



# **LEGAL ENGLISH FOR VARIOUS PROFESSIONALS/ INGLÉS JURÍDICO PARA DIVERSOS PROFESIONALES**

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## **Abstract**

The legal language is filled with technicalities and forms both in substance and in presentation. When addressing different stakeholders that intervene in bargaining, contracts and any legal process, the vocabulary, tone, and style of a person must be adapted. These elements are key factors between success and failure. The *Legal English for professional development* is a useful course designed to give a general view about the legal terminology and how the American Law works.

## **To whom the course is addressed**

The course is intended primarily for non-native English language speakers either studying law or lawyers that are currently working in some capacity in the field of law. But it is also extensive to people of any professional field that by different reasons need to know legal English through key vocabulary, concepts, collocations and prepositions in some of the most important areas of law. It can also be a good introduction to the world of law for those with no legal background whatsoever.

## **About the course**

The legal English learning is based in a theoretical and practical course. The teacher considers not only regular lectures each week but also uses multimedia resources as videos to show typical situations that involve legal English terms and procedures. An active participation of students is welcomed and encouraged.

This course requires a small amount of reading, a series of lectures, and a final exam testing understanding of all areas of law covered at the end of the course.

To complete the course, for each module you should:

- Read the key terms for each area of law.
- Watch the videos of lectures and situations posted.
- Explore the supplemental readings that interest you.

## Duration

The course has a five-week duration, divided in five (5) modules with fifteen (15) hours in total. Each week develops one module. Each module includes two (2) sessions: Tuesdays and Thursdays, of an hour and a half (90 minutes) on academic time. The session starts at **6:30 pm until 8:00 pm**. The course is provided in presence-based modality.

## Content

- Presence-based modality classroom.
- Slides prepared by teacher for each session.
- Videos selected with legal English topics.
- Educational written materials provided.
- McGraw-Hill's Spanish and English Legal Dictionary provided.

## Subject matter

- Legal English words and concepts
- Understanding Legal English speaking and meaning
- Introduction to American Law
- Tort Law
- Contract Law
- Property Law
- Civil Procedure
- Hiring legal firms and attorneys



## Course topics

### *Module 1-A: Introducing legal English.*

Understanding what the legal English is. Importance of legal English in work and society. Common words in legal English. Common legal English expressions and typical situations.

## Videos

- Legal Terms and Terminology
- Learn English with SUITS | Legal Vocabulary in English

## Supplemental Reading

- *The Importance of Learning Legal English in the 21st Century: A Guide for Non-Native Speakers. (4 Legal English)*
- *100 términos jurídicos en español e inglés que todo Abogado debe conocer. (Centro de Estudios Jurídicos Carbonell)*

## ***Module 1-B: Introducing American Law.***

Understanding what the American Law is. Importance of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Federal vs State jurisdiction in the United States. The Constitutional Law and legal English words that are used.



## Videos

- The US Court System Explained | How the United States Court System Works.
- Classification of Law - Criminal vs Civil Law and Public vs Private Law.

## Supplemental Reading

- *Key Constitutional Law Terms.*
- *The Constitution of the United States.*

## ***Module 2: Tort Law.***

Understanding what the Tort Law is. Importance of Tort Law application in the United States. Common Tort Law words that are used and typical situations.

## Videos

- An Introduction to American Law: Tort Law.

## Supplemental Reading

- *Key Tort Law Terms.*
- *What is an intentional tort? (Goguen & Ray)*
- *Tort law and personal injury cases. (Ray)*

## ***Module 3: Contract Law.***

Understanding what the Contract Law is. Importance of Contract Law application in the United States. Contract Law words that are used and typical situations.

## Videos

- An Introduction to American Law: Contract Law.

## Supplemental Reading

- *Key Contract Law Terms.*
- *What is a contract? (Stim)*
- *Contract Law 101: Make a Legally Valid Contract. (Laurence)*

## ***Module 4: Property Law.***

Understanding what the Property Law is. Importance of Property Law application in the United States. Property Law words that are used and typical situations.

## Videos

- An Introduction to American Law: Property Law.

## Supplemental Reading

- *Key Property Law Terms.*
- *Property and Ownership.*
- *U.S. Landlord-Tenant Law.*

## ***Module 5: Civil Procedure.***

Understanding what the Civil Procedure is. Importance of Civil Procedure and the rules of court that must be followed by the judge and parties in civil cases (as opposed to criminal cases). Civil Procedure words that are used and typical situations. How to hire legal firms and attorneys.



## Videos

- An Introduction to American Law: Civil Procedure.

## Supplemental Reading

- *Key Civil Procedure Terms.*
- *A Lawsuit Chronology.*
- *Civil Cases: The Basics.*