

Sample Discussion Items for Judicial Code

1. General Matters
 - a. Name of court
 - b. Purpose
 - c. Jurisdiction (both personal and subject matter)

2. Judges
 - a. How many?
 - b. How appointed?
 - c. Length of term
 - d. Who qualifies:
 - i. Age
 - ii. Resident v. non-resident
 - iii. Criminal history
 - e. How do they make their decisions?
 - f. How to fill vacancies?
 - g. How to handle conflicts of interest?
 - h. Can a judge be removed?

3. Court Procedure
 - a. How to start a case
 - b. Can the court decide whether to take a case or not?
 - c. Alternative dispute resolution
 - d. Notice requirements (part of due process)
 - e. Confidentiality of proceedings and/or files
 - f. Recording hearing
 - g. Failure to appear for a hearing
 - h. Testimony
 - i. Evidence
 - j. Emergency hearings
 - k. How will orders be issued? (in writing, oral or both?)
 - l. How to handle juveniles in the tribal court
 - m. Penalties and sentencing
 - i. Community service
 - ii. Fines
 - iii. Banishment
 - iv. Counseling
 - n. enforcement of court orders

4. Court of Appeals
 - a. Purpose
 - b. Structure
 - c. Who will be appeal judge(s)
 - d. How to file an appeal
 - e. How are the judges' decisions distributed