



Swan Valley Regional Secondary School

SWAN VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION

P.O. Box

SWAN RIVER, MANITOBA R0L 1Z0

TELEPHONE 1-204-734-4511

CBEHRMANN@SVSD.CA



PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Jacquie Mydynski-Arp

VICE PRINCIPALS

Mrs. Jen Zamzow & Mrs. Kirsten Glen

2025-2026 Semester 1

Course Title: Current Topics in First Nations, Metis and Inuit Studies

Class Times: Block 1

Teacher: Mr. Behrmann

Synopsis:

95 Teaching days in total

Approximately 87 teaching days

Course Description:

The intent of this course is to explore the history, tradition, cultures, worldview, and contemporary issues regarding Indigenous people of not only Canada, but the world as well. It is often said that it is impossible to understand the present without knowing the past. This course is intended to enable non-Indigenous students to become informed, empathetic citizens concerning Indigenous issues at local, national, and global levels.

Course Evaluation Structure:

- Classwork: 15%**
- Tests: 25%**
- Assignments: 25%**
- Final Project: 35% of final grade (This is the compulsory exam, meaning there are no exemptions and all students must complete)**



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TIMELINE:

- Cluster 1- Image and Identity..... (September 11-October 20)
- Cluster 2- Relations with Government..... (October 23-November 24)
- Cluster 3- Social Justice Issues (November 27-December 15)
- Cluster 4- Indigenous Peoples and the World(December 18-January 12)
- Cluster 5- Celebrations of Learning.....(January 15- January 26)

Cluster #1-Image and Identity

- In cluster 1, we will exploring contemporary Indigenous issues, their roots in the colonist history of Canada, and their significance to all Canadians. Cluster 1 consists of 3 learning experiences:
 - L.E 1.1: The Ghosts of History
 - L.E 1.2: From Time Immemorial
 - L.E 1.3: Worlds Colliding

Cluster #2- Relations with Government

- In cluster 2, we will examine the historic and contemporary relationship between Canadian governments and Indigenous peoples. Cluster 2 has 5 learning experiences:
 - LE 2.1- Setting the Stage- Economics and Politics
 - LE 2.2- The Numbered Treaties
 - LE 2.3- The Indian Act
 - LE 2.4- The Metis- The People Who Own Themselves
 - LE 2.5- Modern Treaties and Rights

Cluster #3- Social Justice Issues

- In cluster 3, students examine historical and contemporary features of social justice and Indigenous people in the areas of education, health, justice and economics. Cluster 3 has 4 learning experiences:
 - LE 3.1- Education



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- LE 3.2- Health- Living in Balance
 - LE 3.3- Justice
 - LE 3.4- Economic and Resource Development

Cluster #4- Indigenous People and the World

- In cluster 4, we will explore the histories and contemporary realities of Indigenous peoples and cultures beyond Canada. Cluster 4 has one learning experience:
 - LE 4.1- One World

Cluster #5- A Celebration of Learning (Option rather than Final Exam)

- Cluster 5 offers students an opportunity for students to create and present a project that addresses a vision for the future of Indigenous peoples. Cluster 5 has one learning experience:
 - LE 5.1: Looking Forward, Looking Back

Assignments and General Work:

Work that is not completed during the class is considered **HOMEWORK**. Homework checks may be held randomly and you will be evaluated on it. Although it is formative assessment, it will be shown in the student portal, and will reflect in all summative assessments. Simply put, if you do the homework, you are more likely to succeed. All projects, presentations and assignments will be given due dates that are appropriate for the work they involve. Once the set due date has passed, a mark of '0' with the teacher comment 'no evidence of learning submitted' will be pushed through to the student portal for parents to see. This will be treated as an incomplete grade until the student submits the assignment for evaluation. If assignments remain outstanding, the following steps may be taken as per the provincial assessment policy: (not in any order)

- 1) Students may be required to come into class to work during RTI time.



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- 2) Students may miss out on extra-curricular activities
 - 3) Parents, teacher and student develop an agreement when the work will be completed
 - 4) An alternative assignment may be agreed upon that shows achievement of the required learning outcome(s)
 - 5) I will set a final due date, and notify your guardians.
 - 6) The last consequence will be a mark of '0' and assignment will no longer be accepted for evaluation.

Attendance:

Attendance is checked daily. Please let me know if you are going to be away so I may provide you with the work you will be missing. Most often, all slides will be uploaded to Microsoft Teams. If you are late for class, it is your responsibility for letting the secretary know that you are now at the school. If you miss a test (with a valid reason and a note from your parent or guardian) you must write the test during the next available period or class. (Next class, RTI or at lunch).

Test Preparation: (if we have any tests!)

Students will be given sufficient notice before major tests. (4 days minimum). Proper attendance and participation will provide you with the knowledge you require to be successful in this course. I can't stress the importance of taking notes while in class. At this grade level, you should be able to start creating your own notes. This is an important skill to develop. Without notes, we forget!

Expectations:

1. Arrive on time and be prepared to work, as you will not be allowed to go back to your locker, washrooms should be utilized during breaks/RTI.
2. Respect for the staff and students in the classroom is essential. A failure to show this will result in the student being removed from the room.



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3. Snacks or drinks (preferred water) are allowed in the room during class time however, the students must clean up after themselves and be responsible to ensure it does not disrupt their learning. If these conditions cannot be met the privilege will be revoked.
 4. Electronic devices are not to be in the classroom, unless otherwise stated. (for example: ipod to listen to music if there is a work period). If caught using them, they will be held in my desk for the duration of the class. A second offence, they will go to the office.
 5. ALL CELL PHONES WILL REMAIN ON SILENT AND ARE NOT TO BE SEEN DURING THE LECTURE CLASS TIME. Any misuse of this rule will result in it being put in my desk until the end of the class.

Contact Information:

Any time you have any questions or concerns, feel free to come see me or contact me in any of the following ways:

- I'll be in my room most days in the mornings up to and including RTI.
- Email: cbehrmann@svsd.ca



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