

# Unit 3: How Laws Are Created

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Sample Course**  
Time Period: **JanFeb**  
Length: **40 Days**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

**How Laws Are Created**

**Grades 9-10**

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

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## **Unit Overview**

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Upon completion of this section, please remove all remaining descriptions, notes, outlines, examples and/or illustrations that are not needed or used.

In this Unit students will study the structure of government and the legislative process at the federal, state, and municipal levels. Students will analyze how politics influences the creation of laws. Students will explore various sources of law such as Constitutional Law, statutory law, and case law. Students will discover the ability of the law to change based on the will of the people. Students will also learn the rules to apply when federal, state and local laws conflict.

## **Enduring Understanding**

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- The United States has, in fact, a government "*of the people, by the people and for the people*" and that idea is reflected in the legislative process.
- The people have the ability to change the law based on the will of the majority.
- Elected officials are responsible for writing the law and enforcing the law.
- The Supreme Court is responsible for interpreting the law.
- Laws exist at the federal, state, and local levels.
- Laws sometimes conflict and how to resolve such conflicts.

- The role of nongovernmental organizations, special interest groups, third party political groups, and the media have on the creation of law.

## **Essential Questions**

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- How are laws created?
- Who in our government is responsible for proposing a law?
- Who is responsible for writing the law?
- What role do elected officials play in creating legislation?
- How could the people influence the creation of laws?
- How can a law be changed?
- What happens when laws conflict?
- Who is responsible for interpreting the law?
- To what extent do nongovernmental organizations, special interest groups, third party political groups, and the media affect the creation of laws.

## **Exit Skills**

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By the end of this Unit students will be able to:

- Describe how laws are created.
- Identify who, in our government, is responsible for proposing a law.
- Identify who is responsible for writing the law.
- Explain the role elected officials play in creating legislation.
- Outline how the people influence the creation of laws.
- Describe how laws can be changed?
- Explain how to resolve conflicts in the law.
- Describe the role of the U.S. Supreme Court in interpreting the law.

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL-S)**

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12.9.3.LW.5

Analyze the various laws, ordinances, regulations and organizational rules that apply to careers in law, public safety, corrections and security.

12.9.3.LW-ENF.5

Analyze the impact of federal, state and local laws on law enforcement procedures.

12.9.3.LW-LEG.3	Produce written legal materials using writing strategies applicable to the legal services environment.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.6	Use legal terminology to communicate within the legal services community.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.8	Analyze the influence of the three branches of the U.S. Government (judicial, legislative and executive) on the legal services.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.a	Evaluate the effectiveness of the checks and balances system in preventing one branch of national government from usurping too much power during contemporary times.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.b	Analyze how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Constitution to define the rights of the individual, and evaluate the impact on public policies.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.d	Analyze the conflicting ideologies and actions of political parties regarding spending priorities, the role of government in the economy, and social reforms.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.h	Assess the effectiveness of government policies in balancing the rights of the individual against the need for national security.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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LA.RH.11-12.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LA.RH.11-12.9	Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.
LA.RST.11-12.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., quantitative data, video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LA.WHST.11-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.11-12.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.WHST.11-12.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP5.1	Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.
CRP.K-12.CRP12.1	Career-ready individuals positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.

## Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this Unit students will be able to;

- Describe how laws are created.
- Identify who, in our government, is responsible for proposing a law.
- Identify who is responsible for writing the law.
- Explain the role elected officials play in creating legislation.
- Outline how the people influence the creation of laws.
- Describe how laws can be changed?
- Explain how to resolve conflicts in the law.
- Describe the role of the U.S. Supreme Court in interpreting the law.
- Reconstruct the legislative process.

**Action Verbs:** Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



### **Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

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- Reading and outlining text
- Teacher oriented class discussion
- Use of PowerPoint to reinforce outlines
- Reaction Papers/Current and proposed Laws
- Answering Discussion Questions
- Use of e-learning platform (Google Classroom) to extend learning environment beyond classroom.
- Vocabulary
- Use of Case Studies
- Role play/Legislative process/Propose or revise laws

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

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By identifying the Evidence of Student Learning with Checking for Understanding (CFU) techniques used during the lesson and/or for Closure (Madeline Hunter), please list the variety of means used to assess students' learning (e.g. quizzes, tests, academic prompts, observations, homework, journals).

- Unit tests including outline review-summative assessment
- Web-Based Assessments using Google Classroom-benchmark assessment
- Written Reports including Reaction Papers of current event legal issues-alternate assessment
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Student prepared outlines
- Teacher/Student class discussion
- Oral Presentations/Mock Trial activities
- Think, pair, share-formative assessment

- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Illustration
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems

- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

### **Primary Resources & Materials**

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Please list all district-provided Primary Resources & Materials and/or those outside that are accessed with district resources.

- Textbook
- internet
- PowerPoint Software
- E-Learning Platform (Google Classroom)
- Smart T.V.
- Case Reporters
- U.S. Constitution
- New Jersey Statutes Annotated
- New Jersey Administrative Code

### **Ancillary Resources**

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Please list all additional resources that will be used to strengthen this unit's lessons.

- BHS Courtroom and law library
- Legal Research Materials
- Federal Statutes



## **Technology Infusion**

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What **Technology Infusion** and/or strategies are integrated into this unit to enhance learning? Please list all hardware, software and strategies. Please find a technology pedagogy wheel for assistance while completing this section.

- Internet research on the legislative process
- PowerPoint presentations used for lesson delivery
- Smart T.V.
- E-Learning Platform (Google Classroom)
- Video/Audio equipment for recording and reviewing courtroom presentations

## Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts  
Photostory 3  
Kid Story Builder  
Music Maker Jam  
Paint A Story  
Office 365  
MS PowerPoint  
Stack 'Em Up  
NqSquared Numbers  
Physamajig  
Xylophone 8

Wikipedia  
Skydrive  
Lync  
SkyMap  
Skype  
Office 365  
Puzzle Touch  
Easy QR  
Memorylage  
Life Moments  
Word Cloud Maker

Where's Waldo?  
MS Excel  
Flipboard  
Office 365  
Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks  
Record Voice Pen



## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

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Mastery and infusion of **21st Century Skills & Technology** and their Alignment to the core content areas is essential to student learning. The core content areas include:

- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP8.1	Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of problems when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. They carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through their own actions or the actions of others.
CRP.K-12.CRP12.1	Career-ready individuals positively contribute to every team, whether formal or informal. They apply an awareness of cultural difference to avoid barriers to productive and positive interaction. They find ways to increase the engagement and contribution of all team members. They plan and facilitate effective team meetings.
TECH.8.1.12.D.4	Research and understand the positive and negative impact of one's digital footprint.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS1	Advocate and practice safe, legal, and responsible use of information and technology.

## 21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

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Please list only the **21st Century/Interdisciplinary Themes** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

LA.WHST.11-12.1.A	Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.WHST.11-12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline appropriate form that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
LA.WHST.11-12.2.A	Introduce a topic and organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.WHST.11-12.2.D	Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic; convey a knowledgeable stance in a style that responds to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.
LA.WHST.11-12.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.WHST.11-12.8	Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.
LA.WHST.11-12.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

## 21st Century Skills

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Please list only the **21st Century Skills** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Civic Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness

## Differentiation

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Please remember: Effective educational Differentiation in a lesson lies within content, process, and/or product. Please identify the ones that will be employed in this unit.

- Students will be given additional time for completion of assignments or assessments.
- Cooperative grouping to enhance and elevate student productivity.
- Use of visual and auditory presentations to introduce and support lesson delivery.

### **Differentiations:**

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Study guides
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Small group setting

### **Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Leveled rubrics
- Multiple texts
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

## Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Varied supplemental materials

Please remember: Effective educational **Differentiation** in a lesson lies within content, process, and/or product.

Please identify the ones that will be employed in this unit.

### Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

### Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards

- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

#### **Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

### **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

Please identify the **Special Education Learning** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery

- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

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Please identify the **English Language Learning** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features



- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

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Please identify Intervention Strategies that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

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Please identify the **Talented and Gifted** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts

- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## **Sample Lesson**

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Using the template below, please develop a **Sample Lesson** for the first unit only.

### **Unit Name:**

- Unit 3 How Laws are Created

### **NJSLS:**

- See Link Below

### **Interdisciplinary Connection:**

- Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Reading- Informative text/vocabulary
- Writing-analysis/evaluation

### **Statement of Objective:**

- SWDAT identify elected officials from the Township, County, and State who are members of the legislative branch of government **by** reserching the NJ.Gov website and creating an org chart. Student will complete the org chart with 90% accuracy. .

### **Anticipatory Set/Do Now:**

- Review NJ.Gov website

### **Learning Activity:**

- T/O class discussion/PPT; Using the NJ.Gov website create an org chart of the legislators who represent you.

### **Student Assessment/CFU's:**

- See Link Below

### **Materials:**

- Textbook
- Internet
- PowerPoint
- Lap-Tops

## **21st Century Themes and Skills:**

- See Link Below

## **Differentiation:**

- See Link Below

## **Integration of Technology:**

- PowerPoint
- Internet
- Google Classroom
- Class Webpage