



I. Key Message

Social studies provides opportunities for students to develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge that will enable them to become engaged, active, informed and responsible citizens. Recognition and respect for individual and collective identity is essential in a pluralistic and democratic society. Social studies helps students develop their sense of self and community, encouraging them to affirm their place as citizens in an inclusive, democratic society.

Classroom Expectations:

Expectations will be outlined by Mr. Walters in class.

II. Course Overview

Welcome to the Grade 8 Social Studies program. This program has been designed to allow you to learn and explore the historical concept of Worldviews. The focus of grade 8 social studies is to examine the issues related to contact between societies with different worldviews.

You will examine how these world views were expressed in different times and in different places and learn how intercultural contact between societies leads to change and alters each society's worldview.

III. Scope and Sequence

This course will be divided into Three units:

Unit 1: The Birth and Spread of the Western Worldview (Renaissance Europe)

Unit 2: Worldviews in Conflict (The Aztecs and the Spanish)

Unit 3: From Isolation to Adaptation: Japan

Form of Assessment	Breakdown	Total
Tests & Quizzes	-A variety of quizzes on events, terms, maps etc. throughout the course -One <u>major</u> test per unit	20%
Assignments	There will be a variety of assignments throughout this course	30%
Major Projects	There will be <u>one major project per UNIT</u>	25%
Final Exam	There will be a Final exam held at the end of the year	25%

Unit	Timeline
Unit 1 Renaissance Europe	September to December
Unit 2 The Spanish and the Aztecs	January to March
Unit 3 Japan	May to June

IV. Teaching Methodology

Throughout the year students will be taught using a variety of different instructional methods and strategies including but not limited to: direct teaching, cooperative learning, independent learning, brainstorming, small and large group discussions, inquiry based learning, reflections to literature, source analysis and the incorporation of technological devices.

V. Assessment

A variety of assessment practices will be utilized in this course.

Descriptive feedback will be given to you in a timely manner so that you can be sufficiently assessed on your achievement of the outcomes as outlined in the Program of Studies. I will post your marks on Power School throughout the semester, please check your marks on a regular basis to track your progress.

Please refer to the [Alberta Education Social Studies Program of Study](#) (Grades 7-12) for references to the curriculum.

