



Center for Law and Global Policy Development

The Center for Law and Global Policy Development at River Bluff High School features a curriculum designed to ensure that students' experiences are grounded in an understanding of the process involved in the creation of public policy, as well as the practical application of law. This curriculum is built around case studies involving social and economic issues impacting citizens on the local, national and international levels.



Contact Information:

Lead Teacher: Linsy Dooley
ldooley@lexington1.net

Assistant Principal: Jenna Howell
jhowell2@lexington1.net



Center for Law and Global Policy Development

Junior Year Courses

- Law and Justice (Honors)
- International Relations (Honors)
- AP US History

Senior Year Courses

- Global Policy (Honors)
- Law and Policy Practicum (Honors)
- Legal and Policy Debate (Honors)
- AP US Government

During their junior year, students will build the foundation of knowledge in the areas of history, law, policy (domestic and foreign), and more. During their senior year, students have the opportunity to take that knowledge and apply it in the real world through participation in externships and academic competitions.

Email Linsy Dooley at ldooley@lexington1.net with any questions.

Course Descriptions

11th Grade

AP US History (focus on Law & Policy) 337250AW

Grade 11 1 unit

Requirements: Students take the AP U.S. History Exam. The S.C. End-of-Course Examination program requires students taking this course to take the U.S. History End-of-Course Test, summer reading/assignment.

This course provides students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in college introductory United States history courses. Students examine major historical developments from the age of discovery to the present. This course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems and materials in United States history. Emphasis is placed on analyzing historical data, synthesizing evidence and evaluating the ideas of others as students develop the ability to express themselves with clarity and precision when writing essays. The College Board determines the course description; therefore, the content of this course must adhere to those requirements. This course is linked to a required one-unit honors course.

Current Controversies & International Relations Honors
339932HW

Grade 11 1 unit

Students in this Center are challenged to think globally while fostering an understanding of the United States' position in the world. This course focuses on the principal forces and factors influencing world affairs, with an emphasis on the role the United States plays in issues such as: human rights, economics, terrorism, the environment, and drug trafficking. Students create portfolios based on international relations topics that can be used and built upon in subsequent Center Courses.

Law & Justice Honors 339933HW
Grade 11 1 unit

In this course, which uses the methodology of project-based learning, students take the role of attorneys at a law firm, who must recommend whether or not to take a case that is going to the Supreme Court. Students review the facts of the case, consider pro and con sides of the issue, and analyze the potential effects of precedents established by the courts. Students learn the balance needed between individual rights and the public good, the need for an independent judiciary, the rule of law, the concept of judicial review, and the principle that the bill of rights limits the power of the Federal Government.

12th Grade

AP American Government 337300AW

Grade 12 1 unit

Requirement: Advanced Placement American Government Exam, summer reading/assignment

This course provides students with a comprehensive critical perspective on American government and politics. Students develop analytic perspectives for interpreting, understanding and explaining political events in this country. The course provides students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory U.S. government and politics courses. The College Board determines the course description; therefore, the content of this course must adhere to those requirements. This course is linked to a required half unit honors course.

Global Policy Honors 339934HW
Grade 12 1 unit

To remain competitive in a global society, students need to understand how global issues affect their own country and local community. This seminar-based course uses case studies to research the role of global policy in addressing problems and challenges that face the world (poverty, conflict, injustice, and inequality). Students create policy solutions based on their research, culminating in presentations and debate focused on the proposed solutions.

Legal and Policy Debate Honors 339935HW
Grade 12 1 unit

The ability to persuade others through effective argumentation is a critical skill to master in the development of effective leadership. In this course, students develop an understanding of both the criminal and civil trial processes, from mediation to mock trial, as they assume the various roles played by the participants in the court system. Students also become well versed in a wide range of policy topics through resources such as Project Citizen (Center for Civic Education) and the study of sociology, foreign affairs, economic policy, and domestic politics. Students work on important skills, such as public speaking, critical thinking, negotiation, communication, debating, and team building.

Law and Policy Practicum Honors 339936HW
Grade 12 1 unit

In this capstone course, students have the opportunity to increase their knowledge of substantive areas of law and policy by gaining first hand exposure to careers in these areas through shadowing experiences, externships/internships, and guest speakers. Students create portfolios centered on their individual interests in these areas that contain case studies, research and a drafted policy proposal, which students will defend to an expert panel.