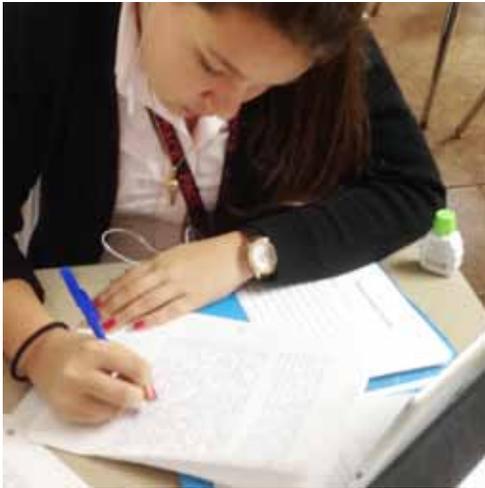




# The Academy for **LAW STUDIES**



**“THE END OF LAW IS NOT TO ABOLISH OR RESTRAIN,  
BUT TO PRESERVE AND ENLARGE FREEDOM.”**

*John Locke*

## THE PROGRAM

The Monsignor Edward Pace High School Law Academy combines college and career preparation with a challenging and innovative curriculum to prepare high school students for a career in the legal industry. The faculty will help students explore their interest in law-related careers. The program combines academics and activities to give students a well-rounded introduction to the American legal system. Course topics include law enforcement, legal issues, and an introduction to the broad field of criminal justice and its many career choices. Students gain insight on the various careers within social justice such as attorneys, paralegals, social workers, teachers, law enforcement officials, security officers, corrections officers, and other public service pathways

The Academy uses specialized courses, real-world experiences, technology-based instruction, and partnerships with local businesses and professional organizations to create an educational experience that is uniquely engaging and valuable. Course activities include interesting guest speakers, curriculum-related field trips, physical and first-aid training, competitions, and community service. The goal is to integrate practical experience with quality academic courses to aid students in the development of pre-college and career skills that will foster higher order thinking skills, integrity and ethics.

## PROGRAM TRACK

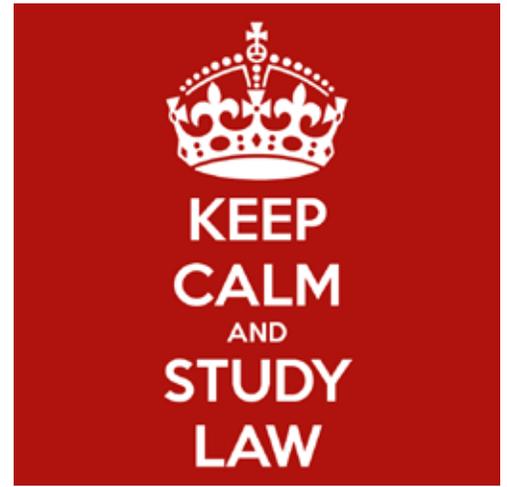
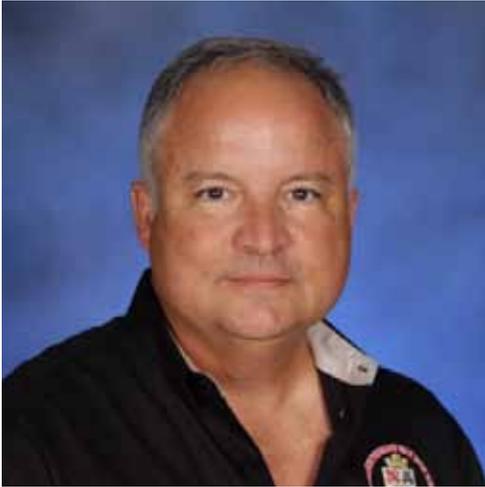
LAW STUDIES	
Year 1	Criminal Justice Operations I
Year 2	Criminal Justice Operations II
Year 3	Criminal Justice Operations III & Criminal Justice Operations IV
Year 4	TBA

\*Courses subject to change

EDUCATE

MOTIVATE

INSPIRE



JRODRIGUEZ02@PACEHS.COM

ABOUT THE LEAD TEACHER

Mr. John Rodriguez has been a practicing attorney for over 25 years. He earned his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Miami School of Law, Cum Laude, in 1989. Upon graduation, Mr. Rodriguez served as an Assistant State Attorney in Miami-Dade County prosecuting traffic, misdemeanor and felony cases. During his tenure at the State Attorney's Office he held the position of Chief Prosecutor for the Traffic Division supervising all traffic prosecutions in Miami-Dade County and a team of over 25 attorneys. During his legal career Mr. Rodriguez has tried hundreds of cases to verdict.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Mr. Rodriguez was a law enforcement officer for nearly eight years. He worked in the Patrol Division as a patrol officer, SWAT Team member, and Sergeant. He also served in the Detective Bureau as a homicide detective where he investigated major crimes for four years, some of which rank among Miami-Dade's most infamous.

Additionally, Mr. Rodriguez holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Florida International University. He has taught numerous subjects at the Southeast Florida Institute of Criminal Justice. Mr. Rodriguez graduated from Pace High School in 1978. In 2010 he began teaching the Law Studies course here at Monsignor Pace. Aside from his legal and teaching experience, Mr. Rodriguez coaches the Pace Flag Football team and is an assistant coach for boys football.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The skills and knowledge learned through the Academy of Law Studies can be applied successfully to almost any future career. The program provides students with a rigorous academic environment and a personalized educational experience that will lead to future academic study in law, education, public safety, and government. The goal is to integrate practical experience with quality academic courses to aid students in the development of pre-college and career skills that will foster higher order thinking skills, integrity and ethics. Students gain insight on the various careers within social justice such as attorneys, paralegals, social workers, law enforcement officials, and others in the public service sector.

APPLICATION & FEES

Applicants will be admitted to the program on a trial basis during their freshman year. Academy participants must maintain a minimum B average in all law studies classes to continue in the program.

Additional fees will be incurred as part of this program, including but not limited to, testing fees and required special events.