

A Level Law
Transition Pack



AQA A Level Law

Transition Pack

Welcome!

Welcome to the Social Sciences Department and the A Level Law course. The challenges of A Level are a significant step up from GCSE and this can seem daunting at first. This is nothing to worry about and you will receive plenty of support from September. In the meantime, it is recommended that you use the next few months to prepare for this new course.

The pack includes an overview of what you will study during the first year of the course, should you join it, together with a series of introductory tasks for you to work through. The tasks are designed to help you get to grips with some of the key terms you will need to know, as well as concepts you will learn about as a student of A Level Law.

To access the Law A Level course in September, you will need to complete the tasks set out in this pack and also meet the course entry requirements, which can be found in the sixth form course listing document.

A Level Law

In order to excel in A Level Law, and assist your development in preparation for your next steps after sixth form, you must actively engage in independent study in addition to your timetabled lessons. The ability to conduct independent research is a skill that will undoubtedly support your university applications and/or future job applications. As an A Level Law student, it is essential that you follow the news regularly to keep up to date on recent legal cases in order to discuss legal issues/concepts during our lessons.

Specification

At Forge you are studying AQA A Level Law, the full specification for which can be found here:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/law/specifications/AQA-7162-SP-2017.PDF>

It is recommended that you refer to this specification regularly as your independent study should involve you reading ahead of topics we have not yet covered in lessons. Your law teachers will provide you with specific guidance of what you could focus on whilst completing your own research.

Revision techniques

You should avoid merely reading over your notes continuously. Instead, you should summarise your 'core notes' to make them more concise and organised. Your law teachers will provide specific guidance on this but the most common successful revision strategies involve:

- Creating a revision timetable which focuses on specific skills for a topic.
- Producing your own revision cards and/or mind maps for the topic.
- Designing your own fact sheet or memory board for the topic.
- Creating sample answers to exam questions.
- Answering scenario based questions.

Question Bank

The exam board provides a question bank, which can be accessed here:

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

You can use the question bank to find questions on key topics you want to test yourself on or revise and then use the accompanying mark scheme to mark your answers.

MOOCs

MOOCs – Massive Open Online Courses- are online courses that provide videos, reading lists and activities. You often don't need to formally complete the course and many are free. There are a number of law related ones available at the sites listed on the next page. Whilst these are not directly linked to your A Level course, delving into them will certainly develop your knowledge and understanding of law.

- FutureLearn – www.futurelearn.com
- Oxplore – <https://oxplore.org/> - Follow them on Twitter @letsoxplore
- Coursera – www.coursera.org

The Media

As mentioned earlier in this document, one of the best things you can do as a law student is to explore the media for law related articles and stories. You can use these articles to help develop scenario based exam questions which will help you apply your legal knowledge. It's recommended that you regularly refer to the BBC website and reputable newspaper websites such as The Guardian.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk>

Reading list

A detailed overview of the Year One content (reference copies available in the Law Department) -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-level-Law-Year-AS/dp/1510401644/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=AQA+A+Level+Law&qid=1563278898&s=gateway&sr=8-1

A detailed overview of the Year Two content (reference copies available in the Law Department) -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-level-Law-Year-2/dp/1510401741/ref=sr_1_2?keywords=AQA+A+Level+Law&qid=1563279005&s=gateway&sr=8-2

General revision for A Level Law (reference copies available in the Law Department) -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-AQA-level/dp/1510429220/ref=sr_1_3?keywords=AQA+A+Level+Law&qid=1563279005&s=gateway&sr=8-3

A detailed overview of criminal law (reference copies available in the Law Department) -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Criminal-Law-AQA-Level-non-substantive/dp/1544815581/ref=sr_1_4?keywords=AQA+A+Level+Law&qid=1563279005&s=gateway&sr=8-4

A detailed overview of tort law (reference copies available in the Law Department) –

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Tort-Law-AQA-Level-non-substantive/dp/1548976970/ref=sr_1_7?keywords=AQA+A+Level+Law&qid=1563279005&s=gateway&sr=8-7

A detailed overview of human rights law (reference copies available in the Law Department)

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https://www.amazon.co.uk/Human-Rights-AQA-Level-non-substantive/dp/1722101539/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=AQA+A+Level+Law&qid=1563279005&s=gateway&sr=8-6

Please complete each of the tasks set out in the rest of this transition pack and bring your answers and/or findings with you to the first lesson in September 2020 if you join the course.

Submission: should be a comprehensive written or typed set of answers. If you use other websites to get answers please do not copy from them create a list of all websites used and hand this in with your work. If you complete your work on goggle docs please share with ricky.dhatt@oatfroge.co.uk - with editing rights so that work can be marked.

In A Level Law we will look at a wide range of topics including criminal law, human rights law and how the law is made. In preparation for the next academic year, I suggest you research the following and create a revision mindmap or a set of flashcards for the following:

1. What is the difference between civil law and criminal law?
2. What is the court hierarchy for civil cases and criminal cases?
3. What is the law surrounding juries? I.e. what is a jury? How many people sit on a jury? What is the role of a jury? Who is allowed to sit on a jury? How is a jury selected?
4. Sentencing - what is the different between a custodial and non-custodial sentence? What are the different types of custodial and non-custodial sentences a judge can impose in a criminal case?
5. The basics of criminal law - **research the definition of *actus reus* and *mens rea***. These are Latin terms that are used in the vast majority of criminal offences. **Try to find the *actus reus* and the *mens rea* for the offence of murder.**
6. Non-Fatal offences - these are offences which harm a victim but does not kill them. Find a definition and an explanation for the following:
 - Assault
 - Battery
 - S47 - offences which cause actual bodily harm (ABH)
 - S20 - offences which cause wounding and or grievous bodily harm (GBH)
 - S18 - offences which intend to cause wounding and or GBH