

## **Social Studies 9: S1 2025-2026: Course Outline**

### **Course Overview**

The world is becoming increasingly complex to navigate. More than ever, we have constant access to information that we need to learn to understand and analyze. Many things you see can be considered *misinformation* (false information with the intention to deceive).

Social Studies is about becoming more thoughtful and responsible. We learn to acquire information from multiple perspectives and make informed judgements about it. We learn about empathy to become better, more respectful citizens. During this course, we will learn about the various skills that can assist us in doing this.

This semester, we will examine the present and past to make connections, along with trying to make educated predictions for the future. This course specifically focuses on the period from 1750 to 1919. Here, the world saw many new ideas and ideologies, saw the negative impacts of imperialism and colonialism resulting in many revolutions, and saw the development of various collective identities. All of these affect our world today.

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### **Course Objectives**

The following are some of the skills we will develop over the course:

- Inquiry and Critical Thinking
    - Creating and researching questions related to historical and current events.
    - Evaluating how reliable primary and secondary sources are.
    - Identifying different perspectives during research.
  - Research Skills
    - Gathering information from various sources.
    - Analyzing information to draw informed conclusions.
  - Communication Skills
    - Presenting information in oral, written, and visual formats.
    - Using evidence to support claims.
    - Collaborating with peers to discuss and come up with collective conclusions.
  - Historical Thinking Skills
    - Recognizing continuity and change throughout history.
    - Understanding the causes and consequences of various events.
    - Evaluating the significance of key events and individuals.
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### **Course Topics**

The following are some of the topics we will learn about this semester.

1. Geography of Canada and the World

2. Power and Revolutions
3. Indigenous Peoples in Canada
4. New Political Ideologies
5. Colonialism Around the World
6. Influence of Historical Events on Contemporary Society

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### **Required Materials**

- Pens and pencils
- Lined paper
- Binder

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### **Assessment Policy**

Marks will be assigned based on the BC proficiency scale, which includes:

- Emerging
- Developing
- Proficient
- Extending

This means that Social Studies 9 is a skills-based course. You will have multiple opportunities over the year to develop these skills. It is okay to make mistakes and not be perfect. What is most important is that you grow over the year. I will conference with all students at various points to ensure you continue to grow, and your final mark will reflect that growth.

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### **Plagiarism and Cheating**

- There is zero tolerance for plagiarism and cheating of any kind.
- This includes AI tools such as ChatGPT.
  - AI will not be able to help you achieve high marks in the course.
  - Your mind is your greatest asset. Develop and learn how to use it.
- In the event that you are caught cheating, the assignment will not be assessed, and you will have to redo an alternate assignment.
  - Multiple instances will necessitate a conversation with parents/guardians and school administration.

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### **Other Policies and Expectations**

- If you need extra time for an assignment, speak to me before it is due.
- You can eat in the classroom, provided you are not distracting others and clean up after yourself.
- No phone use during instructional time unless an assignment demands it. This includes headphones.
  - If phone use becomes an issue, students will start turning in their phones at the beginning of each class.
- Be respectful to your classmates, teacher, and any guests.
  - There is zero tolerance for harassment and bullying of any kind.
  - I do not have a seating plan to start the semester, but I will create one if needed.