

This project is part of a wider project to construct courses to help students as they transition from high school to university learning. This is a transition that is often difficult because it has traditionally involved a change from teacher-dependent learning to independent learning. The transition is often further complicated by traditional programme structures which introduce students to discrete subject areas without explaining their interaction- this is particularly the case for law programmes. The course will offer a reverse perspective, thus for law it will introduce students to scenarios involving complex linked and separate legal issues.

The project aims to develop basic principles for transition courses based on familiar popular culture. In the pilot course this will involve using superhero films, particularly the Marvel Cinematic Universe franchise, to help law students transition to law school. The classes for this course will involve discussing scenarios from superhero films, identifying the legal issues in them, the areas of law involved, and discussing how the law should deal with these issues, and how it does- if it does. The classes will be, in large part, student led, as they have to identify these different factors.

This CDG will be used to make six high quality animated superhero videos to introduce basic and more advanced topics in the study of law. These will be available for students to watch before and after they take their classes. The videos will provide a useful introduction for the students. They will also be useful to consider after the relevant class and before assessment. However, the videos will not provide all the information the students may need, as different groups of students may identify different problems in the same scenario and so have to consider how the law may deal with these identified problems- again, if it does. The CDG will also fund a Research Assistant (RA) who will help develop the supporting materials for the videos- more detailed written notes and longer videos explaining general concepts of law. The RA will also oversee the collection of data for research into the success or otherwise of the project.