers</li> <li>• Identify various types of warranties</li> <li>• Describe how warranties may be excluded or modified</li> <li>• Determine where to get consumer protection</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4
Identify different types of property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distinguish between real property, personal property, and fixtures</li> <li>• Describe the different types of co-ownership of personal property</li> <li>• Explain the concept of intellectual property</li> <li>• Give examples of intellectual property</li> <li>• Define the laws of patents. Copyrights, and trademarks</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4

Define and examine types of bailment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define bailment</li> <li>Explain the different types of bailment</li> <li>Discuss the stand of care bailees must use</li> <li>Define a hotel keeper's liability</li> <li>Identify a common Carrier's liability for loss or damaged goods.</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3, F5, F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4
<b>Unit Assessment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tests</li> <li>Quizzes</li> <li>Projects/Assessments</li> <li>Daily homework</li> </ul>			
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<b>Films and Videos</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Rainmaker</i>. 1997</li> <li>Fracture. 2007</li> <li>Erin Brockovich. 2000)</li> <li>Law and Order-Variou episodes</li> </ul>			
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<b>Teacher-Created Materials</b>			
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## Unit 5 –Contracts

Course Objectives	Student Objectives	NJ CCCS 21st Century Life and Careers	Suggested Timeframe (In Blocks)
Recognize the importance of contracts in your life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presents the basics of contract formation as found in the matching of an offer and a proper acceptance</li> <li>Identify the types of agreements that are void and unenforceable</li> <li>Identify the different forms of consideration and discusses when</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3, F5, F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4

	<p>consideration is required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the essential nature of contractual capacity and details the legal position of those without it</li> <li>• Discuss agreements that have to be in writing to be enforceable</li> <li>• Explain the contracts involved in marriage and divorce</li> </ul>		
Understand how contracts are made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List the six essential elements of a legally enforceable contract. Students will be able to identify the different kinds of contracts.</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E	4
Appreciate the variety and flexibility of contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine if someone has the capacity to contract and how a contract can become invalid.</li> <li>• Identify contracts that are illegal and know when it you need to have a contract in writing.</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4
Offer and acceptance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a valid offer.</li> <li>• Describe how an offer can be terminated before acceptance.</li> <li>• Understand the importance of acceptance and consideration to contract formation.</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	4
Legality of Contracts - Fraud and Misrepresentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify contracts that are illegal and know when it you need to have a contract in writing.</li> <li>• Recognize deceptive practices such as fraudulent misrepresentation and false advertising.</li> <li>• Understand how four FTC trade regulation rules act to correct wrongdoing in the market place</li> </ul>	9.1.12. A1, D3, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, F2, F3,F5,F6 9.2.12. E9, F1	

#### Unit Assessment

- Tests
- Quizzes
- Projects/Assessments
- Daily homework

#### Materials and Resources

##### Textbook

- *Business and Personal Law*. Brown and Sukys, Glencoe, 2008

##### Films and Videos

- *Rainmaker*. 1997
- *Fracture*. 2007
- *Erin Brockovich*. 2000)
- *Law and Order*-Various episodes

##### Software



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**Interdisciplinary Standards Met:**

**English Language Arts:** RH.1-10, WHST.1.a-e, 2.a-e, WHST.4-10, SL.1-6, L.1-6

**Science:** 5.1.12.B.2-3, 5.1.12.C.1-3, 5.1.12.D.1-2

**Technology:** 8.1.12.A.1-4, 8.1.12.C.1, 8.1.12.D.1-2, 8.1.12.E.1, 8.1.12.F.1-2

**World Language:** 7.1.AL.A.3

**Social Studies:** 6.1.12.C.2.b, 6.1.12.C.3.b, 6.1.12.C.5.a, 6.1.12.C.5.c, 6.1.12.C.6.c, 6.1.12.C.8.b, 6.1.12.C.9.a-d, 6.1.12.C.10.a, 6.1.12.C.14.a-c, 6.1.12.C.16.b-c, 6.2.12.C.5.d, 6.2.12.C.5.g