



# Law Enforcement and Leadership

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## Course Description

Law Enforcement and Leadership is a triple period course focused on introducing students to the fields of Law Enforcement, Homeland Security and Emergency Management by providing a historical background to support an understanding of the growth, development of and opportunities in the fields. The course will provide students with many hands on experiences through the use of simulations, structured debates, and inquiry projects. In collaboration with the Montgomery County Police Department, experts from a variety of related criminal justice and law enforcement careers will provide students with real-life applications of course content. Leadership principles and practices will also be incorporated in to the course as an essential component of law enforcement and public safety related careers.

## Course Content

Organization, framework, and roles of federal, state, and local agencies  
Police History  
Role and Discretion  
Minorities in Policing  
Police Operations  
Community Policing  
Computers, Technology, and Criminalistics  
Emergency Management

Becoming a Police Officer/SA  
Police Culture, Personality and Stress  
Police Ethics and Police Deviance  
Patrol and Investigations  
Police and the Law  
Homeland Security  
Leadership

## Course Objectives

To successfully complete this course the student will be able to demonstrate knowledge in or an understanding of:

- Practices, principles, duties, and responsibilities of Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement agencies.
- A foundational knowledge of the fields of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.
- The requirements, expectations and possible paths/options for a career in Law Enforcement, DHS, Emergency Services and other related occupations (sworn and unsworn)
- Leadership skills, practices and principles
- Individual and group dynamics and their relationship to interactions.
- Yourself, character and communication

## Course Requirements

**Class Participation-** Preparation for class and active participation in discussions and presentations.

“Passivity is the greatest enemy of learning and growth and you are every bit responsible for your education as are your parents and teachers. Learning is a process that requires active, even enthusiastic, participation by all students.”

**Reflection/Reaction Papers-** Personal reflection/reaction on issues, situations, or on various articles.

Take the issue or situation, look at it from YOUR perspective, and write clearly and succinctly how you would address the issue. The objective is to make you think, to challenge you to take a position, and to defend your position.

**Written Assignment-** The purpose of this assignment is to focus on a select set of external experiences (5 Defining Moments, 4 Critical Choices, and 3 Pivotal People), which will help give you a “blueprint” to your current concept of self. The paper is entitled “Who are You?”

**Research Papers-** Choose a topic related to an issue or agency that will be discussed in class. You will need teacher approval for the topic.

**Small Group and Individual Presentations-** Each presentation will be on an assigned class topic (to be determined).

**Midterm Examination and Final Examination**

## Grading Policy

Assessment of course objectives will be based on a variety of types of evaluations, including written assignments, lab activities, projects, group activities, oral presentations, research paper, tests, quizzes, and skills evaluations.

#### Grading Scale

100 – 90% A

89 – 80% B

79 – 70% C

69 – 60% D

59 – Below E

As part of workplace preparedness, students are expected to act in a professional manner and follow given policies and standards.

- Meeting deadlines is an integral part of preparing students for a career.
- Assignments turned in after deadlines (unless with an excused absence) will not be eligible for full credit.
- Montgomery County Public Schools allows no extra credit work.
- Grades are weighted as follows: Formatives-40% Projects-40% Classwork-20%
- All grades reflect student performance.

#### Attendance Policy

- Due to the extended duration of this course (each class period is equal to three (3) class periods), it is important that students attend class on a daily basis and are prepared to make up work due to absences.
- Notes for absences are due within three days upon return to school.
- Notes received after three days will not be excused without administrative approval.
- Students are responsible for submitting these notes to the attendance office.
- Edison requires a separate note from any given to a student's home school.
- It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of any home school required absences to the Edison attendance office.

#### Student Expectations

- Students will be evaluated for time management, attendance, respectful and professional behavior, teamwork, and proper and professional use of classroom space and supplies.
- Students are expected to respect themselves, respect their classmates and respect the teacher at all times.
- Student behavior in class will reflect all rules as outlined in the Thomas Edison HS of Technology Student Handbook.
- Dress for Success: Students are required to dress in professional business attire every Wednesday unless otherwise instructed by the teacher.
- Students will be expected to maintain an exemplary level of attendance.

#### Student Expectations cont.

- Students will be in the classroom seated, quiet and on-task for class when the second bell rings.
- Cell Phones will be silenced and away.
- Students will be required to occasionally work as part of teams or groups.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and safe manner at all times.
- Students will use the computers for educational purposes only.



## Text Books

Dempsey, John and Linda Forst. *An Introduction to Policing, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Boston, Massachusetts: Cengage Learning, 2017.

Bullok, Jamie and Haddow, George. *Introduction to Homeland Security, 5th Edition*. Elsevier, 2015.

Jacobs, Tom. *They Broke The Law-You Be The Judge*. Free Spirit Publishing, 2015.