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Melbourne's legal precinct Excursion



Melbourne's legal precinct excursion

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Melbourne's legal precinct excursion

Teacher notes

About these materials

This activity is based on *Melbourne's legal precinct*, an annotated, illustrated map produced by the Victoria Law Foundation. The map can be downloaded from the Victoria Law Foundation website at www.victorialawfoundation.org.au. Students visit the Melbourne legal precinct and participate in an information-gathering race to solve the student challenge questions in this resource. On the way they identify significant law-related institutions in Melbourne's legal precinct and find out information about them. *Melbourne's legal precinct: Excursion* is designed to engage students and help them understand legal practice, law-making and the hierarchy of courts, which function at the centre of our justice system.

This material is principally targeted at Year 9 and 10 students, but may be modified by schools for use with other year levels. A second version of this material, suitable for use as a classroom activity, is also available from the Victoria Law Foundation website:

www.victorialawfoundation.org.au

Curriculum links

VELS Level 6, Civics and Citizenship

This material meets the aims of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards framework (VELS). Although suitable for use in all three strands, it is most appropriate to the Physical, Personal and Social Learning strand and the topic of Civics and Citizenship, incorporating civic knowledge and understanding, and community engagement.

Melbourne's legal precinct: Excursion will assist students to:

- increase their awareness of the key elements of democracy;
- investigate the institutional framework of the legal system in Australia;
- explore the roles and responsibilities of courts at state and federal levels; and
- understand the role of the courts in establishing and protecting the rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens.

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How to use these materials

To carry out this activity you will need:

- one copy per team/student of the *Melbourne's legal precinct* annotated map. The map can be downloaded from www.victorialawfoundation.org.au;
- one copy per team/student of the student challenge questions, which are based on information contained in the *Melbourne's legal precinct* map or information readily found at each of the sites visited;
- one copy of the answers to the student challenge questions for the supervising staff; and sufficient staff supervision to ensure safe and fair conduct of the Race.

This Race will guide students around the exteriors of building in Melbourne's legal precinct. It is not necessary to enter any of the buildings. Many of them are not open to the public or have restrictions on the numbers of visitors and the areas you may visit. Some buildings are open to the public during Law Week. Check the website www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/law-week for details. The Law Institute of Victoria arranges court tours for schools. Contact (03) 9607 9311.

Melbourne's legal precinct excursion

Student activities

Rules of the race around the legal precinct

Teams are not to run around the route.

Teams must cross with the lights at all times.

Teams must attempt to answer the student challenge questions at each building.

The team's finishing time is clocked at the point of handing in the answer sheets.

The winning team is the team with the highest score at the end of the Race.

Points will be awarded for:

- correctly answering student challenge questions during the Race
- the time (and therefore rank order) in which the team completes the Race.

Points will be deducted for any breaches of the rules.

Earning points

Each challenge answer will be worth 10 points – a total of 210 points.

The teams' times will be clocked and then ranked in order from the shortest to longest time taken to complete the Race. Points are awarded as follows:

1st	30 points
2nd	25 points
3rd	15 points
4th	10 points
5th	5 points
6th	0 points

Losing points

Teams will have points deducted for the following breaches of the rules:

- running – 10 points
- copying another teams' answer – 20 points
- failing to attempt a challenge – 20 points
- not crossing at the lights disqualification (you're out of the Race!)

Student challenge questions

Student/Team Name			
Start Time		Finish Time	

The starting line The start of the Race – a place where local democracy is in action.

Challenge Question 1

- 1 What is the name of the elected body which calls this building 'home'?

/10

- 2 Who was the Lord Mayor of Melbourne at the Centenary of the Incorporation of the City of Melbourne on 12 August 1942?

/10

Find... the highest court in Victoria. You may be able to appeal if you consider this an unfair trial.

Challenge Question 2

- 1 Find the flag that is flying. What are the two differences between this and the Australian flag?

/10

- 2 Find the previous use for this site. What was its purpose? When did it begin?

/10

Find... a court opposite the Supreme Court – opposite corner, opposite architectural style. It's the court that runs more jury trials than any other court in Victoria.

Challenge Question 3

- 1 Look back to the Supreme Court and find the architectural structure on top of the building. What is it?

/10

- 2 Find the hours of operation of the County Court.

/10

- 3 Who was the sculptor of the 'Lady of Justice'?

/10

Find... the building that was once very valuable, but don't waste time spending your money at the Bistro.

Challenge Question 4

- 1 Find a coat of arms. What are the two animals featured on it?

/10

- 2 According to the coat of arms, in what year was this building founded?

/10

Find... the building with the pond (across the road – please cross only at the lights).

Challenge Question 5

Name the four courts to be found in this modern building.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

/10

Find... the building where a life ended and a legend began – a ten-minute walk. The souls of 136 people may be under lock and key.

Challenge Question 6	
1 In what year was the Gaol hospital yard first used as the Police Garage?	/10
2 In what year did the construction of the Gaol commence?	/10
3 Who was the most famous person hanged at this gaol?	/10
Find... the building where you may get the support you need – only if you have a union working for you.	
Challenge Question 7	
1 Find out how the goldfield diggers are constantly remembered.	/10
2 Find out who are the traditional owners of the land.	/10
Find... the east – to the corner of the park. Look at the map pole on the footpath.	
Challenge Question 8	
1 What is the name of the big white building with the dome where the first Commonwealth Parliament sat in 1901?	/10
Find the finish line! ...the building where State democracy is at work.	

Challenge Question 9	
1 What is the name of the democratic body that meets here?	/10
2 What does the symbol on top of the heritage light poles represent?	/10
Points	
Student challenge questions Total	+
Rank Order	+
Deductions for breaches of the rules	-
Total	=

Answers to challenge questions

Challenge 1: Town Hall

- 1 Melbourne City Council.
- 2 Sir Francis Beaurepaire.

Challenge 2: Supreme Court – William St Entrance

- 1 There is a crown, there is a star missing or the formation of the Southern Cross is smaller.
- 2 It was a telegraph office. 1854.

Challenge 3: County Court

- 1 Dome.
- 2 8 am – 6.30 pm, Monday to Friday.
- 3 William Eicholtz.

Challenge 4: Old Mint

- 1 Lion and unicorn.
- 2 1841.

Challenge 5: Commonwealth Law Courts

- 1 Federal Magistrates Court.
- 2 Family Court.
- 3 Federal Court.
- 4 High Court of Australia.

Challenge 6: Old Melbourne Gaol

- 1 1925.
- 2 1841.
- 3 Ned Kelly.

Challenge 7: Victorian Trades Hall

- 1 The Eureka flag is always flown or commemorative plaque on west wall near portico.
- 2 Wurundjeri people.

Challenge 8: Royal Exhibition Building

- 1 Royal Exhibition Building.

Challenge 9: Parliament House

- 1 Parliament of Victoria.
- 2 The Crown, as 'Head of State' for Victoria (or a variation on this answer).

Contributors

About Victoria Law Foundation

Victoria Law Foundation helps Victorians understand the law and their legal system. We are a not-for-profit organisation funded by the Legal Services Board Public Purpose Fund. The Foundation funds and generates innovative projects, including plain-language publications that promote community understanding of the law and the legal system. Wherever possible, publications are made available at no cost to schools and community organisations.

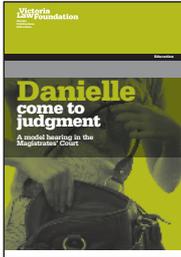
The Foundation also organises the annual Law Week in May, which features a number of activities for schools. For more information visit www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/law-week

About the authors

Prior to completing her law degree in 1997, Jenny Draddy worked as a nurse, midwife and then organiser for the Australian Nurses Federation. While completing her law degree she was the Women's Officer for the Victorian Trades Hall Council. As a solicitor she has had extensive litigation experience and now intends to pursue a career at the Bar.

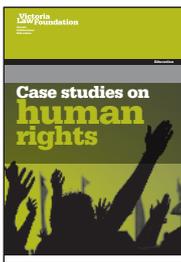
Lois Erickson is Community and Education Consultant at the Victoria Law Foundation. She was a teacher of VCE legal studies, economics and accounting and is now a legal practitioner.

Other education titles from Victoria Law Foundation

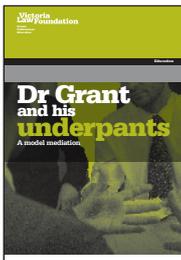


Danielle come to judgment

A model criminal hearing in the Magistrates' Court

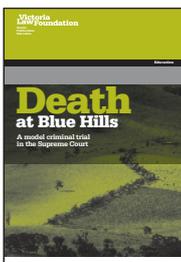


Case studies on human rights



Dr Grant and his underpants

A model mediation



Death at Blue Hills



We the Jury

DVD and teacher notes

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“Victoria Law Foundation is very much the first port of call for teachers of legal studies to get access to comprehensive educational resources for their classrooms.”

David Thomson

Teacher-in-Residence
Victoria Law Foundation
and Teacher
Caulfield Grammar



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