

Gr. 8 SOCIAL



GRIMSHAW PUBLIC SCHOOL Social 8 Course Outline 2025-2026

'Inspiring our Students Today for Tomorrow's Future'



Social is **your ticket** to appreciate where you come from and to respect diversity



COURSE RATIONALE:

Hello, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Grade 8 Social Studies program. This program has been designed to allow you to learn and explore the historical concept of Worldviews...***What on Earth is a Worldview???*** 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.

The year is broken up into **Three Major Units:** ***The Birth and Spread of the Western Worldview*** (Renaissance Europe), ***Worldviews in Conflict*** (The Aztecs and the Spanish) and ***From Isolation to Adaptation*** (Japan). Each unit will be further broken up



into chapters with specific topics.

Skills and Processes:

Throughout this course, you will have the opportunity to build and strengthen the followings skills: *Dimensions of Thinking, Social Participation as a Democratic Practice, Research for Inquiry* and *Communication*

COURSE GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

General Outcome 8.1 From Isolation to Adaption	General Outcome 8.2 Origins of the Western Worldview	General Outcome 8.3 Worldviews in Conflict
Through an examination of Japan, students will demonstrate: an understanding and appreciation of the ways in which <i>beliefs, values and knowledge</i> shape worldviews and <u>contribute</u> to a society's <i>isolation or adaptation</i> .	Through an examination of Renaissance Europe, students will demonstrate: an understanding and appreciation of how the <i>exchange of ideas</i> and knowledge contributed to <u>shaping</u> the <i>Worldview of the Western world</i> .	Through an examination of Spanish and Aztec societies, students will demonstrate: an understanding and appreciation of how <i>intercultural contact</i> affects the worldviews of societies.



To be **SUCCESSFUL** in this course:

1. Be prepared!
2. Be on time
3. Challenge yourself
4. Complete all assigned work at an appropriate level (expectations are high in this room)
5. Get missed work and assignments
6. Ask for help when needed
7. Review and Study for tests

Assessment:

There will be a variety of assessments in this course that will cater to all types of learners.


COURSE EVALUATION:

Unit	Form of Assessment	Unit %	Course %
Middle Ages & Renaissance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tests• Assignments• Major Projects	40% 40% 20%	25%
Aztecs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tests• Assignments• Major Projects	40% 40% 20%	30%
Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tests• Assignments• Major Projects	30% 50% 20%	20%
Exam	Exam	n/a	25%



UNITS AND TIMELINE:

Grade 8 Course Calendar: (*GUILDLINE ONLY*)

Unit	Dates
Introduction to the Course: <i>What is a Worldview?</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course Intro 2. Define Worldview, Perspective and Point of View 3. Intro to the Renaissance 	<u>Sept 4nd – 7th</u>
<u>UNIT #1 Origins of a Western World View: <i>Renaissance Europe</i></u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Time of Change • Expansion of Trade <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rise of International Trade: Crusades and Goods & Resources 2. Italian City-States: Why they are successful, Competition, Economy and Citizenship • Humanism <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rebirth of Ideas 2. Philosophers in Deep Thought 3. The Arts • The Exchange of Ideas <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Sciences and Math 2. Leadership 3. Spreading Ideas • The Age of Exploration Nov <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why Explore? 2. How Are We Going to Get There? 3. Moving Day...."Are We There Yet?" • The New World <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imperialism: Our Way or the Highway! 2. Europe's New Worldview • Review 	<u>Sept 10th - Nov 21st</u> 
<u>UNIT# 2 Worldviews in Conflict: <i>The Spanish and the Aztecs</i></u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> • Aztec Geography <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Physical Landscape 2. The Sacred Land 3. We're Expanding the Empire Whether You Like It or Not! • How the Aztec Society Worked <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not Another Hierarchy 2. Aztec School 	<u>Nov 24th - Feb 20th</u>



3. How to Be a Good Aztec Citizen
- Just When Everything was Going Good.....Here Come the Spanish
 1. Spain's Geography and Religion at the Time
 2. A Christian Spain
 3. The 3 G's (Gold, Glory and God)
- Why Can't We All Just Get Along
 1. Introducing Cortes
 2. An Unfair Fight
 3. The Invasion
- Worldviews in Conflict
 1. A New Worldview



UNIT# 3 **From Isolation to** **Adaption: Japan**

- A Unique Worldview
 1. The Land of the Rising Sun (Not the House of...)
 2. Nature Shaping a Worldview
 3. We Don't Need Help From Anybody!
- The Shogun's Japan
 1. With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility
 2. Honour and Duty
 3. Japan Meets the West
- 'Sorry We're Closed': the Edo Period
 1. Locking the Gates
 2. Change Because of Isolation
 3. Cracks in the System
- 'Someone's at the Door': Contact and Change in the Meiji Period
 1. Out of the Shadows
 2. A Changing Order
 3. 'It's Time We'd Better Catch Up': Industrializing Japan
 4. Resisting Change

Feb 23rd – Jun 20th

