

WHERE MIGHT A CASE BE HEARD?

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to identify, explain, understand and apply their knowledge regarding the jurisdiction of state and federal courts.
2. Students will discriminate between cases that should be heard at a state level and those that should be heard at a federal level.
3. Students will evidence an awareness of subjective factors affecting the decision of where a case is appealed.

Oregon Content Standards and Eligible Content:

1. Understand the primary function of the federal, state, and local levels of government and how the actions of one influence the workings of the others.
2. Understand how federalism creates shared and reserved powers at each level of government.
3. Understand the role of the courts and of the law in protecting the rights of U.S. citizens.
4. Understand the “supremacy clause” of the U.S. constitution as a means of resolving conflicts between state and federal law.
5. Understand the concept of judicial review as a means of resolving conflict over the interpretation of the Constitution and the actions of government.

Over-arching Questions:

1. Why does the United States have two court systems?
2. How do the two systems relate to each other?
3. How do the two systems reflect the on going negotiation about American Federalism?
4. What *must* be considered and what *may* be considered when deciding jurisdiction?