

Humanities 8 Course Outline



Welcome to Humanities 8! In this course we will explore history, geography, literature, media studies, and our own writing skills, as well as focusing on developing our oral language, reading and formal essay writing skills in preparation for English and Social Studies 9. You will be required to think deeply, logically, and critically. You are encouraged to ask questions, identify problems, interpret evidence, and formulate your own interpretations of historical problems.

Classroom Expectations

My main priorities are ensuring that all my students' mental and physical health is taken care of. Therefore, the classroom needs to be a safe and welcoming community for all students. **RESPECT and CARE for one another must be our main values in the classroom.**

Respect yourself, your classmates, and your teacher

- Arrive on time and ready to learn.
- Respect differing opinions and points of views.
- Teachers are humans too and have feelings! Please remember this in your moments of frustration. If there is an issue in the classroom, please discuss it with me in private.

Respect our environment

- Understand that it is all of our responsibility for keeping our classroom clean.
- Respect the belongings of others.

Respect learning

- Appreciate that we all learn in different ways and at different speeds.
- Do not distract/disturb others or the learning environment with unnecessary talking, technology, rude behaviour, etc. Your attitudes dictate the mood in the classroom.

Classroom Policies

Attendance/ Late Policy

In order to succeed in this course, regular attendance is essential. You are expected to be on time to class. Even a minute late is still late! If you are away, please make sure you check with a friend on what you missed, and check with me if needed. If frequent lates/ absences become an issue, then your parents/guardians will be contacted with a follow up to the administration team. Remember an excused absence is still an absence and you are responsible for catching up yourself.

Find two friends who you can contact for missing work. One of them should also collect all worksheets for you.

Ms. J. Sidhu
Sidhu_jasleen@surreyschools.ca

Materials Needed:

- Binder specifically for Humanities with lined paper.
- Pens, pencils, erasers, highlighters
- Pencil crayons and fine tip black pen
- Ruler

We will be doing activities and projects that include these materials and Ms. Sidhu has limited supplies, please bring your supplies to class!

Cellphone/Device Policy:

Phones can be tools for learning, but they can also be very distracting. Phones must be on silent and put away in phone bins during class time, unless otherwise instructed. This includes air pods, wireless earbuds, and corded earbuds. First infraction is a reminder, second means it is taken away for the class and third means that it will be taken down to the office.

Rewrite Policy:

Writing is a skill, and to properly develop that skill, you need lots of practice. Because of this, students have the opportunity to rewrite pieces of writing one time. This must be done in the two weeks after the writing is marked and handed back. This must happen in the classroom and must include a conference with the teacher prior to rewriting. Rewrites must be a substantial revision effort- not just fixing grammar or spelling mistakes!

Late Work Policy:

Extensions must be arranged ahead of time- not the night before and not the day it is due. They will be given at my discretion. However, if you have things going on in your life that may affect your ability to do the work of the course, PLEASE come and see me. I want you to succeed- we can work together to figure out how.

To help you manage your time, late work will only be accepted after completing a late work form and having a discussion with me. Please see me if you need the form.

Grades and Assignments:

As this is a yearlong course, the focus is for students to improve their skills throughout the year. You will be marked using the proficiency scale. As we progress through the course you will keep a portfolio of all your marked assignments. **This means, you MUST keep all your assignments organized and in one place.** We will meet together and go over your assignments before each reporting period. As well, students will be responsible for self-assessment before completing all assignments to reflect on your learning process. You will receive a letter grade during each reporting period. Always work to your full potential and put the maximum effort into everything. Doing your best is more important than the letter grade you receive.

Incomplete	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
Work was not completed or not handed in.	Just starting to slightly understand it.	You can understand a bit more but are still missing some things.	You understand exactly what I was trying to teach you	You got it and you added even more

Classroom Expectations

1. Drinks ARE allowed with a cap. Small snacks are also okay but pick up after yourselves. A clean working environment benefits everyone. If you make a mess you will be expected to clean up.
2. No earbuds in instructional time. It does not matter that you aren't listening to music. You may be able to listen to music occasionally in independent work time.
3. Washroom- If you need to go to the washroom, please come and ask me so I can keep track of where everyone is.
 - I will have a limit of 1 student leaving the class at a time
 - No washroom breaks 10 mins before/after the bell
 - If you are asking frequently or abusing the privilege, then washroom visits will be re-evaluated
 - Extended breaks may result in a call home, conference with administrators or SSL supervision. You may be required to make up missed time.
4. Dismissal:
 - You will often have time to get started on homework before the end of class.
 - Remain seated and continue working until I wrap up the class and dismiss you. No lining up at the door!
5. Being Respectful:
 - Inappropriate, rude, or otherwise distracting behavior that prevents other students from learning will result in detention/phone call home/office referral.
 - Please raise your hand if you have a question or comment. With a full class of students, this is the only way to be sure that everyone will have a say.
 - If you need to speak to me about something that only concerns you, please wait until lunch or after school. (After school is usually best.)
 - **Zero tolerance for discriminatory, racist and homophobic language.**
6. To be Successful:
 - Come to class every day, on time, with all necessary materials.
 - Do your homework.
 - Ask for help if you need it! My job as your teacher is to make sure you understand what we cover in class
 - Take educational and creative risks. Don't be afraid to make mistakes!
 - Ask questions.