

**LEGAL STUDIES**  
**Class - XI (2019-20)**  
**(Code No. 074)**

**Rationale**

The Latin maxim *ignorantia juris neminem excusat*, in plain, which reads as ‘ignorance of law is not an excuse’. This is one of the age old principles followed under the Roman Law and even in our own Common Law. If every person of discretion is to know what law is, an effort to teach law outside the remit of a professional law school may have significant social benefits.

Law is a subject which has been traditionally taught in Universities for almost eight centuries. Learning law outside the settings of a professional law school has a number of perceived benefits. Some familiarity with law enhances one’s understanding of public affairs and an awareness of one’s entitlements and duties as a citizen. It may also be helpful in eliminating some of the mistaken notions about law and some of the inveterate prejudices about law, lawyers and the legal system as such. Another advantage is that an understanding of law can undoubtedly encourage talented students to pursue a career in law – an objective which is laudable in its own right.

The pitfalls of learning law outside the settings of a professional school are rooted in two key assumptions:

(1) law is too vast and complicated to be taught in a non-professional setting; (2) the lack of professional trainers and experienced teachers could lead to incorrect appreciation and understanding of law. If an understanding of law is mis-formed or ill-formed as some academicians think, it may require greater efforts to unlearn whatever was learnt earlier. Both these criticisms have attracted detailed scrutiny, but at least a few countries have introduced law at the High School level.

The experience of countries that have introduced law has been by and large optimistic. The Central Board of Secondary Education is introducing Legal Studies at the Class XI level. The proposal is to introduce one module in Class XI and a second module in Class XII.

## Objectives

- To provide a background of the evolution of the Indian legal system in a short and concise form.
- To focus on the applicability of *justice, equity and good conscience* and more importantly the development of Common Law system in India.
- To provide exposure on various systems of law such as Common Law, Civil Law, Hindu Law, Islamic Law etc.
- To develop an understanding of the essential features of the Indian Constitution, including the role and importance of Fundamental Rights, Separation of Powers, Structure and operation of Courts, concept of precedent in judicial functioning, the process of legislation, basic principles of statutory interpretation, etc.
- To deal with principles of practical utility such as the concept of Rule of Law, principles of justice, differences between criminal and civil cases, the concept of crime and the fundamental theories of punishment, rights available to the accused at various stages of the criminal investigative process, or the key components of Human Rights, etc.
- To understand the fundamental concept and subject matter of property, contract and tort.
- To understand the rudimentary aspects of contract law such as formation of contract, terms and conditions, discharge, etc.
- To enable students to form an understanding of rights and duties and various categories of liability principles which form the bedrock for an understanding of Law.

**Class XI (2019–20)****One Paper****Time: 3hrs.****Marks: 100**

| <b>S</b> | <b>Units</b>   | <b>Periods</b> | <b>Marks</b> |
|----------|--|----------------|--------------|
| 1        | Theory and Nature of Political Institutions                      | 40             | 15           |
| 2        | Nature and sources of law  | 45             | 15           |
| 3        | Historical Evolution of Indian Legal System                      | 45             | 10           |
| 4        | Judiciary: Constitutional, Civil and Criminal Courts and Process | 45             | 20           |
| 5        | Family Justice System  | 45             | 20           |
| 6        | Project on unit 2  |                | 20           |
|          | <b>Total</b>   | <b>220</b>     | <b>100</b>   |

**Course Contents:**

|   |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | <b>Theory and Nature of Political Institutions</b><br>Concept of State/ Nation<br>Organs of Government – Legislative, Executive and Judiciary<br>Separation of Powers – Parliamentary Sovereignty and Judicial Independence<br>Basic features of Constitution of India | <b>40<br/>periods</b> |
| 2 | <b>Nature and Sources of Law</b><br>Nature, meaning and School of law<br>Classification of law – International and municipal law<br>Sources of law – Custom, legislation and precedent<br>Law Reform   | <b>45<br/>periods</b> |
| 3 | <b>Historical Evolution of Indian Legal System</b><br>Ancient Indian Law<br>Administration of Justice in British India<br>Making of the Indian Constitution  | <b>45<br/>periods</b> |

|   |   |                             |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 4 | <b>Judiciary: Constitutional, Civil and Criminal Courts and Process</b><br>Constitution: Roles and Impartiality<br>Hierarchy of Courts<br>The Civil Court Structure<br>Structure and functioning of Criminal Courts in India<br>Other Courts in India   | <b>45</b><br><b>periods</b> |
| 5 | <b>Family Justice System</b><br>Introduction to family laws<br>Institutional Framework<br>Marriage and Divorce<br>Children<br>Domestic Violence<br>Property, Succession & Inheritance   | <b>45</b><br><b>Periods</b> |
| 6 | <b>Project on Unit 2</b><br>In Class XI, differentiate between ratio decidendi and obiter dicta of any 5 case laws related to the curriculum.<br>The project should speak of the facts, issue, and the decision of the case clearly differentiating between the obiter and ratio.<br>A viva along with file will be assessed in the following format:<br>Presentation and preparation of file – 5 marks<br>Research – 5 marks<br>Application of the understanding of legal context – 5 marks<br>Viva– 5 marks |                             |

**LEGAL STUDIES**  
**QUESTION PAPER DESIGN**  
**CLASS - XI (2019-20)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Max. Marks: 80**

| S. No. | Typology of Questions   | Very Short Answer-Objective type (VSA) (1 Mark) | Short Answer-I (SA) (2 Marks) | Short Answer-II (SA) (4 Marks) | Long Answer (LA) (6 Marks) | Total Marks | % Weightage (approx.) |
|--------|---|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1      | <b>Remembering:</b> Exhibit memory of previously learned material by recalling facts, terms, basic concepts, and answers.   | 6   | 2                             | 1                              | 1                          | 20          | 25                    |
| 2      | <b>Understanding:</b> Demonstrate understanding of facts and ideas by organizing, comparing, translating, interpreting, giving descriptions, and stating main ideas | 6   | 2                             | 1                              | 1                          | 20          | 25                    |

|   |  |          |           |        |        |    |     |
|---|--|----------|-----------|--------|--------|----|-----|
| 3 | <b>Applying:</b> Solve problems to new situations by applying acquired knowledge, facts, techniques and rules in a different way.  | 6        | 2         | 2      | 1      | 24 | 30  |
| 4 | <b>Analysing :</b><br>Examine and break information into parts by identifying motives or causes. Make inferences and find evidence to support generalizations<br><b>Evaluating:</b><br>Present and defend opinions by making judgments about information, validity of ideas, or quality of work based on a set of criteria.<br><b>Creating:</b><br>Compile information together in a different way by combining elements in a new pattern or proposing alternative solutions | 2        | 2         | 1      | 1      | 16 | 20  |
|   | <b>Total</b>   | 20x1 =20 | 8 X2 = 16 | 5X4=20 | 4X6=24 | 80 | 100 |

### QUESTION-WISE BREAK-UP

| Type of Question | Mark per Question | Total No. of Questions | Total Marks |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| VSA              | 1                 | 20                     | 20          |
| SA               | 2                 | 8                      | 16          |
| LA I             | 4                 | 5                      | 20          |
| LA II            | 6                 | 4                      | 24          |
| <b>Total</b>     | 13                | 37                     | 80          |

1. *No chapter wise weightage. Care to be taken to cover all the chapters*
2. *Suitable internal variations may be made for generating various templates keeping the overall weightage to different form of questions and typology of questions same.*

#### Choice(s):

There will be no overall choice in the question paper.

However, 33% internal choices will be given in all the sections

| INTERNAL ASSESSMENT | MARKS |
|---------------------|-------|
| Project based       | 20    |