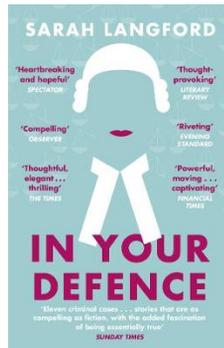
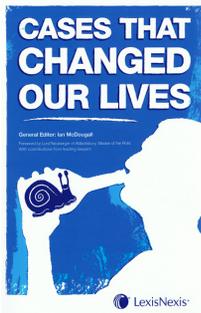


# Introduction to BTEC Law

As part of your Law, Justice and Protective Services you will study for a BTEC in Applied Law. The exam board is Pearson:

Units will include:

- Dispute Solving in Civil Law
- Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System
- Applying the Law



<http://ukcriminallawblog.com/>  
<http://www.legalweek.com/news/>  
<https://www.thelawyer.com/>  
<https://ukhumanrightsblog.com>  
[www.theguardian.com/law](http://www.theguardian.com/law)

Making a murderer; [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxgbdYaR\\_KQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxgbdYaR_KQ)  
The briefs; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWTcg8Ye6fI>  
The strange case of the law; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPo6e4GT-co>



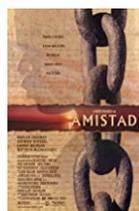
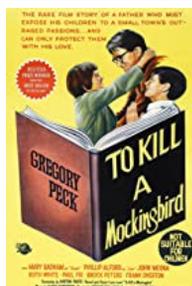
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**BBC iPlayer  
Murder 24/7**

**Murder trial: the disappearance of Margaret Fleming  
Podcasts: I am the law, Think like a lawyer**



One of the main things you will need to learn about in law is the difference between criminal and civil law. As a general rule, criminal law is something we would expect the police to get involved in.

- Can you think of any examples of criminal offences?

The main criminal courts are the magistrates court and crown court.

- Research these courts and explain how they are similar and different. You might want to consider who hears the cases and decides the outcome, who else we would find in there, what type of cases they deal with.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QF46W6LvHY4>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZYvv\\_s5R-s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZYvv_s5R-s)



Where are your nearest magistrates and crown courts?

Did you know that these courts are open to the public? If you are over the age of 16 you can go to your local court to observe cases.

- Take a look at this case from 2018:
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-44494748>
- Why was this not treated as a murder case?
- Do you think the court was right to pass a sentence of three years imprisonment?
- Watch this short film:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4ClveEDtmk>
- What other types of sentence are available?
- What kind of things will the judge take into account when passing sentence?

Your turn!



- Have a go at passing sentence yourself. Go to <http://ybtj.justice.gov.uk/> and choose some of the fictional case studies.
- Can you figure out what the terms “aggravating factors” and “mitigating factors” mean?

### Civil Law

Civil Law is more of a private matter between individuals or groups of people. The police do not usually get involved and the aim of the law is not to punish someone, but to resolve a dispute.

- Can you think of any examples of civil law?



The main criminal courts are the county court and high court.

- Research these courts and explain how they are similar and different. You might want to consider who hears the cases and decides the outcome, who else we would find in there, what type of cases they deal with.

One of the topics you will learn about is a type of civil law called negligence. This is when someone (the defendant) has a duty to do something and they don't do it or they do it badly and someone else (the claimant) suffers injury or loss. The claimant then sues the defendant for compensation.

- Research what happened when the Smiler ride crashed at Alton Towers in 2015. Why were the negligence claim successful? What damages (compensation) did the claimants receive?

# **We look forward to meeting you!**