

Concept Map Activity – Mapping the legal system

We are going to do a bit of library and Internet research in order to better understand the way in which various units within the legal system interact with one another. Once our research is complete, we will work in pairs to develop a concept map, or a visual representation of the system we are studying. Once completed, we will share our concept map with our classmates.

What are the various social institutions that make up the U.S. legal system? Make sure to include bodies that make, interpret, enforce and punish offenders of the law.

How do these institutions interact with one another?

Provide some characteristics of each institution. Make sure to include:

- Primary Function
- Subsidiary Units
- Relationship to public
- Relationship to other institutions
- Unintended Consequences
- Anything else you think is important

Be prepared to share your concept map with your classmates and talk about the information that you found in your research. Attached are some examples of concept maps.

