

Grade 7 Social Studies

Turtle River School Division- McCreary School

Grade 7/8

Teacher: Ms. N. Plett nplett@trsd.ca

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course

Course Description:

The grade 7 social studies curriculum is titled *People and Places in the World* and is intended to help students gain an understanding of World Geography. Students will explore both physical and human geography over the course of 4 units: World Geography, Global Quality of Life, Ways of Life in Asia, Africa, or Australasia, and Human Impact in Europe or the Americas.

Course Mission:

The goal of this social studies course is to help students gain a holistic perspective of their place in world they live in, develop empathy for other people and cultures, and begin to understand their responsibility in making the world a better place.

Schedule and Topics Covered:

World Geography (Beginning September 11)

- Mapping the Globe
- Global National Environment
- Global Population Trends

Global Quality of Life (Beginning by November 16)

- Universal Human Rights
- Democratic Citizenship & Quality of Life
- Power, Wealth, & Justice
- Global Cooperation

Ways of Life in Asia, Africa, or Australasia (Beginning February 3)

- Elements of Societies
- Cultural Influences & Expressions
- Historical & Political Influences
- Economy & Well Being

Human Impact in Europe or the Americas (Beginning April 19)

- Environmental Impact
- Urbanization
- Historical Influences
- Living in the Global Village

Materials Required:

Students are asked to bring a binder, loose leaf and a pencil or pen each class. Pencil crayons or markers may be required during the year but are not needed on a daily basis. All other materials will be provided.

Course Evaluation:

All marks will be graded as a percentage. All tests will be weighted out of 100. All assignments, projects, and test reviews will be weighted the same as the denominator for the assignment.

Each unit will consist of various small assignments, group and individual research projects, oral presentations, class discussions and test reviews which will all contribute to the projects and assignments portion of the course evaluation. Each unit will have a final written test or presentation project to assess knowledge and understanding of the unit content.

Rubrics will be given for major projects and assignments prior to starting the project or assignment. The teacher will review all guidelines prior to the assignment or project beginning but it is the student's responsibility to ask for additional help or clarification if they do not understand the assignment or project. All due dates will be discussed at the beginning of the project. It is the student's responsibility to hand all projects in on time. Failure to do so will result in late deductions (see below for full description).

All tests and projects must be written or presented on the pre-determined date. If a student has an excused absence on the day of the test alternate arrangements may be made with the teacher, otherwise the student will receive a grade of zero. If a student knows ahead of time they will be absent they must tell the teacher well in advance so dates can be scheduled appropriately.

It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed lessons, notes or assignments. Teams will be used to post missed notes and assignments if needed. The students should contact the teacher if they are absent to ensure they are receiving all necessary information that was missed.

Behavioural Expectations:

It is expected that each student be an active participant in the Social Studies class at all times. The course is discussion based and participation is required in order to ensure that content is understood and applied properly. If a student refuses to participate the teacher will talk to them directly. If no resolution can be found the principal may become involved as well as the student's parent. Respect for self, others, and the equipment will be expected at all times.

Behavioural Assessment:

Students will receive a letter grade on their report cards for the following:

- Personal Management: uses class time effectively; works independently; completes homework and assignments on time.
- Active Participation in Learning: participates in class activities; sets learning goals
- Social Responsibility: works well with others; resolves conflicts appropriately; respects self, others and environment; contributes in a positive way.

Technology in Class:

Technology is only to be used with explicit permission from the teacher. Devices will at times be used for learning purposes. Students may at times be allowed to listen to music with headphones during work periods, but not during instructional time.

Attendance:

Given the discussion based nature of this course, attendance in person is very important. If a student knows they will be missing class in advance, it is important to make arrangements with the teacher prior to the absence so materials may be sent home if needed.

Incomplete Work/ Late Assignments/ Homework Policy:

Incomplete work and late assignments may be deducted in marks, as per McCreary School's late policy, developed in accordance with the Provincial Assessment Policy.

The guidelines for late assignments are as follows:

1. Teachers will set and communicate reasonable timelines for assignments
2. Teachers will share timelines and reminders with students through various formats (ex. course outline, email, post in classroom, etc.)
3. Teachers will assist students to meet timelines – monitor progress, check-ins
4. Students who struggle will require additional support from the teacher
5. Extensions will be granted at the teacher's discretion, for valid and legitimate reasons only
6. Teachers will communicate with parents or set up parent/teacher/student conferences to discuss late / incomplete assignments
7. Teachers will make an arrangement with student to complete the work
8. Teachers will create alternative assignments for diverse learning needs

Where the above guidelines have been followed and assignments are not fully completed or handed in by the given due date, a deduction in marks will apply. Upon teacher discretion a maximum of 5% may be deducted for every day the assignment is not turned in. If the assignment is not turned in after two weeks or at the start of a new unit, the assignment will receive a mark of zero.

If assignments need to be handed in outside of class they can be emailed to Ms. Plett, or dropped off for Ms. Plett at the main office. Extensions will be given for valid and legitimate circumstances at the teacher's discretion.

Extra Help:

The teacher will be available for additional help with course material outside of the classroom hours. It is the student's responsibility to arrange a time with the teacher for additional support. Students may seek help in person or by email.

Parent Teacher Contact:

Students and parents may contact me at any time by email nplett@trsd.ca or on the Remind app. I will respond as soon as possible.

****This course outline and the evaluation breakdown are subject to change, depending on student needs, once an initial assessment has been completed.****