

Social Studies 11

Fall Semester 2018

Instructor: Mr. S. Arthurs

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Office Location & Hours: Room 109, 08:15 - 16:45

Extra office hours: By appointment or after school



Course Description:

In Social Studies 11, students gather, interpret and analyze ideas that help them communicate the complexity of an interconnected 21st century world. Due to this interconnectedness, Students will make reasoned ethical judgements on rapid technological, cultural, legal and environmental changes, specifically in relation to these problem's roles in challenging the conventional norms and values held by Canadian society.

Social Studies 11 curriculum, from this perspective, highlights how rapid social change challenges the institutions that we as Canadian citizens rely on to inform how we, as a nation, and as individuals, respond to world events. As a result, it is the goal of Social Studies 11 to introduce students to the persona of an "educated citizen" where emphasis is placed on: (1) inquiry and reflection skills on the current global-political and social justice/human rights climate; (2) how to interpret the differing political perspectives that promote and/or resist cultural social change in Canadian society and abroad; and lastly, (3) how to determine appropriate ways to respond to information that conflicts with one's own personally held beliefs. Overall, students will excel in this class if they are responsive, open and thoughtful towards engagement in discussion and critical analysis of major topics.

Course Overview:

Among other topics, students will examine and be introduced to the following throughout the semester:

- Basic research methods: Defining abstract concepts into objective vocabulary.
- How increased industrialization, urbanization, economic and social changes in countries create unprecedented new global issues.
- How the development and proliferation of communication and transportation technologies in the 20th century alter personal and national identities.
- Reflections on how to use historical tragedies to inform analysis on how to prevent humanitarian crises, immigration emergencies, civil wars and genocides.
- Understanding the diversity and complexity of cultural expressions in a multi-cultural society such as Canada. Specifically in regards to how the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects Canadian citizens.
- First people's issues, including de-colonialization, indigenous law and Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- How physical typography and environment interact with citizens in regards to extraction, resource projects and Canadian environmental law.

Assessment Guideline:

1. Journaling: 15 %
2. Projects, Homework and Written Assignments: 35 %
3. Seminar/Focus Group Participation/Discussion: 30%
4. Tests/quizzes: 20%

***Note:** Subject to change.

Class Rules and Expectations:

1) Attendance & Punctuality

- a) Be on time and notify the teacher when you will be absent. Don't not ever leave campus without permission during school hours in-case of an emergency.
- b) If you are sick, notify the teacher via email and do not come to class. You will require proof of sickness in the form of a note that is either signed by your parent, home-stay guardian or a doctor. You must also leave a contact number for the person who signs the note for verification purposes.

2) Zero Smart-Phone Policy During Class

- a) No use of smart phones during class. Although the teacher can't force you to place your phones in baskets at the beginning of class, I will award extra-credits over the course of the semester to students who wish to comply.

3) Plagiarism & Academic dishonesty

- a) Plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstance. From the Teacher's perspective, it is very simple to recognize when a student is not using original work.
- b) Write your own work! Original work will always be graded better. This is especially an essential skill for students who plan to pursue further education in university.

4) Missed Work & Grades

- a) If you have missing work, your grades will be negatively affected. The teacher will always give students the chance to make up work (within reasonable circumstance), or to earn better marks. However, be prepared to defend your position as to why you should have the privilege to re-do or make up work.

5) Participation & Class Conduct

- a) Discussion, synthesizing information and sharing thoughts are essential for an educated citizen. My classes purposely give participation a high grade weight – you're expected to contribute!
- b) Always respect yourself, the teacher and fellow students when engaging in conversation.