# Course Description:
This is an introduction to legal rules and concepts, amendments and law. The students will learn the basics of law, civil and criminal liability and legal considerations when dealing with juveniles. For School of Justice students only. (62 contact hrs.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Competency</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Competency 1:</strong> The student will have a foundational understanding of the U.S. legal system and the various sources of laws by:</td>
<td>• Information Literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Explaining how the application of statutory law provisions impacts officers’ actions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Describing the foundation of law as developed in the U.S. legal system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Defining constitutional law as it applies to the structure and limitations of the U.S. government.</td>
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<td>4. Explaining the concepts of statutory, ordinance, and criminal law in the U.S. legal system.</td>
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<td>5. Explaining how the application of civil law provisions impacts a law enforcement officer’s action.</td>
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<td>7. Explaining how the application of case law impacts the interpretation of statutes and rules in federal, state, and local jurisdictions.</td>
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| **Competency 2:** The student will have a basic understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the amendments that affect their law enforcement duties by: | • Information Literacy |
| 1. Explaining how the U.S. Constitution affects a law enforcement officer in the performance of his or her duties. | |
| 2. Explaining the importance of the Bill of Rights as provided in the U.S. Constitution. | |
| 3. Summarizing basic concepts of “due process” as provided in the U.S. Constitution. | |
| 4. Describing the pertinent constitutional law provisions that impact officers’ actions. | |
5. Describing how the application of case law provisions impacts a law enforcement officer’s action.

**Competency 3:** The student will understand the differences between a misdemeanor, felony, noncriminal, and local ordinance violation by:

- Information Literacy

1. Differentiating between felony and misdemeanor offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.
2. Explaining the statutory penalties which may be imposed for noncriminal violations as provided in the Florida Statutes.
3. Contrasting criminal offenses, noncriminal offenses, and municipal ordinance violations.
4. Describing the statutory penalties which may be imposed for municipal ordinance violations as provided in the Florida Statutes.

**Competency 4:** The student will understand the four levels of legal justification, the link between the levels, and the corresponding legal action that may be taken for any particular situation. Students should also be able to articulate reasonable suspicion and probable cause whenever they exist by:

- Information Literacy

1. Listing the four standards of legal justification common to law enforcement.
2. Explaining an officer’s legal justification to act in the enforcement of his or her duties.
3. Identifying the legal actions a law enforcement officer may take during a consensual encounter as provided by law.
4. Providing the sources of reasonable suspicion identified in federal and state law.
5. Explaining the legal actions a law enforcement officer may take based upon reasonable suspicion as provided by law.
6. Explaining the legal use of pretext stops as provided in case law.
7. Defining probable cause in accordance with constitutional law.
8. Explaining how to apply the facts of the incident to the statutory elements to determine if probable cause exists.
9. Describing legally recognized sources for developing probable cause during a law enforcement investigation.
10. Explaining the standards of legal justification common to law enforcement as provided by law.

**Course Competency 5**: The student will understand the constitutional requirements for a valid search and/or seizure by:

1. Describing the constitutional guarantees related to search and seizure provided in the Fourth Amendment.
2. Contrasting search and seizure in accordance with the U.S. Constitution.
3. Stating the legal requirements for a law enforcement officer to obtain a search warrant.
4. Differentiating between the exclusionary rule and the Good Faith Doctrine as applied to search and seizure.
5. Stating the exceptions to the search warrant requirement in accordance with constitutional law.
6. Explaining the search of abandoned property and open fields doctrine as legal exceptions to search warrant requirements.
7. Explaining the three conditions of plain view that must be met for the legal exception to a search warrant requirement.
8. Explaining the mobile conveyance exception to the search warrant requirement as provided in case law.
9. Explaining the exigent circumstances exception to the search warrant requirement as provided in case law.
10. Explaining how fresh pursuit a legal exception to the search warrant requirement is.
11. Explaining the emergency scene exception to the search warrant requirement as provided in case law.
12. Explaining the consent to search exception to the search warrant requirement as provided in case law.
13. Identifying the purpose of and conditions under which a vehicle inventory is a legal exception to the search warrant requirement.
14. Explaining the administrative search exception to the search warrant requirement as provided in federal and state law.
15. Describing the search incident to arrest exception to the search warrant requirement as provided in federal and state law.
16. Describing the scope of searches legally permitted for a law enforcement officer.
17. Summarizing the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act as applied to acts of search and seizure.

**Course Competency 6:** The student will understand the authority to make an arrest and the circumstances for making an arrest with or without a warrant by:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Contrasting arrest and arrest warrant as provided in the Florida Statutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Describing situations in which a law enforcement officer is authorized to make a legal warrantless arrest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Listing the statutory exceptions to the misdemeanor arrest requirement.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Explaining the notice to appear as provided in the Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Explaining how a probable cause affidavit is used in the U.S. court system.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Explaining what the doctrine of fresh pursuit legally allows a law enforcement officer to do in the performance of his or her duties.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Recognizing jurisdictional issues regarding fresh pursuits as provided in Florida Statutes.</td>
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**Course Competency 7:** The student will understand the legal basis for using force by examining related court cases by:

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Updated Spring 2021
1. Explaining the objective reasonableness standard as interpreted and applied by case law.
2. Stating the questions a law enforcement officer will have to answer in any use of force situation.
3. Explaining the law authorizing use of force for arrest or detention by law enforcement officers.
4. Identifying when an officer may use deadly force to apprehend a fleeing felon.

**Course Competency 8:** The student will understand when Miranda warnings are required by:

1. Distinguishing an interview from an interrogation in a law enforcement setting.
2. Explaining the importance of the Miranda decision for conducting a legal interrogation.
3. Identifying the key aspects of the Miranda decision as provided in case law.
4. Explaining when to administer Miranda warnings in an interrogation process.
5. Describing the concept of custody in relation to the Miranda decision.
6. Summarizing case law on the Miranda decision regarding the legality of custody.
7. Explaining the elements of interrogation in relation to the Miranda decision.
8. Explaining the significant case law rulings on the Miranda decision.
9. Reporting how to correctly administer Miranda warnings to a suspect during the interrogation process.
10. Explaining the importance of ensuring that a suspect understands his or her constitutional rights prior to an interrogation.
11. Explaining the importance of administering a waiver of rights prior to an interrogation.
12. Summarizing the actions a law enforcement officer may take when a suspect invokes his or her Miranda rights.

**Course Competency 9:** The student will understand the significance of intent in determining whether an act is criminal by:

- Information Literacy
1. Explaining how a law enforcement officer determines if a crime has been committed.
2. Defining criminal intent as provided in Florida law.
3. Distinguishing the legally recognized categories of criminal intent.

**Course Competency 10:** The student will be able to list the elements of the most commonly encountered crimes and articulate the elements in a report by:

1. Differentiating between the elements of theft and robbery in relation to provisions of the Florida Statutes.
2. Explaining the elements of trespass on property or in a structure or conveyance as provided in the Florida Statutes.
3. Explaining the elements of burglary as provided in the Florida Statutes.
4. Listing the elements of loitering and prowling as provided in the Florida Statutes.
5. Explaining the elements of assault as provided in the Florida Statutes.
6. Explaining the elements of battery as provided in the Florida Statutes.
7. Explaining the elements of domestic violence as provided in the Florida Statutes.
8. Explaining the meaning of domestic violence as provided in the Florida Statutes.
9. Listing the various types of homicide as provided in the Florida Statutes.
10. Listing the elements of disorderly conduct as provided in the Florida Statutes.
11. Listing the elements of disorderly intoxication as provided in the Florida Statutes.
12. Listing the elements of open house party offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.
13. Summarizing the elements of alcoholic beverage and tobacco product offenses regarding persons under the age of 21, as provided in the Florida Statutes.
14. Explaining the elements of drug offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.

- Information Literacy
15. Listing the elements of a person resisting officer arrest as provided in the Florida Statutes.
16. Contrasting stalking, harassment, and cyber-stalking as provided in the Florida Statutes.
17. Explaining the elements of stalking as provided in the Florida Statutes.
18. Explaining the elements of sexual battery as provided in the Florida Statutes.
19. Explaining the elements of exposure of sexual organs as provided in the Florida Statutes.
20. Explaining the elements of lewd or lascivious offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.
21. Listing the elements of voyeurism as provided in the Florida Statutes.
22. Listing the elements of gambling as provided in the Florida Statutes.
23. Explaining the elements of prostitution as provided in the Florida Statutes.
24. Explaining the elements of carrying a concealed weapon as provided in the Florida Statutes.
25. Explaining the elements of criminal mischief offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.
26. Listing the elements of fraudulent use of a credit card as provided in the Florida Statutes.
27. Explaining the elements of criminal use of personal identification information as provided in the Florida Statutes.
28. Explaining the elements of forgery offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.
29. Explaining the elements of abuse offenses as provided in the Florida Statutes.
30. Explaining the elements of false imprisonment as provided in the Florida Statutes.
31. Listing the elements of kidnapping as provided in the Florida Statutes.
32. Listing the elements of luring or enticing a child as provided in the Florida Statutes.
33. Explaining the elements of human trafficking as provided in the Florida Statutes.
34. Listing the elements of human smuggling as provided in the Florida Statutes.
### Course Competency 11: The student will be able to identify the role of each party involved in an incident by:

- Information Literacy

1. Distinguishing between the witness, victim, and suspect in an incident involving a crime.
2. Identifying the statutory criteria for criminal responsibility, including principal in the first degree, accessory, and accessory after the fact.
3. Explaining criminal attempt as defined in the Florida Statutes.
4. Listing the elements of solicitation as provided in the Florida Statutes.
5. Listing the elements of conspiracy as provided in the Florida Statutes.
6. Differentiating between solicitation and conspiracy to commit a crime as provided in the Florida Statutes.

### Course Competency 12: The student will be able to anticipate possible issues the defense may raise in a criminal case by:

- Information Literacy

1. Explaining the no retreat law in accordance with the Florida Statutes.
2. Identifying when the Florida Statutes allows the use of force in the protection of person or property.
3. Differentiating between the types of legal defenses to criminal responsibility as provided in constitutional law and in the Florida Statutes.
4. Summarizing the statute of limitations as provided in constitutional law and the Florida Statutes.
5. Explaining consent when it is used as a legal defense to criminal responsibility.
6. Explaining exceptions to consent as provided in constitutional law and the Florida Statutes.

### Course Competency 13: The student will have a basic understanding of the rules and concepts of evidence by:

- Information Literacy

1. Describing the Florida Evidence Code as provided in the Florida Statutes.
2. Differentiating between the various types of evidence provided in the Florida Evidence Code.
3. Explaining the three main reasons why evidence is used in court.
4. Summarizing the general rules for excluding evidence in court proceedings as provided in the Florida Evidence Code.
5. Listing the four specific requirements that law enforcement officers must be aware of to ensure admissibility of evidence.
6. Describing the privileged communications as provided in the Florida Evidence Code.
7. Describing privileges with respect to disclosure of information as provided in the Florida Evidence Code.

**Course Competency 14:** The student will have a basic understanding of the liability that may result from the performance of their duties and how to reduce potential exposure to lawsuits by:

1. Distinguishing criminal from civil liability in relation to law enforcement officer’s performance.
2. Explaining how a tort may impact liability for an individual or an agency.
3. Explaining negligence as it applies to the performance of a law enforcement officer’s duties.
4. Explaining punitive and compensatory damages for the legal offense of negligence.
5. Explaining the importance of a law enforcement officer acting under the color of law.
6. Describing the differences between criminal and civil violations of federal civil rights.
7. Differentiating between direct and vicarious liability as it applies to a law enforcement agency.
8. Giving examples of the most common types of acts that lead to civil liability for a law Enforcement officer.
9. Explaining acting within the scope of employment as addressed in chapter 111 of the Florida Statutes.

- Information Literacy
10. Explaining the emergency doctrine as provided in the Florida Statutes.
11. Describing the ways a law enforcement officer can protect against liability to self and Agency.

**Course Competency 15:** The student will understand the differences between criminal and civil incidents and made aware of the response options available in civil matters at the end of the lesson by:

- Information Literacy

| 1. Describing the legal actions a law enforcement officer, while responding safely to a landlord-tenant dispute. |
| 2. Identifying the exceptions to the Florida Residential Landlord and Tenant Act as given in the Florida Statutes. |
| 3. Defining a writ of replevin as provided in the Florida Statutes. |
| 4. Explaining how a law enforcement officer legally and safely responds to a repossession of property dispute. |
| 5. Reporting how a law enforcement officer legally responds to a dispute regarding the removal or towing of vehicles or vessels from private or public property. |
| 6. Stating how a law enforcement officer legally responds to motor vehicle repair disputes. |
| 7. Differentiating between the various types of court orders regarding child custody as provided in the Florida Statutes. |
| 8. Explaining how a law enforcement officer legally responds to conflicting child custody orders from different states. |
| 9. Explaining domestic violence injunctions as provided in the Florida Statutes. |
| 10. Describing how a law enforcement officer legally responds to real property boundary disputes. |
| 11. Explain how a law enforcement officer legally manages a dispute regarding stolen property in the custody of a pawnbroker. |
**Course Competency 16:** The student will understand the application of Florida law to situations involving juveniles by:

- Information Literacy

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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Defining the differences between a child, juvenile, or youth as provided in the Florida Statutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Explaining the statutory restrictions regarding the transport and protective custody of a juvenile.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Describing the correct and legal procedure for taking a juvenile into custody.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Identifying the statutory procedures for handling juvenile traffic offenders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Defining an alleged juvenile sex offender as provided in the Florida Statutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Explaining the case law ruling regarding juvenile interrogations or questioning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Describing the statutory procedures that a law enforcement officer is required to follow when interrogating a juvenile.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Identifying the statutory limitations regarding searches of a juvenile’s personal property.</td>
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