
ISSUES FOR CANADIANS

Social Studies 9



Course Outline

Miss Duncan –2023/2024

duncana@lrsd.ab.ca

What will we be studying?

In this course students will explore issues related to Canadians, focusing on Canadian governance. Students will explore how the federal political system works by examining the three branches of government, the positions related to each and how they work together to pass policies and laws that affect the everyday lives of Canadian citizens. In the second half of the course, students will explore how the federal government affects the economy by comparing and contrasting Canada's economy with the United States economy. Students will be expected to use their critical thinking skills to explore these topics and to begin developing their own understanding of citizenship and how it relates to government.

The Social Studies 9 course is divided into two main topics:

Governance and Rights

Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how Canada's political processes impact citizenship and identity in an attempt to meet the needs of all Canadians.

Economic Systems

Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how economic decision making in Canada and the United States impacts quality of life, citizenship and identity.

Resources

Issues for Canadians, Lychak, Patricia ; Gerrits, Darrell A. ; Nogue, Alain ; Parsons, Jim , Nelson, 2008.

Textbooks will not be assigned, but will be available in the classroom. If students would like to sign out a personal textbook for the year please speak with Miss Duncan.

Online Classroom: Hapara

Please check the online classroom frequently. All assignments and important resources/information will be updated here.

Materials

- Pencil and Eraser
- Red pen
- Highlighter
- Blue or Black Pen
- 2 " Binder
- Looseleaf paper
- Pencil crayons

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Each unit will be worth a set percentage of your grade. Each unit will have multiple assignments that will contribute to that percentage. In grade 9 you must write the Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) for all core subjects. In social studies, your PAT will be worth 10% of your final grade. A complete breakdown of your grade for this course is shown below.

Unit 1: Federal System	15%
Unit 2: Charter of Rights and Freedoms	15%
Unit 3: Judicial System	10%
Unit 4: Economic Systems	15%
Unit 5: Consumerism	10%
Unit 6: Governments and the Economy	10%
Unit 7: Immigration	10%
Current Events	5%
PAT	10%

Current Events

Knowledge and understanding of current events is essential to success in Social Studies. A good background in world events will make the transition to high school Social Studies easier. We will be examining and reflecting on events in the news throughout the semester. Students are encouraged to watch the news, read newspapers and use the internet to become familiar with what is going on in the world.

Behaviour & Coursework Expectations

You will only get out of your education what you put into it! Be an active learner – think critically and ask questions. There will be ample opportunity for discussion in class. However, in order to create an environment where all feel welcome to participate, regardless of one's perspective, it is essential for some basic rules to be followed.

- When I, or anyone else, including guests, administration, and your peers are addressing the class you are listening attentively, and doing what is being asked of you in that moment.
- Cell phones must be stored out of sight, unless permitted for educational use.
- You are expected to come to class prepared every day. This means you need something to write with and your binder every day.
- The class will be dismissed when the lesson is over, the room is tidy, chairs are pushed in and the teacher dismisses you.

Parents and Guardians,

Please do not hesitate to contact me throughout the school year with any questions or concerns. School email and phone are generally best.

Email: duncana@lrsd.ab.ca

Phone: 403-627-4414

Please indicate below your preferred method of contact for general updates. For more significant concerns we will email or phone you directly.

Thank you,

Ashtyn Duncan

Next portion to be completed by parents/guardians.

For individual contacts, please provide the following:

Student Name: _____ (please print)

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____ (please print)

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**** Please indicate any pertinent information I should know about your student on the back of this page ****