10TH Grade Court Systems and Practices | 26-27 Instructional Plan

Course Overview	Court Systems and Practices provide students with an in-depth study of the American legal and judicial system, including courtroom roles, constitutional protections, evidence, criminal procedures, and trial processes. Students examine how cases move through the legal system while analyzing landmark cases, due process rights, charging decisions, and courtroom communication. Through inquiry-based learning, simulations, legal analysis, and real-world applications, students develop critical thinking, professionalism, communication, and legal reasoning skills necessary to understand fairness, justice, and the responsibilities of legal professionals.
Course Standards	Rule §127.759 Court Systems and Practices (One Credit), Adopted 2015
Instructional Materials	26-27 Needs Assessment Form Court Systems

Scope & Sequence

Units/Modules & Instructional Days	Assessments & Scanning Deadlines	Standards
Unit 1: Foundations of Law and Judicial Controversies 23 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_F26_UE1 Scanning Deadline: 09/24/26	Unit Standards
Unit 2: U.S. Legal System and Courtroom Roles 21 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_F26_UE2 Scanning Deadline: 10/29/26	
Unit 3: Constitutional Safeguards in Criminal Trials 23 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_F26_UE3 Scanning Deadline: 12/10/26	
Unit 4: Evidence and Rights of the Accused 21 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_S27_UE4 Scanning Deadline: 01/28/27	
Unit 5: Criminal Charging Process and the Grand Jury 12 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_S27_UE5 Scanning Deadline: 02/11/27	
Unit 6: Pre-Trial Proceedings and Communication 14 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_S27_UE6 Scanning Deadline: 03/04/27	
Unit 7: Exploring Pleas, Trial Stages and Procedures 24 days	TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_S27_UE7 Scanning Deadline: 04/29/27	
Unit 8: Law & Order: A Comprehensive Review 11 days		
TX_CTE_10thCourtSystems_S27_FE Scanning Deadlines: SA Window: 05/12/27– 05/18/27 AUS | RGV Window: 05/17/27– 05/21/27		

TEKS Alignment

Instruction in this course is aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as adopted by the State Board of Education and implemented in accordance with Texas Education Code Chapter 28.

Instructional Materials

Primary Texts (if applicable)

Supplemental instructional materials may be used to support instruction. Supplemental materials do not replace board-approved core instructional materials.

Additional information regarding instructional programs, assessments, and parent access to instructional materials is available on the district website.

Instructional Expectations

Instruction is delivered using board-approved instructional materials and aligned to the scope and sequence outlined above. Teachers are expected to ensure all required standards are taught within the course timeframe.

Assessment Overview

Student learning is monitored through formative and summative assessments aligned to course standards. Assessment results are used to inform instruction and student supports. Students participate in required state assessments when applicable.