



HUMANITIES 8 (2025/26)

COURSE OUTLINE

Teacher:

Mr. K. Visscher

Contact Information:

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Room: C105



Course Description

Humanities 8 is a year-long course that combines the disciplines of English and Social Studies 8. Throughout the course, students will be using a variety of skills consistent with the new curriculum that will allow them to develop their critical and historical thinking skills in the discipline of Social Studies 8 (<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/social-studies/8>). In the English 8 portion of the course, students will be using a wide range of strategies to analyze different texts and develop their own ability to create meaningful responses and original compositions (<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/english-language-arts/8>).

Communication

- Ongoing course communication will be done through MS Teams; join the team by using the class code above.
- Assignments, handouts, and notes will be posted regularly on MS Teams.
- Mid-course, there will be an Interim Report.
- There will be a formal, final report at the end of the course.

Assessment

As this is a yearlong course, the focus is for students to improve their skills and corresponding academic standing throughout the year. This means students will be assessed formatively to ensure they are honing their reading comprehension skills and developing their analytical skills. To this end, students will be responsible for self-assessment before completing all assignments so that they can reflect on their learning process. Many assignments will be done during class time and as such, students will be receiving minimal homework.

The new Ministry of Education Assessment and Reporting Order has changed the way we report to parents. We will now be communicating **with** parents rather than reporting **to** parents. Students will be assessed on the following levels of competency at grade level:

Student work will be evaluated in the following way:

- Assessment **for** Learning (Assignments, Quizzes and Projects) = 50%
- Assessment **of** Learning (Unit Tests and Final Assessment) = 50%

Not Yet Meeting Min Requirements	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
Student is not meeting the minimum requirements	The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies.	The student demonstrates an above and beyond understanding of the concepts and competencies.
I/F	C-/C	C/C+	B	A
	-	✓-	✓	✓+

CONTENT: *Students are expected **to learn** the following:*

- Poetry
- *The Outsiders*
- Independent Reading/Lit Circles Novels
- The Middle Ages
- Renaissance/Reformation
- Media Literacy and Current Events
- Short stories
- Indigenous worldview

TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

BE RESPECTFUL:

- Towards your classmates, teacher, and classroom guests. Do not talk or interrupt when the teacher or your classmates are speaking.
- Respect the classroom space by not damaging it and keeping it clean.
- Students will respect the bathroom breaks set by the teacher. Students are allowed to take a bathroom break after the first 10 minutes and before the last 10 minutes of class. Only two students are allowed out of the classroom at a time.

BE RESPONSIBLE:

- Take responsibility for your own learning, completing homework and positively participating in class.
- Cell phone use will NOT be allowed during class hours. If used in the classroom, and without teacher permission, it could be taken away.
- Attend class and be on time for class. You are a valued member of our classroom community, and your presence is important.
- Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated.

BE SAFE:

- Ensure the learning space is safe for all.
- Inappropriate language, gestures, or messages towards other students will not be tolerated.