**WELCOME TO KENDAL COLLEGE A LEVEL IN LAW!**

We are glad you have decided to study law. We will try to start you thinking like a lawyer.

 **Welcome to the Law**

  

     

1. The Course

We study towards the AQA A level in Law. The course is examined by way of a three part written examination testing the students knowledge, application and evaluation skills across four key areas of law.

* 1. Criminal Law – This module looks at the theory of criminal law, and investigates the nature of offences. The module includes study of the law around offences against the person, murder, insanity, attempts and theft.
	2. Tort Law – This module examines civil law, the law of negligence, the Occupiers Liability Acts and the basic procedures of the Civil Court.
	3. Contract Law – This module looks at the theory of English contract law, the general principles underpinning contract law and provides students with a key understanding of the role of contracts within a commercial and domestic setting.
	4. The Nature of Law (All) – This element of the A level syllabus examines the principles underpinning the law of England and Wales. The module looks at aspects of constitutional and administrative law such as the rule of law, the legal profession, Court hierarchy and etiquette, sentencing and theories of jurisprudence. The Nature of Law is pervasive throughout the other three topics and forms a percentage of each of the three papers.

For full details of the specification can be found at:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/law/as-and-a-level/law-7162/subject-content>

1. Pre-requisites.

Law requires a considerable amount of reading, an ability to be able to apply the law to the facts and be able to critically examine aspects of law in depth. The examination will also test a student’s ability to write in a legally appropriate manner and as such students will benefit from developing their written communication skills. Law suits people who are able to remember information (there are a substantial number of cases and legal principles to learn), a desire to learn and an inquiring mind. Kendal College endeavours to provide students with a high quality of education but the student themselves must undertake the hard work required. Learning the law requires time and effort.

1. Preparation:

Students should come equipped to their first lesson with a copy of the A level textbook, an A4 file, paper and 3 pens. Students are expected to have obtained a copy of the first year textbook prior to commencing the course.

The book we use on the course in the first year is:

Martin J, Price N - *AQA Law For A level Year 1 and AS* Hodder, London 2017

ISBN 978 1 5104 0164 8

They are available online from a number of retailers.

Students would also benefit from reading the following book over the summer.

Glanville Williams *Learning the Law* Paperback; London: Gaunt, June 1982; ISBN-13: 978-0420463005

In addition, any background reading you undertake on the law of England and Wales, particularly regarding constitutional law will be useful to you. Read about cases in the news, brush up on major trials, watch some Court room scenes in a films, and we would recommend you start keeping up with current affairs ideally through reading a broadsheet newspaper and listening to Radio 4.

1. Lecturer’s Note

Law is a challenging subject which can be immensely rewarding and interesting. The study of law can lead to down numerous paths to a variety of destinations, and law contains can satisfy many fascinations and ambitions including intellectual challenge, debate, involvement in the cut and thrust of legal arguments, the intention behind crime, environmental activism, the pursuit of justice and the potential of lucrative employment. Law can be a rewarding career financially, intellectually and spiritually. It can also be difficult, stressful and time consuming. Lawyers have a particular way of thinking about the world, and at the end of the course it is expected you will have started to think like a lawyer.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Autumn and travelling with you a little way on what I hope may be for you just the first steps of a long and fulfilling career working for the law.

Daniel Millican – Solicitor and Lecturer in Law