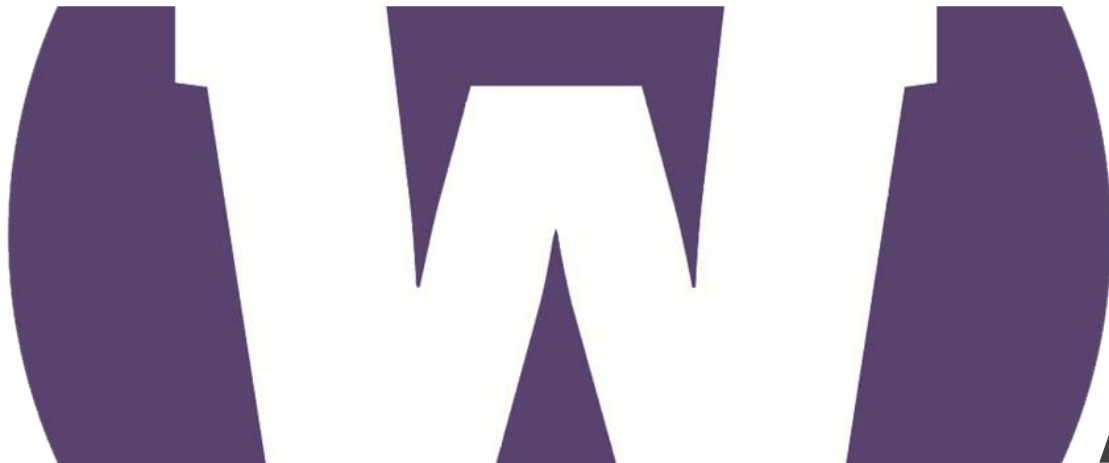


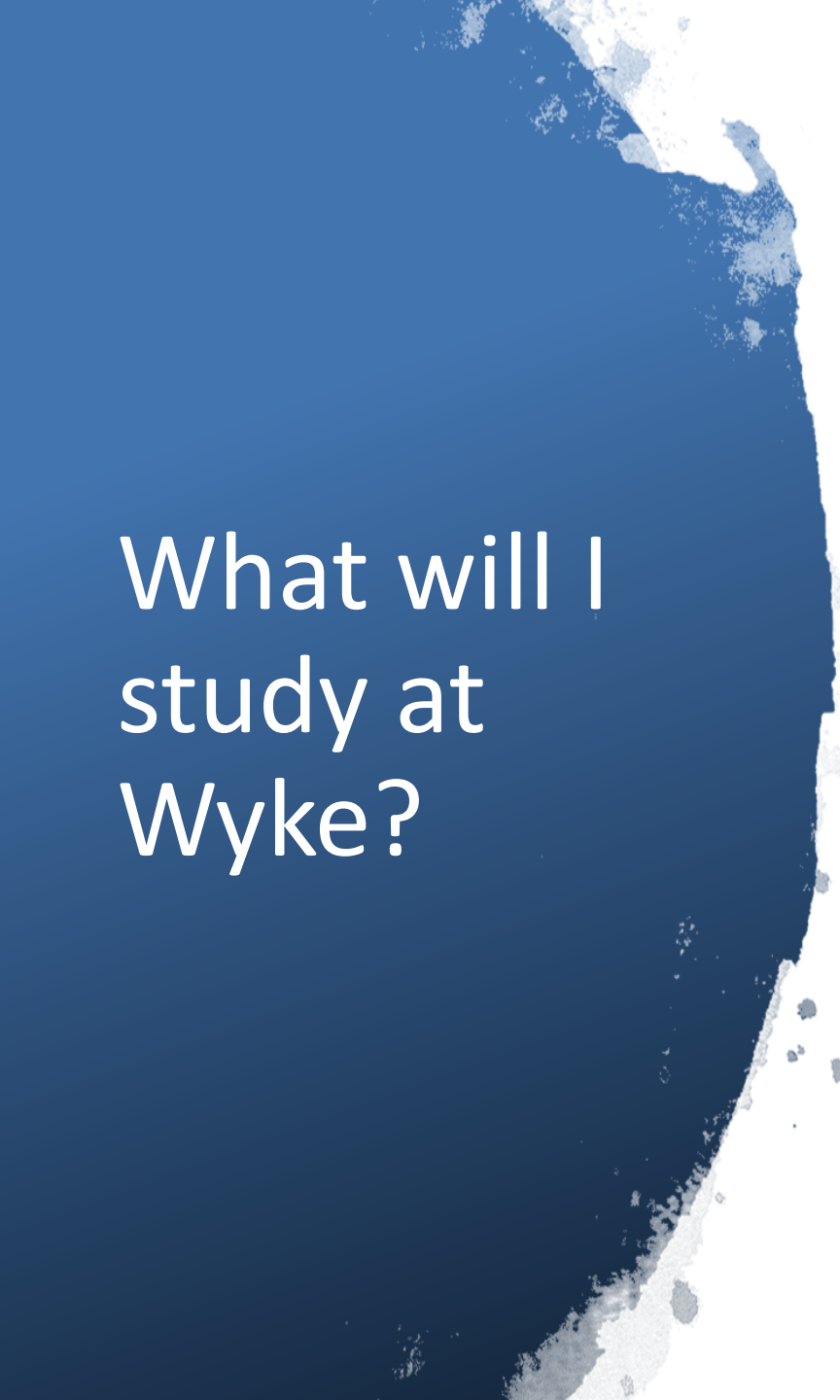
Wyke Start

Law- Lesson 1





Welcome to A Level Law!



What will I
study at
Wyke?

- Criminal Law
- The Legal System
- Law Making
- Contract Law
- Tort Law
- The Nature of Law

What do we mean by the Law?

- Before we look at where the law originates, have a think about what is meant by the word **'law'**?

TASK 1

- Define Law in your own words.
- List as many different areas of law as you can (For example Family, Criminal etc)
- Where do you often hear this word used?



The Law

In your definition, you may have included some of the following points:

- A set of rules, which are made by the government
 - Rules which stop us from doing things and tell us how to behave
 - Rules which are in place to protect society
 - A way to control and regulate the behaviour of people in society
 - Rules which are enforced by the courts
-
- It might be difficult to define the law, but it's also important to understand where our laws come from.

Origin of English Law

Common Law	Statutes
Decisions made by judges all over the country	Made by Parliament
This law come from cases heard by judges	Law is put into force and everyone has to follow it
The most important decisions are then put into law which subsequent judges have to enforce if faced with a similar case	

Law Key Terms

Task 2- Research the following key terms and complete the table below

Key Term	Definition
Parliament	
Judge	
Court	
Criminal Law	
Civil Law	

How to read a legal case

Now you understand some of the most important legal terms and where the law originates, we need to know how to **read** a legal case.

- Read the facts
- Read the judgement (decision from the judge)
- Write down the name of the case
- Then write down what law has come from the case (Known as the Ratio)

Case 1- Gibbins and Proctor (1918)

Murder– must be caused by an act.

FACTS: A child's father and his mistress failed to feed their child, so it died of starvation

Questions:

What should the court do?

What do you think the ratio should be?



Remember: Ratio means the law which comes from the case.

Case 2- Latimer (1886)

Non-Fatal Offences. The intention to cause the battery must be aimed at the victim.

FACTS: The defendant aimed a blow with a belt at a man in a pub after that man had attacked him. The belt bounced off the man and struck a woman in the face.

Questions:

What should the court do?

What do you think the ratio should be?



Remember: Ratio means the law which comes from the case.

Task 3

Research another case, try and follow the steps for reading the case:

1. Read the facts
2. Read the judgement (decision from the judge)
3. Write down the name of the case
4. Then write down what law has come from the case
(Known as the Ratio)