

Social Studies 9

Course Outline

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DESCRIPTION

The Senior One Social Studies program is a civics course designed to give you a greater understanding and appreciation of being a Canadian citizen. It poses the question - “What does it mean to be Canadian?” To answer such a complex question, we will conduct an exploration of the society in which we live, its history and general make-up, our roles within that society, and the role of Canada within a global context.

TOPICS

We’ll focus on three main units that are clearly defined in the textbook *Canada in the Contemporary World*:

• CLUSTER 1 DIVERSITY AND PLURALISM IN CANADA

Who or what is a Canadian? It’s a question many people ask, and some may say we’re obsessed with it. What factors influence this identity? We’ll look at the physical and human geography of Canada, the institutions that make Canada, stereotypes of Canadians, things all Canadians share, and then identify and try to understand some of the threats to our social fabric and perhaps even to our existence as a nation.

Topics include: a profile of Canada, Human Rights, Living together in Canada, Pluralism and Integration, Expressing who We Are in Canada.

• CLUSTER 2 DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE IN CANADA

This will be a closer look at Canadian government, law, and politics. What is the role of the government? How does the Canadian system work? How can we influence the decisions made by politicians? How are laws made and enforced?

Topics include: Law, Order and Good Government, Representing Canadians, Building a Just Society, Citizen Participation, and Democratic Ideals

• CLUSTER 3 CANADA IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

We will examine Canada’s interaction with and dependence upon other countries and then we’ll speculate about Canada’s future. This unit includes Canada’s involvement in

Africa, our trade relations, our peace-keeping efforts, and our work with the United Nations and other agencies to promote our values and influence the world.

Topics include: Living in the Global Village, Canada's Global Responsibilities, and Living in an Industrialized Consumer Society.

MATERIALS

Being prepared for this class means you will bring a Scribbler or three-ring binder with notepaper, a pen, pencil, the textbook Canada in the Contemporary World, and any assignments due that day. You are also expected to occasionally bring other material for projects such as research findings, poster paper, scissors, pencil crayons, and markers.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is academic theft and will not be tolerated. A mark of zero will be assessed for work that has been plagiarized and will need to be redone for marks. Multiple offences will merit further action.

EVALUATION

Students will earn their grade only through summative assessments:

PROJECTS - 30% - anything handed in for grading such as major projects and writing assignments

QUIZZES - 25% - Quizzes, completing text questions, minor group projects, and active participation in discussions

TESTS - 30% - unit tests

FINAL EXAM - 15% - a summary exam of all our work

EXPECTATIONS

- My main expectation from you is one of respect – for yourself, others, and the environment. You are expected to display a cooperative, polite, responsible, and mature attitude.
- Daily attendance is kept and recorded. Your parents will be contacted to follow up any truants and the administration will be notified if the problem persists. You will be responsible for any material you miss while away.
- You must arrive on time for class.
- Homework, when assigned, is to be completed by the due date.

- Do your best on all assignments. Take pride in whatever you do, and your mark will reflect it.

According to the Digital Citizenship Policy 10.52,

“SVSD devices are to be used in the classroom for learning. Students are encouraged to use personal devices as supported by the classroom teacher for positive education benefits and guided classroom instruction. The use of personal devices should promote learning in new and innovative ways.”

Reminder: it is a privilege for students to be able to use their devices in the classroom. Please learn to manage to utilize your device in a respectful manner. Students will be asked to turn their device off or put it away during instructional time. If the teacher, substitute teacher or educational assistant in the classroom feel that the student is distracted during instructional time or the device is interfering with their learning, the student will not be permitted to utilize their device in class, and it will be taken away for the duration of the period.