

Roslyn High School

Department: Social Studies

Name of Course: LEGAL HISTORY: A GENDERED USA

General Description of Course

This half year course explores the legal history of the US as a gendered system. The course will examine how the legal system has shaped gender relations for BOTH women & men. Students will apply legal reasoning, and learn legal theory through the examination of US Supreme Courts cases, constitutional amendments, and federal legislation. This course is offered in alternative years. It will be offered in the 2019-2020 School Year Grades 9, 10, 11, 12.....1/2 credit

Major Topics Covered:

The Learning Outcome(s) of the class, students will:

- understand that gender is a sense of identity which fosters social cohesion;
- contemplate the history of gender as tailored around economic, political, and social views of the past;
- explore the meaning of American citizenship as a gendered political right (suffrage, military service, jury duty);
- discuss the meaning of a gendered society as a civil right (marriage, divorce, work, reproduction);
- read from the U.S. Constitution, U.S. Supreme Courts cases, and federal & state legislation.

Textbook: Teacher created materials; journal articles

Requirements:

Essentials/Requirements of the class:

- an interest in the legal system; the judiciary (court cases & procedure); the legislature (law making process); the U.S. Constitution; and history.
- basic writing skills;
- a willingness for vocal class participation;
- the ability to read & annotate two-three page(s) class readings twice a week.
- negotiate & prepare a TED style talk.