

Humanities 8 Course Outline

Ms. Kramer

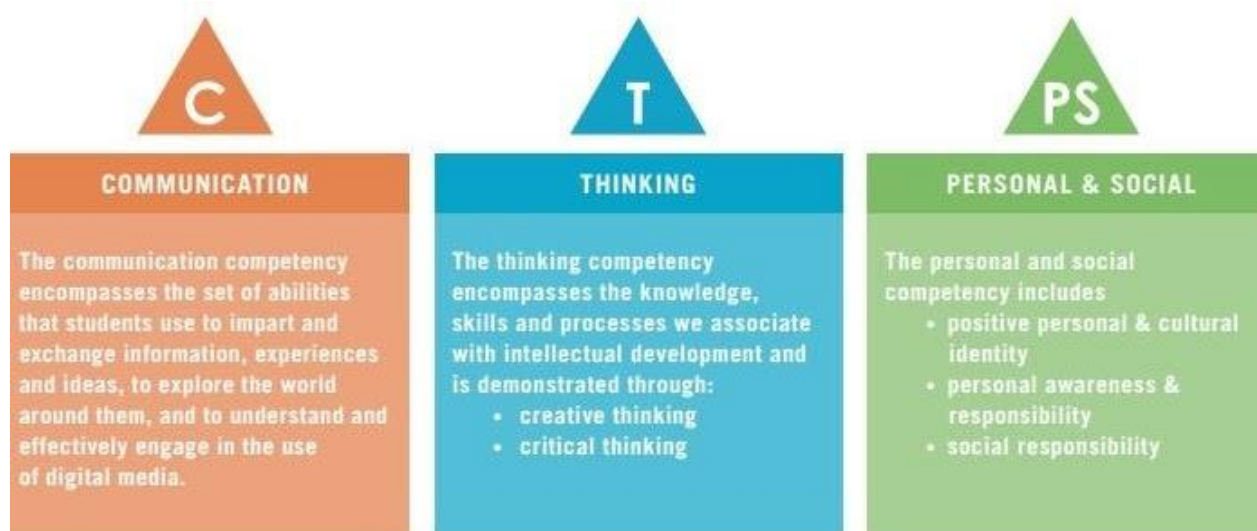
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Room:C101

Welcome to Humanities 8!

Humanities blends the curricular competencies from both Social Studies 8 and English 8. The course work follows the BC Curriculum focus of an inquiry. Throughout the Social Studies curriculum, students examine big, open-ended questions so they can make informed decisions. Making an informed decision about an issue requires an understanding and taking notes about key historical, geographical, political, economic, and societal factors involved, and how these different factors relate to and interact with each other. These investigations require the development of effective reading and viewing, speaking and listening and writing and representing skills, the fundamental literacy skills that make up the English 8 curriculum. Added to the non-fiction reading and written responses inherent in the Social Studies, we build in story, novel, poetry, presentation skills and creative writing.

Core Competencies



Grading/Proficiency Scale

We use the proficiency scale when evaluating students in grade 8 and 9. Please see below for the proficiency scale breakdown:

Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to expected learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the competencies relevant to the expected learning.

Classroom Expectations

Respect: Respect for the teacher, classmates, and the classroom community. This means when one person is talking, everyone else is listening. This also means actively contributing to a positive and effective working environment. Your behavior affects the entire classroom community, so please self-regulate and remember that you are expected to remain focused until you are dismissed.

Attendance: Punctuality and Preparation: Come to class on time, with cell phones off, and all materials ready. Students who are frequently late, or often forget necessary course materials will face consequences.

Absences: All absences will require school contact. A parent note to me, and a phone call to the office are both expected. Unexcused absences will lead to a phone call home, and potentially a referral to administration. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed, and pick up missing materials from the binder.

Missed Work: Any missed tests, quizzes, presentations, or class projects will have to be made up IMMEDIATELY upon your return (unless you make alternative arrangements before returning).

Personal Electronics: It is expected that all electronics remain in backpacks, lockers, and pockets (out of sight) during classtime. Excessive or inappropriate cell phone use will result in a conversation with the teacher, and may also lead to confiscating the device, phoning home, or a referral to administration.

PLAGIARISM: In recent years, I have noticed a large increase in the amount of plagiarized assignments submitted. UBC defines plagiarism as “‘using another person's ideas without giving credit’ and it is considered intellectual theft. If you submit or present the oral or written work of someone else you are guilty of plagiarism.” Copying and pasting, or re-typing sentences/paragraphs from websites, books, or other students is plagiarism. All work submitted should be your own. If you borrow an idea from a website, but change the words to be your own, you should then “cite the source.” Please ask me if there is any confusion about this.

If you plagiarize: Depending on the situation, you may have to complete the assignment you were meant to do originally or accept a “0.” I will also contact your parents/guardians, the counselors, and administration. A record of your cheating will be placed into your file.